BCS | Bishop's College School

2020-2021

BCS SCHOOL PLAN

AUGUST 19 FINAL UPDATE

*Where **learning lives** and **leaders grow.***

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CAMPUS COMING ALIVE, FOR WHAT WILL BE ANOTHER MEMORABLE BCS EXPERIENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS

We have been preparing for the upcoming school year since the month of May and now, with one month left before our first day of classes, we are seeing the benefits of our deep thinking, creativity, innovation, and flexibility. The decision to delay the start of the year continues to benefit our families. Our vision for the 2020-21 school year has consistently reinforced our commitment to providing the full BCS experience to our students and that will not change. We remain agile and adapt our plan to the evolving realities of the global situation and we will continue to do so in the coming weeks and months in order to best serve our families.

The campus looks stunning as many renovation and improvement projects are concluding and all of our health and safety modifications are being installed, prior to the arrival of our faculty, staff, and students.

In this updated plan, we provide more details regarding the academic structure, student life and athletics, travel, health and safety, and the quarantine period. This plan will continue to evolve as we work closely with our Public Health Authorities (Santé Publique), receive guidance from our Ministry of Education, and lobby provincial and federal governments on your behalf.

THE OVERALL PLAN FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR IS AS FOLLOWS:

- The weeks of August 24 and August 31: Training for all employees on the health and safety protocols, ongoing preparation for the year and the early arrival of some students.
- September 2 & 3: Students arriving for on-campus quarantine.
- September 4: Beginning of the 14-day quarantine period on campus and online programming for all students (day, domestic boarding and international).
- After September 4th, students will continue to arrive for quarantine on campus and will be housed in different residences or a hotel.
- Weeks of September 7 and September 14: Introduction to the school year for all students (overview of academic courses, student life and athletics, and new health and safety measures).
- September 15 & 16: Two full days of online classes.
- September 19: Arrival of the domestic boarding students.
- September 20: Welcome all students to campus for in-person orientation.
- September 21: First day in class for all students.

KEY POINTS TO HIGHLIGHT

- Our enhanced health and wellness program will address the social, emotional, and physical needs of our entire community.
- Our health and safety protocols will respect government directives.
- Our campus will have increased safety and security measures.

- Our communication throughout the school year will feature targeted touchpoints and frequent updates with parents, an enhanced BCS Portal, and ongoing virtual meetings with the Head of School.
- Our approach to the upcoming school year is strategic and forward thinking. We are improving all facets of the school for this coming year and the future.
- We will have livestreamed classes and recorded lessons to benefit all students.
- Our school staff will fully manage the quarantine for the initial entry into Canada for all students.

SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 4 - 18

Our comprehensive two week program will engage our day students, our domestic boarding students, and our international boarding students. We will benefit from this unprecedented time to provide the students with a depth of knowledge and experiences that will allow them to fully maximize and appreciate their BCS experience.

We will also communicate daily with parents to keep them informed of how life on campus is progressing and provide more information, as the beginning of the first day of classes approaches.

A SERIES OF VIDEOS WILL BE SHARED DAILY WITH ALL STUDENTS, INCLUDING:

- Introduction by the teachers for each academic course
- Introduction to health and wellness services, including our School Counsellor, Nurses and Physiotherapist
- Houseparents and Assistant Houseparents will introduce themselves, their houses, and life in the residences
- Introduction to the advisor system
- Introduction to the student life activities
- Introduction to the athletic program
- Introduction to university guidance
- Introduction to the cadet program
- Introduction to learning supports through the R.D.W. Howson Enrichment Centre
- Members of the senior administration team will introduce themselves
- Department heads will share the scope and sequence of their subject area
- Presentation of the health and safety protocols on campus
- Training on the BCS portal and the integration of technology
- Introduction to the BCS store and the merchandise and supplies available

WEEKLY LIVE VIRTUAL SESSIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS (ON WEEKDAYS):

- Introduction from the prefects and their role in the school
- Introduction to the BCS academic program and IB program
- How to engage in order to have a successful BCS experience
- House meetings
- Advisor sessions for each advisor group
- Classes on September 15th and 16th
- Wellness sessions with the health and wellness staff
- Question and answer sessions with the senior administrative team

DAILY CHECK-INS AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR STUDENTS QUARANTINING:

- Several daily health checks to continuously monitor each child
- Daily well-being check-ins by the Houseparents, Assistant Houseparents, and supervisors
- Supportive check-ins by the School Counsellor
- 3 meals per day plus snacks
- Sports and wellness activities
- Music sessions
- Arts and Crafts sessions
- Physical fitness workouts
- House competition activities
- Book club
- Movie watch parties
- Vlog / Blog community
- Gaming groups

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Our commitment is to plan, prepare, and execute a comprehensive health and wellness program throughout the upcoming school year, in the following areas:

MEDICAL HEALTH

- Access to health care on campus in our Infirmary, from our doctor, as well as the local clinics and hospitals.

PHYSICAL HEALTH

- Exclusive access to all of the BCS athletic facilities.
- Guidance on proper nutrition, sleep, and physical activity.

MENTAL HEALTH

- Heightened support and programming to develop self-esteem, confidence, optimism, positive relations with others, goal setting, and personal growth. Increased access to school support.

SOCIAL HEALTH

- Foster a sense of belonging for all students and demonstrate the importance of forming meaningful relationships and interacting with others in healthy and positive ways.
- Focus on diversity, inclusion, and equity.

EMOTIONAL HEALTH

- Educate students on social emotional learning and their ability to control their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Teenagers are better able to cope with life's challenges if they have developed awareness, perspective, and resiliency.

HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY

- A healthy community is a prepared community. It is informed, focused on healthy living, has access to the necessary resources, and feels supported. Live, learn, work, and play, in a healthy way, at BCS.

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE

We will have various zones that will reflect the appropriate hygiene protocols to match the given activity.

GREEN ZONE	Pertains to residences, where all members of a group act as a family nucleus. Appropriate hygiene measures are taken prior to entering the zone, which allows members of the group to follow less restrictive protocols, while still respecting physical distancing. When applicable, students will have gone through the Santé Publique stipulated quarantine period, prior to becoming a member of the group.
YELLOW ZONE	Defines the normal areas of operation of the school, where day students, parents, faculty living off campus, etc. will interact with our boarding population and where students from different residences will interact with one another. All physical distancing and hygiene measures will be in effect in classrooms, hallways, dining hall, and public spaces.
ORANGE ZONE	A dedicated residence on campus where students will stay if they are exhibiting symptoms and are awaiting their result from the COVID-19 screening test.
RED ZONE	In the unlikely circumstance that a student contracts COVID-19, an isolation zone located off the BCS campus, but in the local community, will house this student. Access will be restricted to authorized personnel only and will be used for medical isolation, until the individual is fully recovered.

BCS will provide added hygiene measures and increased campus safety to enhance the security of all members of our community. Many physical and procedural changes on campus are already in place and will continue to be in effect. These include:

- Hand washing and hand sanitizing.
- Physical distancing.
- Proper sneezing and coughing etiquette.
- Wearing a mask and/or shield when distancing is not possible.
- Disinfecting high-touch surfaces and areas frequently.
- Specific hygiene measures in the kitchen and the dining hall for meals.
- Cleaning of shared equipment after each use.
- Close monitoring of symptoms.
- Daily temperature checks in the residences and as individuals enter the main buildings.
- Daily check-ins by Houseparents.
- Education on appropriate protocols
- Visible and effective signage.
- Availability of masks.
- 24 hours/day and 7 days/week security to control access to campus.
- Coordination of access to the buildings.
- BCS health screening process.
- Specific protocols for families and invited guests to the school.
- Delivery drop zone to limit access to campus.

All students arriving to campus on September 19th or 20th must be symptom free. A health screening questionnaire will be sent to all day and domestic boarding families (who are not quarantining) to be completed multiple times between September 4th and the 18th.

ACADEMICS

We are committed to providing both learning experiences that are engaging and authentic and the support for each student that allows them to be successful. This will be achieved by:

- Increasing access to full-time R.D.W. Howson Enrichment Centre academic support for all students.
- Engaging all faculty in further professional development related to the integration of technology to benefit learning.
- Providing the complete academic program, regardless of individual circumstances (i.e. delayed access to the country, travel, illness).
- Broadcasting classes live for students who are unable to be in class.
- Recording formal teaching and making it available to students as a valuable learning tool.
- Increasing the support and frequency of communication from teachers, advisors, and Enrichment Centre staff.
- Offering comprehensive and personalized Math, ESL, and other subject-specific support.
- Delivering the full BCS daily academic schedule throughout the school year.

We also realize that some students will be delayed, for reasons beyond their control, arriving in Canada and have therefore designed an academic structure that will allow these students to begin the year online and benefit from the full BCS academic program, until their arrival to campus. The highlights of this structure include:

- All classes being live streamed so that students can join their classmates in real time and benefit from the lessons and interaction with their teachers and peers.
- All formal lessons will be recorded and made available to students as a valuable learning and review tool. This will also permit students to watch a recorded class if they are in a time zone that does not permit them to join live.
- All teachers will provide weekly support and frequent communication to their students who are distance learning from somewhere in the world.
- Advisors will provide additional check-ins to ensure that students are engaged, feeling supported and are set-up for success.
- Enrichment Centre staff will support individual learning needs as they arise and ensure that subject specific and general learning support is made available to students.
- We will continue to respect all guidelines communicated through IB (International Baccalaureate) and follow their recommendations and structure for the spring exams in order to best support our IB Diploma and Certificate students.
- We will continue to guarantee that all students are working towards fulfilling the requirements for their graduation diploma and are receiving the appropriate University guidance.
- Our school counsellor will continue to play an important role in the lives of our students beginning the school year from a distance.
- For students who cannot arrive at BCS for the start of in-person classes on September 21, we will be providing video content and livestreaming opportunities to help them prepare for their entry onto campus. Students will be able to access this content from wherever they are in the world and we have installed recording and livestreaming equipment in all of our classrooms to allow students to start the year virtually. All teachers/advisors will set individualized touch points with all of their students to ensure that there still is a connection to clarify or go over material. It is also important to note that BCS remains committed to managing any required quarantines for students initially arriving in Canada throughout the fall.

- Though virtual learning is intended for students who cannot get to campus for reasons out of their control, we are able to support those who choose to delay their child's arrival through virtual learning for the fee of $45,000 (pro-rated by week). This cost aligns with our standard International Day fees, and is with the expectation that they will arrive on campus at some point during the year, keeping in mind that the sooner, the better. Once students arrive on campus, the fee structure will move to our standard boarding costs.

STUDENT LIFE AND ATHLETICS

We are committed to offering a robust and diverse program of student life activities and a wide-ranging athletic experience. We plan to proceed with all BCS activities and incorporate the necessary modifications, when required. We plan to shift our sports seasons in order to offer the sports that are currently sanctioned for play. All activities will follow the directives from Santé Publique and we will closely monitor each activity to ensure that the directives from health authorities and sports governing bodies are respected.

BCS will provide the opportunity for all students to take full advantage of its athletic facilities (ice rink, gymnasium, weight room, cardio room, squash courts, tennis courts, playing fields, wooded trails). Transportation of students will occur while following health and safety guidelines.

The BCS Hockey program continues to remain agile and will pivot as various hockey federations and provincial and national jurisdictions progress through the various phases of return to play protocol. The schedule will begin locally within Canada and expand to the US when permitted.

The 14-day quarantine period will feature organized workout programs, virtual team bonding activities, individual skill development, and strength and agility training.

This year's program will include increased practice and playing time, a more flexible schedule, and high-calibre training. Our hockey teams will continue to play at the highest level possible, challenge themselves to improve, and benefit from exceptional coaching, including the addition of staff to support the teams. The BCS ice surface will be ready for the first day of school and our teams will have exclusive use of our ice rink throughout the school year.

The health and security of our students is our top priority, especially when they travel off campus and we will continue to follow the specific guidelines of health authorities.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Our commitment is to provide a healthy and nurturing residential experience for all boarding students. We will achieve this, in part, by creating 'family' units within each house, where a group of students will be living under the same roof, for the duration of the school year. Houseparents and Assistant Houseparents will play an even greater role in caring for the health and well-being of students.

In accordance with Santé Publique directives, BCS will oversee a quarantine for all students' initial arrival to Canada. Quarantine protocols, whether on or off campus, will be fully managed by the school and closely supervised by BCS staff. Furthermore, we will engage with every student multiple times per day in order to best support our students' health and wellness during this time. We hope to provide the quarantine on campus for all students.

We have also booked rooms with local hotels to provide minimal cost options for families who wish to quarantine with their child. Upon completion of the quarantine period, students will enter their permanent room for the school year.

The entire residential staff is committed to:

- Increasing the selection of weekend and special house activities.
- Ensuring that life in the houses will continue to be a memorable BCS experience.
- Providing care and support to meet each student's needs.
- Creating a drop zone for the delivery of all student purchases managed by campus security.

STUDENT TRAVEL

We are committed to supporting our students in their arrival to Canada, Quebec, and the BCS campus. Once we receive our students' travel plans in the coming weeks, we will schedule the transportation to ensure that they arrive safely to campus. Prior to travelling, each family will also receive an information package from the school with the appropriate documents to be shown to the Canadian border services officer upon arrival in Canada.

At this time, we continue to strongly encourage families to book a direct flight to Montreal Trudeau international airport, a connecting flight via Toronto Pearson international airport, or by land from the United States at the Derby Line–Stanstead Border Crossing. This will facilitate entry into Canada and allow us to better predict transportation needs. Furthermore, we suggest that you book flexible tickets that can be modified without penalty and the appropriate travel insurance.

At this time, the Canadian government has limited entry into the country. We encourage you to consult the following websites, in order to receive the most updated information. Please let us know if you have any questions.

https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/services/covid/menu-eng.html

https://www.educanada.ca/study-plan-etudes/covid-19/update-covid-19-mise-a-jour.aspx?lang=eng

There will be school transportation organized to and from the airport and the Derby Line–Stanstead Border Crossing and students will be supervised and under our care, from the moment they arrive to the moment they leave. Arriving to BCS is arriving to the safe and beautiful Eastern Townships of Quebec, which is a region that has effectively managed the COVID-19 virus during the past six months.

All student travel during the school year will follow Santé Publique guidelines and be closely monitored by the school. We are anticipating that air travel in 2020-21 will continue to be impacted and that quarantine may be required. Quarantine following the December and March breaks, managed by BCS, will have an associated cost.

Furthermore, we are aware that international travel may be restricted or that families may not want their child to travel during school breaks. We have set the school calendar with these parameters in mind and students who do not return home will be given a choice between a local homestay, to remain under BCS supervision (details to be confirmed), or stay with a friend or family member.

At this time, we are planning to organize weekend visits with parents on campus that will follow the school's health and safety protocols. This will be in place, as of the beginning of the school year and

until further notice, in order to limit unsupervised student travel off campus and manage our community's responsible response to COVID-19.

WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR JUST ONE MONTH AWAY...

We trust that this updated plan provides you with a clearer vision of what BCS will be offering during the upcoming quarantine period, the academic support of students who begin the year online and all aspects of school life that will provide the full BCS experience to all families.

In the coming weeks, we will provide you with timely updates as our plan continues to evolve.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and collaboration. We remain confident that our plan will serve each family well as they experience BCS life in 2020-21.

Be well, stay safe, and we will see you soon on Moulton Hill!

MICHEL LAFRANCE
Head of School

2020-2021 MAIN EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Aug. 24: Faculty Meeting Week
Sept. 4-18: Quarantine services open on-campus
Sept. 15 & 16: Academic Days (virtually)
Sept. 19-20: Domestic boarding students arrive
Sept. 20: New Student Orientation Day
Sept. 21: First Day of Classes/Mountain Day
Oct. 9 at 1:30PM to Oct. 12PM: Thanksgiving Activities (Residences open, no travel permitted). Classes resume the 13th.
Nov. 11 at 11:00AM: Remembrance Day Service
Nov. 12: 1:00-4:00PM: Parent/Teacher Interviews
Nov. 12 at 1:30PM to Nov. 15PM: Mid-Term Break (Residences open, travel to be confirmed). Classes resume the 16th.
Dec. 18 at 4:00PM: A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (to be confirmed)
Dec. 18 at 6:30PM to Jan. 3PM: Winter Break. Travel Day for International flights should be booked for Dec. 19th, options will be available for students who do not wish to travel. Jan. 3: Residences will be open at Noon, boarding students must arrive by 8:30PM. Classes resume the 4th.
Feb. 12 at 1:30PM to Feb. 14PM: February Break (Residences open) Boarding students must arrive by 8:30PM, Feb. 14. Classes resume the 15th.
March 17 at 4:00PM: Spring Concert at BCS
March 19: 1:00-4:00PM: Parent/Teacher Interviews
March 19 at 1:00PM to April 4PM: Spring Break. Travel Day for International flights should be booked for March 20th. Residences will be closed at Noon on the 20th. Residences will be open at Noon on April 4th; boarding students must arrive by 8:30PM. Classes resume on the 5th. A school trip may be available.
April 17: Stoker Arts Festival (to be confirmed)
May 24: The school will remain open for compulsory exams. Victoria Day will be celebrated on Monday, May 31st
May 25-27: Compulsory Form VI MEES English Exams (dates to be confirmed)
May 28: Annual Cadet Review
May 28 at 4:00PM to June 1PM: May Break (Residences closed) Boarding students must arrive between 6:30-8:30PM, June 1. Classes resume June 2nd. (Campus closed for Grad 2020)
May/June: The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Ceremony (date to be confirmed)
June 18 at 1:30PM: School Assembly and Presentation of Forms II to VII Academic Awards
June 19: 1:00PM: Graduation Ceremony/School Closing. 4:00PM: Students dismissed. 6:00PM: Graduation Dinner & Dance for Forms VI & VII only.

FORM V may be writing COMPULSORY MEES Exams June 21 & 22, we will confirm these dates as soon as they are received. Residences will be open for these students until the end of their last exam.

September 2020

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November 2020

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March 2021

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April 2021

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June 2021

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