



Parents/Guardians:

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and finding time for rest and relaxation. Bond Academy is looking forward to welcoming students, faculty and staff back to campus in September.

School is rescheduled to reopen in 3 weeks, and planning has been ongoing since the end of the school year in June. Those plans have been reviewed and updated using the “**2021-22 Health, Safety and Operational Guidance for Schools**” released by the Ministry of Education. **However, our plans are not yet finalized** as the situation remains fluid, with ongoing updates from the Ontario Government, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Toronto Public Health and the rising community numbers related to the Delta Variant. We will be delaying the publication of the **Covid-19 protocols and return to school information** until closer to the start of the school year, to take into account the latest information and recommendations, but they will be issued no later than the end of August.

However, I will confirm the following:

- The primary focus for our protocols, programs and activities will be on ensuring the safety of the Bond Community. We will start with a cautious approach with strict protocols.
- A large portion of our students, under the age of 12, cannot be vaccinated and as the most vulnerable, that group must be the default focus of all of our COVID protocols.
 - All staff and eligible students have been strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated for the start of the school year.
 - Parents are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated for the start of the school year.
 - Masks will be mandatory for all students, staff, parents and visitors entering Bond Academy.
 - Daily self-assessment will continue.
 - Students will continue to be assigned to cohorts and follow social distancing and health and safety protocols.
 - All decisions around programming and activities will be guided by the fact that for many of our students, nothing has changed, so expect similar protocols to those provided last September as a starting point, until it is determined that it is safe to expand the opportunities. The long-term goal is to provide as many programs and activities reflective of a “normal school year”, when it is safe and supported by medical recommendations.
- School is scheduled to start on **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**. This start date could include a graduated approach over the first two days if conditions warrant.
- The approach to uniforms will continue from last year, with students wearing their gym uniform on days that they have Physical Education (4 out of 5 days).
- Access of parents to the school will be restricted to designated times when the numbers in the school can be managed safely.

I wish all families a safe and restful final few weeks of summer holidays.

Regards,

John Healey