

- For information about how First Nations schools are approaching on-going learning, the individual First Nation or school principal should be contacted. Meopn-4 (myrst Na)4.1 (tionschools ar)10 (e appr0 (. also post)-4 appr0 (. gular upditions

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- School districts and independent schools are developing plans for how they can deliver learning opportunities using alternative methods (i.e. not in-person), which could include online learning. The alternative approaches put in place in individual schools and classes may look slightly different depending on the students and families that these schools serve, which is why the planning needs to be completed at the local level.
- School districts and independent schools are in the process of gathering information from their families to inform their local planning process and this includes asking parents about access to technology within their homes.
- Some school districts and independent schools are considering loaning equipment for students and potential in-person learning options, based on a prioritization of need, to make sure all students have the tools they need to learn away from a school building.

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- Beginning this month, the Ministry of Education is working with [Focused Education](#) to provide a provincial license of the Zoom Videoconferencing application to all school districts to ensure educators can best support continuous learning at home for students.
- Zoom is being used around the world to support education, businesses and governments during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Ministry of Education will also explore how to make this application available to B.C.'s independent schools and First Nations schools.

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- Zoom has been reviewed by government and meets the privacy and security requirements.
- The application's data for Canadian users is housed at its Canadian-hosted data centres in Vancouver and Toronto.
- The application's platform is known to offer a smooth audio/video experience with minimal interruptions if any for users with fast or slower Internet connection speeds.
- Some school districts and independent school authorities may also elect to use other online communication tool.

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- The Zoom enterprise (business) application provided to school districts has robust security features that meets B.C. government standards.
- These features are not available on the free version of the application.
- The enterprise application of Zoom has been reviewed by government as part of its review of applications used by public sector organizations.

- The Zoom enterprise application does not provide personal information to third party businesses such as Facebook and Microsoft.

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- School districts and independent school authorities will work to best support parents and students with access to French learning resources.
- The Ministry has also provided a [website](#) with learning resources, including French resources, for parents to support their child's learning at home.

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- The Ministry of Education expects school districts and independent school authorities to send out communication to parents as soon as possible, keeping parents informed about their planning processes.
- [Homeschooling](#) is an alternative method of teaching offered outside the B.C. education system. Typically, a family member delivers the entire educational program to children at home, without direct support from teachers (other than assessments).

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- The time commitment required from parents will depend on a number of factors including the grade level2.1 (d if I,)/Sm(2r)9.1 (

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- School districts and independent school authorities have been asked to consider the care needs of parents of students with disabilities who have no other care options as a part of their planning for supporting the children of essential service workers.
- From a learning perspective, all students with disabilities and diverse abilities should have access to the same level of on-going instruction and support.

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- School districts and independent school authorities have been asked to ensure students with disabilities and diverse abilities have access to the same level of on-going learning as all other students. For students who were receiving specialized supports (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy) on-site, school district and independent school teams have been asked to consider alternate service delivery models where feasible.
- For students who were receiving 1:1 service, school-based teams will work with families and caregivers to develop a plan for on-going learning and supports.

IEP

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- Yes, the individual learning goals identified in students' IEPs will continue to be a part of their learning.

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- Most organizations that typically support families continue to be in service during this time; however, support may be offered in different ways. Families are encouraged to access supports from the agencies they are familiar with and have accessed prior to the pandemic.
- [The Family Support Institute](#) and [Inclusion BC](#) are both continuing to provide supports to families through new service delivery models during the pandemic.

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- The Ministry of Education is in close contact with the Ministry of Children and Family Development on this issue. Funding for autism services and respite falls under their area of responsibility and continued planning is underway on how to respond to some of the unique challenges faced by families. Access to Child and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) staffing, AIS BC and Autism Funding Branch continues to assist families to find the services and supports that meet their needs.

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- School districts have been asked to ensure meal programs continue where possible in alignment with PHO guidelines. School districts with universal programs have been asked to prioritize families facing food insecurity.
- Meal programs will be delivered safely and in alignment with the directives from the Provincial Health Officer, which may require creative and innovative approaches.

SECTION 5 | PARENTS' OBLIGATIONS TO A HOME AND EDUCATIONAL ORDER

- B.C.'s COVID-19 website has many resources available at www.gov.bc.ca/covid19
- The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website also has many resources for British Columbians who want more information about COVID-19, at <http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/>
- If you think you have symptoms, the Ministry of Health has developed an online self-assessment tool at covid19.thrive.health.
- If you have symptoms you can call 8-1-1 to pre-arrange health testing. If you have symptoms associated with COVID-19, self-isolate.

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- Every British Columbian has a role to play in reducing the spread of this virus and protecting the people we love.
- The most important things people can do to limit the spread of the virus are:
 - Stay home as much as possible and limit contact with other people.
 - Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds.
 - Avoid touching your face.