

GRADES 8 AND 9 TRANSITION PROGRAM

On August 26th, the Surrey School District shared its plans to safely return to in-class instruction. These plans reflect the measures put forth by provincial health experts and the Ministry of Education and include the important steps our schools will take to safely welcome our students back in September.

We are confident in our plans, but we know that many of our families are nervous. In response to parent feedback and concerns, we will be offering a **Secondary Transition Program** that will be available to all grade 8 and 9 families who are not ready to have their child return to full-time face-to-face instruction when school begins in September.

What is the Secondary Transition Program?

This learning option offers flexibility for families that are unlikely to return to school in September. School staff will work with individual families on plans for transition which may include a delayed start or reduced attendance, with a gradual transition back to full-time in-class instruction

School staff may also discuss options related to online learning, including what is involved, the available courses, and the student's individual educational program and needs. Online learning will be offered through the district's online learning school Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning (SAIL) or possibly their local school.

What does online learning entail for my grades 8 or 9 student?

- This program will keep students on pace with their grade level until they can transition back to face-to-face learning.
- If a student chooses this option, they will be withdrawn from their two courses in the first quarter, but will remain registered at their current school.
- Students can expect a structured timetable of limited online options dedicated to core academic courses.
- Courses offered through this option will focus on English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. There may be opportunities for students to focus on French-as-a-Second Language or Physical Education. No electives will be offered through online learning at your regular school.
- Students will retain their other courses as scheduled, and can choose to return to face-to-face classes at their school at the beginning of the second or third quarter depending on the needs of the student, the educational program, and the available courses.

What is expected of parents in this model?

In this model, students will spend the majority of their time at home, so parents will need to dedicate time for support and guidance.

Is there a transition program available for grades 10, 11, 12?

YES. The current structure for all students in grades 10–12 includes a blended model of one block face-to-face every morning and one afternoon block online, with a single afternoon of instruction per week. These students can also consider online learning through SAIL.

What are next steps?

If parents of students in grade 8 or 9 are planning to not send their child to their secondary school, they should complete this online form. Upon completion, school staff will contact families and work with them to identify the best option for your student.