



Sen Pok Chin School

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Principal Ms. Valerie Allen
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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Way! Welcome to the 2020/2021 school year at senpaq'cin School. I am excited to continue serving as the Head of School of senpaq'cin and am looking forward to welcoming our new and returning students to this upcoming year. We are working hard to implement the mandatory safety procedures in compliance with Ministry of Education Covid-19 guidelines. Our goal is to try to ensure that we are able to keep our classrooms open for the entire year as we work through the logistics of living with this new virus within our communities.

This letter is to provide you with some general information regarding the first week of school in an attempt to make the transition back as smooth as possible:

In alignment with current Health Standards from the Ministry of Education, we will be dividing our school into two learning cohorts (Pod A and Pod B). As school will not look the same as it has in the past, we will be offering a slow start to the school year to help support students, staff and families in learning the new routines of school life.

BACK TO SCHOOL DATES:

POD A – Grades: K4 to Grade 2

POD B – Grades: 3 to Grade 7

- Tuesday, September 8th – no school for students (all staff will be on site to learn the necessary safety protocols and procedures for a safe return for staff and students).
- Wednesday, Sept. 9th – Pod B will attend school for a full day of classroom instruction from 8:30-3:00 (Pod A will stay home)
- Thursday, September 10th – Pod A will attend school for full days **with the exception** of Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes – **they will attend a half day** either a morning or an afternoon session for classroom orientation and routine building. Classroom teachers will be in contact with families to let them know if their child will be scheduled for either the morning or the afternoon session.
 - K4 and K5 will be split into 2 groups (8:30-11:00 and 12:30-3:00)
 - Grade 1 and 2 Full Day
- Friday, September 11th – Regular school day for both Pod A and Pod B – with the exception of Junior and Senior kindergarten – they will have the same half day schedule as Thursday.
- Monday, September 14th – Full Days for all students

AFTER SCHOOL CARE:

- We will be offering a fee-for service after school program again this year which is targeted for those families who have children who are too young to attend the Right to Play Program offered by the Band. Mrs. Swift will be running the program. Please contact Theresa at tswift@senpokchin.com for more information about the program. Spaces are limited.
- Families who wish to register for the Right to Play Program will need to fill out registration forms from the Right to Play prior to attending the program. Registration forms and information about the program can be accessed via Marvin Louie at mlouie@oib.ca

BUSSING SERVICES:

- We will be offering regular bussing services again this year. We will need to follow the Ministry guidelines for transportation which means that we will need to offer 2 bus run times to comply with seating students safely on the bus.
 - PLEASE INDICATE IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE REQUIRING BUSSING TRANSPORTATION **no later than September 3rd** so our bus driver can establish and communicate pick up times for families

SCHOOL FEES:

- School fees will be collected at the office. If you live off the reserve, your fees for the year are \$100.00 to cover basic school supplies. The annual school supply fees have gone up this year as they have not been adjusted in over 15 years and do not reflect the current costs of supplies.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM:

- Our salad bar program will begin the second week of school (September 14-18). Please look for more information in the coming weeks regarding dates and fees. We are having to make changes to our hot lunch program so that we align with Work Safe BC protocols for handling and serving of food.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year of learning at senpaq'cin! Please be patient with us as we try our very best to accommodate everyone's needs and wishes during these very unique times.

Sincerely,



Val Allen

SPC Head of School