



August 8, 2020

Dear CGCS Families and Community,

We hope this communique finds you enjoying a safe and healthy summer.

On July 21, Adriana LaGrange announced that students will be returning to school in the fall in [Scenario 1 of Alberta Education's Re-Entry plan](#). Staff has been working throughout the summer to prepare for this, as well as planning for maximum flexibility in order to pivot to a different scenario as circumstances may change. Paramount in our planning is student, staff and family health and safety.

Scenario 1 is described by Alberta Education as a return to near normal operations and routines in schools, with additional health measures implemented. Earlier this week, Minister LaGrange and Dr. Hinshaw formally announced that masks will be mandated in schools for students and staff. We have already been in touch with Alberta Education and the personal protective equipment is going to be shipped in order to be available for the start of the school year.

[Our plan](#) has been written in response to direction received from the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Minister of Education. It will guide our operation as we re-enter school for the 2020-2021 school year. This will require some significant changes to the way that we function in our day-to-day operation and adjust to some new protocols and practices, just as we have had to do in every public space since the onset of the pandemic.

Given the evolving nature of the pandemic, we are designing our plan with maximum ability to ensure quality learning experiences for our students within the new reality, while accommodating teaching and learning needs of students and staff. We have the benefit of being a smaller organization, that can nimbly adjust to required changes as they arise, just as we did when we shifted to at-home learning in March. We will be utilizing the lessons we learned from the at-home learning this past spring, and the flexibility we know online learning can afford us, to support our plans for re-entry. We recognize that there may be a plethora of reasons that students might be unable to attend the 'in-person' setting, so ultimately, we will be designing sustainable, healthy, flexible learning environs with maximum ability for smooth transitions between in-person and at-home learning.

It is important to note, as we move toward our re-entry, that our plans are based on mitigation and not on prevention. We will be incorporating a multitude of measures to ensure the safest and healthiest learning environment for our community, and we will all have to work together, students, parents, and staff, to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment. Ultimately,

parents are the primary decision-makers for their children and determine what is in their best interest; we will partner with parents and work together as we re-enter the new school year.

We are asking all parents to complete a brief re-entry survey to assist us with our ongoing planning. Please submit this [survey](#) to us by no later than Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

Please know that the re-entry plan is designed with care by the members of our learning community. We are all in this together and as Dr. Hinshaw has advised that this is a collective responsibility and that we all...

- Must take measures to protect others,
- Must maintain high levels of hygiene, and
- Must follow provincial health guidance to the best of our ability.

As has been our practice since the outset of the pandemic, we will continuously and constantly review and analyze our systems, outcomes and results, and as necessary, will make adjustments to provide and achieve the most successful learning experiences for our students.

CGCS Community Members will be receiving regular communiques relating to re-entry, commencing on August 17. If you have any questions pertaining to the re-entry, please send those questions via this [link](#). You may contact the school with COVID-19 specific matters by emailing to COVID19info@calgarygirlsschool.com.

We thank you for the incredible care and support you provide for your children and for your support as partners of our school, as we work together on behalf of our students. We always strive to do our best to serve your children and our community with the greatest integrity, compassion and professionalism.

Stay safe. Be well.

On behalf of the CGCS Team and Board of Directors

Dani Sever, Principal,
Jenelee Jones, Vice Principal
Marlene Vazquez, Vice Principal
Pamela Davidson, Superintendent
Margo Purcell, Board Chair