

Tracking Canada's education systems' response to COVID-19

Province/ Territory	Provincial school reopening plan	Health and safety protocol	In-class and/or online learning	Additional funding
British Columbia	K-12 Education Restart Plan - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools reopen in Stage 2 of the Five Stages Framework for K-12 Education September 8. 	Learning Group Size <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary: 30 Middle: 30 Secondary: 60 Density Targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% for all schools 	Continuation of online/remote learning opportunities to supplement in-school instruction Full-time instruction for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children of essential service workers Students with disabilities/diverse abilities Students who require additional supports In-class instruction for all other students for the maximum time possible within above limits/targets. (BC Gov)	No evidence of increased funding at this time.
Alberta	K to 12 school re-entry plan for scenario 1 Guidance and plans for students to start the 2020-21 school year. 2020-21 School Re-entry plan (for all scenario)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory masks for all students and students in Grades 4-12 where physical distancing is not possible, optional masks for K-3 Reorganize rooms for more physical space Cohorting students Signage to guide foot traffic Avoiding large gatherings No requirement for masks, however masks are encouraged in cases where physical distancing is not possible "No sharing" policy 	Students will be returning to in-class learning with enhanced health and safety measures (Scenario 1) The 3 scenarios are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures) In-school classes partially resume (with additional health measures) At-home learning continues (in-school classes are suspended/cancelled) 	\$10 million dollars in additional funding for purchasing 2 masks for all staff and students (CBC)

<p>Saskatchewan</p>	<p>Saskatchewan Safe Schools Plan (Government of Saskatchewan)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Modifying room configurations ○ Staggered recess, lunch, and school entry/exit ○ Signage guiding students around school ○ Limiting sharing materials and school equipment ○ No masks required 	<p>Schools will operate under Level 1 in September</p> <p>4 scenarios: Level 1: Return to normal school with additional health measures Level 2: Masks required Level 3: Reduced school capacity, cohorting, hybrid models Level 4: Remote learning</p>	<p>Saskatchewan's 2020-21 budget includes increased funding of \$123.3 million, this includes:</p> <p>\$62.9 million for preventative maintenance, renewal and emergency funding</p> <p>In addition:</p> <p>2-year capital plan to rebound economically from COVID-19</p> <p>\$136.3 million in education infrastructure over 2 years, incl. \$37.3 million in 2020-21</p> <p>No additional COVID-19 related funding announced</p>
<p>Manitoba</p>	<p>Welcoming our students back: Restoring safe schools K-12 Guidelines for September 2020 (Government of Manitoba)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cohorting students (max of 75 students) ○ Limit gathering in common areas ○ Use of additional space if necessary ○ 2 metres physical distancing required, where possible ○ Staggered lunch and recess ○ No assemblies or gatherings that exceed public health advice ○ Outdoor activities encouraged ○ No mask or PPE required for staff or students 	<p>Schools will open under Level 1 in September.</p> <p>3 scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Level 1: In-class learning ○ Level 2: Blended learning ○ Level 3: Remote learning 	<p>\$48 million to cover unanticipated costs of the COVID-19 pandemic and to reopen classrooms in September.</p> <p>This funding comes from education savings due to schools being closed from March-June 2020.</p> <p>(Government of Manitoba, July 8, 2020)</p>

<p>Ontario</p>	<p>Ontario government releases: “Guide to reopening Ontario’s schools” School opens September 8, 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Masks required for students in grades 4-12 ○ Masks encouraged for students K-3 indoors <p>Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All elementary schools in the province will open for conventional in-person teaching, 5 days/wk. For all students K-8 <p>Secondary</p> <p>Boards to develop timetables that over a 1- to 2-week period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limit student contacts to approximately 100 students in the school ○ Encouraged to keep secondary school students in a maximum of two in-person class cohorts <p>(ON gov)</p>	<p>Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ K-8 in-person delivery 5 days/wk ○ Option to opt-out of in-person <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Class cohorts of ~15 ○ Alternating schedules with >50% in-class instructional days 	<p>No additional funding specific to COVID-19 in schools announced (Global News)</p> <p>Other additional funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$15 million to purchase technology ○ \$10 million to hire front-line mental-health workers in secondary schools (Ontario Newsroom)
<p>Québec</p>	<p>Back-to-school plan for education and higher education (COVID-19)</p> <p>Preschools and elementary and secondary schools during the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Primary and below: All students in preschool, elementary school and Secondary I, II and III will attend class full-time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classes will be organized into subgroups of no more than six students ○ Maintain the one metre between the various subgroups of students ○ Two metres between students and staff ○ Teachers will move between classrooms based on the subject being taught, and students will remain in the same classroom <p>Secondary students can: a) follow the same protocols as that listed above or b) follow an alternating schedule between in-person and online learning</p>	<p>Elementary and younger students are expected to attend class in-person</p> <p>Secondary students either attend in-person or alternate in-person and online learning</p>	<p>No information about additional funding specific to COVID-19 at this time</p>
<p>New Brunswick</p>	<p>Government of NB released Return to School 2020 Plan on June 12, 2020 (Gov NB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ K-5 students in reduced-sized groups, wherever possible ○ 6-8 grade students will have regular class size but reduced-size activity groups, where possible ○ Class sizes reduced to respect physical distancing of at least 1 metre ○ Minimum 1 metre distancing in the classroom, minimum 2 metres distancing outside of the classroom (when around other groups/classes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students in K-8 will attend school in-person ○ 9-12 will attend school in-person at least every other day 	<p>No recent funding announced for Fall</p>

<p>Prince Edward Island</p>	<p>Welcome back to school plan (Government of PEI)</p> <p>Back to School website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cohorting students ● Smaller classes (where possible) ● Reconfiguring classrooms to encourage physical distancing ● Signage guiding foot traffic ● Staggered school entry and exit times ● Scheduled lunch/recess breaks ● Limited number of school visitors ● K-6: Masks suggested but not mandatory, Grades 7-12: Masks strongly recommended 	<p>Schools are expected to be open for in-class learning in the fall. Boards and schools asked to prepare for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-class learning with detailed precautionary measures in place ● In-class learning with additional public health measures <p>Back-up plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At home learning with limited use of school facilities ● At home learning with no access to school facilities 	<p>PEI released their 2020/21 budget in June 2020. The budget sees an increase in funding for education, but not specifically linked to COVID-19.</p> <p>Increases include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$2 million for 24 teachers and 15 educational assistants ● \$478,000 for school well-being programs ● \$1.3 million for early childhood
<p>Nova Scotia</p>	<p>Nova Scotia's Back to School Plan (Government of Nova Scotia)</p>	<p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School spaces reorganized to limit unnecessary physical contact ● No large gatherings in schools ● Age-appropriate direction signage <p>Pre-K:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Class size: 20 students with 2 staff OR 24 students with 3 staff ● Encouraged to spend 40% of learning outdoors <p>K-12:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cohorting ● When large groups required, non-medical masks ● Encouraged to hold class outside when possible 	<p>In-class learning in September with a full school reopening</p> <p>Contingency plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Partial of blended response: K-8 students in-class, secondary students in-class 2-3 days/ week ● At-home learning: real-time, video, and self-directed learning 	<p>No new funding announced for COVID-19</p>

Newfoundland & Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador K-12 education re-entry plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Where 2 metres is not possible between desks, the greatest possible spacing is recommended. ○ Daily school routine should not be disrupted to accommodate smaller classes for physical distancing ○ Strict physical distancing should not be over-emphasized to children in the school setting ○ Close interaction, such as playing and socializing is central to play-based curriculum and child development, and should not be discouraged ○ Physical distancing should be reinforced if there is an increase of COVID-19 in communities ○ Students cohorted by class, where possible 	<p>Three scenarios for 2020/2021, depending on public health authority recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-person classes resume, with virtual schooling options where needed 2. Partial in-person classes (minimum 30-50%) 3. Entirely at-home/ distance learning 	<p>N/A</p>
Yukon	<p>Yukon currently in Phase 3 of plan for lifting COVID restrictions;</p> <p>Yukon government document “Planning for the 2020-21 school year”</p>	<p>Students and staff will need to practice physical distancing in schools.</p> <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ smaller classrooms and group sizes ○ managing traffic areas in common areas like hallways and cafeterias ○ staggering pick-up and drop-off times, recess and lunch. <p>Wearing masks will not be required.</p>	<p>The preliminary plan for the 2020–21 school year includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In rural communities, K-12 returns to full-day, in-class instruction 5 days/week ○ In Whitehorse, K-9 returns to full-day, in-class instruction 5 days/wk. ○ Grade 10-12 does ½ day in-class, ½ day at home 5 days/wk <p>Resource Programs for students with disabilities, transitions programs and other programs for students needing additional support will continue at school all day every day.</p>	<p>The Government of Yukon announced that families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible for \$250 per student if they have been impacted by COVID-19. (McCarthy)</p>

<p>Northwest Territories</p>	<p>Reopening NST Schools safely</p> <p>Reopening schools safely: 2020-2021 COVID-19 school planning factsheet</p>	<p>In 2020-2021, all schools will have: (Gov NT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physical distancing for Grades 7-12 ○ Altered routines and schedules for movement through into, and out of the school ○ Spacing of desks and other furniture ○ Extra activities outdoors, when possible ○ No assemblies and limits on other gatherings ○ Use of face shields and masks by staff and students on the school bus and in school when needed ○ Limited access to parents, guardians and visitors ○ New daily screening process for students and staff ○ Stricter personal and school cleaning processes ○ No sharing of food or personal items 	<p>JK-Grade 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full-time in-person ○ No distancing inside classroom ‘bubble’ <p>Grades 7-9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full-time in-person or blended when necessary ○ distancing of 1m between students and 2m between students and staff <p>Grades 10-12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full-time in-person or blended when necessary ○ distancing of 2m between all students and staff <p>Students aged 19+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students aged 19+ must learn remotely <p>(Gov NT)</p>	<p>There does not appear to be new funding for COVID-19 for schools (CBC)</p> <p>Two funding initiatives to support licensed child care programs have been extended until September 30, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ funding to pay up to 75% of eligible fixed costs for child care operators; and ○ funding supports for enhanced cleaning of child care spaces. <p>(McCarthy)</p>
<p>Nunavut</p>	<p>The 2020-21 Opening Plan for Nunavut Schools: Health and Safety (Government of Nunavut)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Avoiding physical contact ○ Limited group activities ○ Students allowed to eat in common areas, but no food sharing ○ Regular bus schedule ○ Masks not required 	<p>All schools will reopen in September under Stage 1</p> <p>4 scenarios:</p> <p>Stage 1: Least restrictive learning environment (No COVID-19 in the community)</p> <p>Stage 2: Increased restrictions on school environments</p> <p>Stage 3: Recovery-based restrictions to in-school learning environments</p> <p>Stage 4: Complete closure of in-school and land-based learning environments</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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