

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

Please review below information sent from the Federation of Independent Schools regarding continuing education during COVID-19 outbreak. There are many useful links for families.

Stay Safe and Healthy!

### **Independent Schools COVID-19 Update - March 27, 2020**

Today, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry and Health Minister Adrian Dix announced **67** new cases of COVID-19 in B.C. bringing the total number of cases to **792**. **Note: 275** people have now fully recovered from COVID-19 in B.C. Here is the joint statement

- [https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news\\_releases\\_2017-2021/2020HLTH0113-000581.htm](https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2020HLTH0113-000581.htm)

### **News release guidelines for school leaders and website**

This afternoon, the Ministry of Education launched **Keep Learning** - <https://www.openschool.bc.ca/keeplearning/>, so families can find ideas for everyday educational activities, links to free learning resources, as well as how to help children learn and how to ensure their wellbeing while they're at home. **Note:** Teachers and schools will have primary responsibility for continuous learning.

**Here is the news release:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EDUC0026-000580>

Also released today is **a joint letter for Parents** from Minister Fleming and the BCCPAC – Here is the link for the letter and what languages they are in: French, Chinese and Punjabi: <https://www.gov.bc.ca/safeschools>

### **Useful Links**

- Frequent Asked Questions “Continuity of Learning in the K-12 education system”  
- <https://www.gov.bc.ca/safeschools>
- Education Minister Rob Fleming announces on March 17, 2020 in-school classes are suspended until further notice. The Minister’s letter to parents and staff can be found at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/218690-covid-letter.pdf>
- Information about COVID-19, including information for schools and families, is regularly updated on the BC Centre for Disease Control site: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/childcare-schools>
- All joint statements from Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister of Health Adrian Dix are posted here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/ministries/health>
- The Provincial Pandemic Coordination plan: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/reports-publications/pandemic-provincial-coordination-plan.pdf>
- KIDS and COVID-19 QA: [http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-\(novel\)#For--schools--and--childcare](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-(novel)#For--schools--and--childcare)

- CBC Kids along with the PHO produced a kid-centric Q and A video about COVID-19: <https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/watch-coronavirus-facts-versus-fiction>
- Ministry of Health response plans - <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/pandemic-influenza>
- Government of Canada - Novel Coronavirus in China Travel Health Notice: <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notice/210>