



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE
HANDSWORTH
SECONDARY SCHOOL



October 22, 2020

Dear Handsworth Families:

Please find below some important information and updates.

REPORTING UPDATE

INTERIM REPORTING – all students will be receiving an interim report every quarter. These reports will be published on the parent portal and will include a cumulative grade to date and comments in relation to curricular expectations and learning standards. Please see below for publishing dates.

Quarter 1 Published Wednesday October 28th
Quarter 2 Published Thursday December 17th
Quarter 3 Published Thursday March 11th
Quarter 4 Published Thursday June 3rd

FINAL REPORTING – all students will receive a final report at the completion of every quarter. Students taking full year courses will receive an interim at each quarter and a final report on Monday June 28th

Quarter 1 Published Wednesday November 25th
Quarter 2 Published Monday February 8th
Quarter 3 Published Wednesday April 28th
Quarter 4 Published Monday June 28th

Tip! Please establish access to your [PARENT PORTAL ACCOUNT](#) *prior* to the publication dates.

CALENDAR

Q1 & Q2 CALENDAR UPDATES - In an effort to create a better balance, specifically in regard to the hybrid delivery model and Cohorts A & B, as well as bringing all students together online via MS Teams for the first class of every quarter, there have been amendments made to the district wide calendar. Please note the adjustments to Quarter 2.

Monday November 16: Morning Class–only **Cohort B** reports **FACE to FACE** to assigned classroom (last day of Q1)

Wednesday November 18: Morning Class - the **ENTIRE CLASS** reports **FACE to FACE** to assigned classroom

Wednesday November 18: Afternoon Class – the **ENTIRE CLASS** reports **ONLINE via MS Teams**

Monday November 23: Afternoon Class – only **Cohort B*** reports **FACE to FACE** to assigned classroom

*teachers will assign cohorts to students during the first class

We have updated the [2020-21 STUDENT CALENDAR](#) on the Handsworth website to reflect the calendar changes.

RESOURCES & SUPPORTS

REVIEW AND COMPLETION - In addition to daily morning FLEX Support, every quarter we have one day Review and Completion day dedicated to support students who need a little time to wrap up the course and/or are looking to demonstrate any outstanding competencies.

Quarter 1 R&C Day Tuesday November 17th
Quarter 2 R&C Day Friday January 29th
Quarter 3 R&C Day Tuesday April 20th
Quarter 4 R&C Day Wednesday June 23rd
Additional R&C Days June 24 and 25

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FLEX TIME - A reminder that teachers are available in-person and virtually to support students during the optional morning FLEX TIME. Please have your child connect with their teacher directly to schedule a time if they require additional support.

ABSENCES DUE TO ILLNESS - We ask families to please keep their child(ren) home if ill. If you are unsure of when you keep your child(ren) home, the [NVSD HEALTH CHECK](#) is a helpful guide. Rest assured that the teachers are well equipped to support the continuation of educational programming if your child is ill, or required to self-isolate by Vancouver Coastal Health and unable to report to classes. As an additional measure I would encourage students to find a “buddy” in class - this system works well for studying but also for gathering information that may have been missed in classes. If there is an extended absence for any reason, please connect with your Grade Counsellor and/or Grade Administrator and they will be able to support.

I'd also like to acknowledge that we recognize some families are making decisions with respect to educational plans that reflect the needs of their individual family circumstances. The instructional delivery model for students in Grade 8 is designed for 100% in class in person learning. For Grades 9-12 instructional delivery is designed for 70% in-class in person learning and the balance is achieved with remote learning through Microsoft Teams. There is extremely limited ability for classroom teachers to support students who choose not to attend in-person classes due to family circumstances – this excludes students who are medically unable to report to classes. If the educational program for your child needs to be revisited, I would encourage families to connect with the Grade Counsellor and/or Grade Administrator to review options.

Lastly, as we are proceeding with universal interims for every quarter, and acknowledging that parent teacher communication is ongoing throughout the year and in multiple forms: teams meeting, phone calls, email etc. a decision has been made that we will not have formal Parent Teacher Interviews this year. The universal interim report is a critical piece in our plan for communicating student learning and one of the ways that we are making a significant investment in our students' success. Please do not hesitate to reach out directly to the classroom teacher if you have questions or concerns about your child(ren)'s progress.

I hope you found the information helpful and wish all Handsworth families a wonderful weekend.

Stay well,

Rupi Samra-Gynane, Principal

The Handsworth Community develops empowered, innovative, and compassionate learners who serve and lead with curiosity and integrity.