



BACK TO SCHOOL 2021



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my sincere hope that you enjoyed your summer holidays. I formally welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year that begins on the 7th of September 2021. As the school principal, I am eager and excited to begin what promises to be a very successful year.



This year, we plan to continue following COVID 19 protocols as per the guidelines provided by the Provincial Government. Safety measures are in place to protect students and staff and to reduce the spread of COVID-19. These include effective personal practices like regular hand washing and the wearing of masks.

Masks

All Kindergarten to High School staff, students in grades 4 to 12, and visitors to the school are required to wear masks in all indoor areas, including:

- At their desks, and,
- On school buses.

Exceptions to the mask policy include:

- A person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons,
- A person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person,
- When the mask needs to be removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it,
- When the mask needs to be removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask. For example:
 - Playing a wind instrument, or
 - Engaging in high-intensity physical activity,
- When a person is eating or drinking,
- When a person is behind a barrier,
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (for example, a hearing impairment), where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses but are not required to do so. Mask wearing remains a personal or family/caregiver choice for these students.

Daily Health Check:

Please visit the website on daily health check process.

[K-12 Health Check \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www.gov.bc.ca)



Keeping your distance:

Strict physical distancing is no longer required. Gobind Sarvar School will continue to create space between students/people, including:

- Managing the flow of people in common areas, including hallways and around lockers, to minimize crowding and allow people to pass through easily,
- Preventing crowding at pick-up and drop-off times,
- Reminding students and staff about respecting others' personal space, using visual supports, signage, prompts and video modelling as necessary,
- Using available space to spread people out where possible, and,
- Taking students outside as much as possible.

General cleaning of schools, cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces will be conducted at least once in every 24-hour period and also when visibly dirty.

School Uniform:

The impact of COVID 19 has been felt on all aspects of our lives, especially trade. It has also caused the delay of our uniform shipment. Students are advised to wear old school uniform or colours closest to our uniform. We are confident that by the third week of September, we would have received our entire shipment.

Please note that by Monday, October 4th, all students are expected to be in full school uniform.

Traffic Guidelines on School Campus:

Traffic density on school campus affects all of us. Staff members of the school and volunteers do their best every day to safeguard our students while ensuring that traffic flows smoothly through the school. Parents are expected to follow all the signs posted in the school campus.

We expect that parents and guardians will respect our staff and volunteers and continue to follow ALL instructions given by them.

Traffic guidelines will be the same as the last year.



Entrance for Parents

1. When turning into 168 St from 88 Ave, traffic MUST TURN RIGHT into the school from the first gate on 168 street.
2. When entering the school from 88 Ave, please note that ONLY A RIGHT TURN into the school is allowed. Parents are strongly advised against taking a left turn into the school from 88 Ave.



Exit for Parents

1. Parents dropping off or picking up students – **MUST EXIT** from the gate on 88 Ave.
 - a. Please note that exiting onto 168 street is **not** allowed between 7:30 am and 8:45 am in the morning.
2. While exiting onto 88 Ave, it is extremely important that all traffic **TURNS RIGHT**. The school strongly advises against turning left while exiting onto 88 Ave.

School Buses

Buses will **only** be allowed to **TURN LEFT** towards Gurmat School/ K.G-1 Elementary School Building.

ALL Parents and Guardians are requested to drive very slowly (maximum 10 km/hr) and extremely cautiously when on School Campus. Safety of our students is paramount for us.

Guidelines for students on School Bus:



1. Students who take School buses to commute to school **MUST ALWAYS** follow driver's instructions.
2. All students **MUST** be seat belted when on BUS.
 - a. The only exception to this rule is when the seat belt is not provided by the manufacturer.



3. If a student is found engaging in any of the following behaviours, they will be reported to the school's office for possible disciplinary action:
 - a. Being disobedient while on the bus,
 - b. Walking around in a moving bus, or,
 - c. Not listening to the instructions of the driver.

This is not an exhaustive list but a cautionary advisory.

4. School Bus is extension of our own School, and School Bus Drivers are employees of our own school. Please treat them with care and show respect, respectively.
5. All students grade 4 to grade 10 must wear mask. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are encouraged to wear a mask on school buses but are not required to do so. Mask wearing remains a personal or family/caregiver choice for these students.
6. All students are advised to keep their buses very clean.

We believe that with your support we will realize these objectives; and we request that you please discuss the above-mentioned points with your children. In our shared journey with your children, we want the best values and behaviour to be exhibited by the students of our school.

We also hope to continue to improve traffic management.

For answers to questions you may have, please contact our office at 604.930.2122.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Rishi Singh

Dr. Rishi Singh
Principal

