



SD35 Langley School District StrongStart: Safe Return Plan, Stage II September 2020

This is a living document and is subject to change. It has been created in collaboration with our Langley StrongStart facilitators and district Early Learning leadership.

“StrongStart BC programs provide rich learning environments designed for early learning development – language, physical, cognitive, social and emotional. Qualified early childhood educators lead learning activities where children find opportunities to make friends and interact with others of similar ages.” – BC Ministry of Education

Langley School District will offer their StrongStart programs at reduced capacity during Stage II. This means that the number of families attending in order to maintain safe physical distancing will be reduced, as well as a reduction in the number of hours per day and/or days per week to accommodate cleaning and disinfecting protocols. An outdoor component will also be part of the regular weekly schedule. On-line registration for sessions will be a requirement to ensure adequate preparation is made for families.

Weekly Schedule:

Monday: In Centre – 90 minutes, i.e.; 9:00 – 10:30 (4 families)

Tuesday: In Centre – 2.5 hours, i.e., 9:00 – 11:30 (4 families)

Wednesday: “Wilderness Wednesday” – 2 hours ie; 9:00 – 11:00 (10 families)

Thursday: In Centre – 90 minutes, i.e.; 9:00 – 10:30 (4 families)

Friday: In Centre – 2.5 hours, i.e., 9:00 – 11:30 (4 families)

Times are examples and will vary slightly depending on centre. Three sites are PM sites.

On sessions with short days, facilitators will use the remaining time to create online learning opportunities for families who are not able to come to the in-person session.

According to the current public health guidelines for [K-12 schools and child care settings](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf), Strong Start BC programs can be operated safely by following recommended preventative measures such as requiring participants and staff to stay home when sick, encouraging physical distancing and minimizing physical contact, practicing hand hygiene and implementing enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols. Also referenced: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf> Our plan meets these guidelines as the following measures will be in place:

Pre-Registration replacing Drop-In – Pre-Registration will be required through **attendease**. A sample of the sign-up page is included as **Appendix A**. Information for registration will be posted on the Langley School District Site, on the doors of the centres, as well as on each centre’s Facebook page. On inside learning days (Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri), there will be room for up to four families during each session at a maximum of one session per family per week.

On Wednesdays, Families will meet at a pre-designated spot in the community for Outdoor Learning opportunities- up to 10 families, one caregiver per family will be accommodated. Sign up will be required for this day as well. A tent will be provided for sign-in and sanitation upon arrival.

INDOOR PROCEDURES

1. Families will wait at four clearly marked designated spots that are physically distanced outside of the building. They will line up and wait for the SS facilitator to greet and guide them to the SS Centre. The lineup times will be staggered from the school’s drop-off times to ensure physical distancing is possible.
2. SS Facilitators will greet with an attendance clipboard to mark-off the reserved/confirmed participants before they enter the room. SS Facilitators will ask participants if any symptoms, any travel or contact with people with Covid-19. They will reference the Health Check Form and confirm that they have completed the Daily Health Check.
3. The Health Check form will have been completed before entry to the first session. **See Appendix B.**
4. Strollers/Buggies will be parked on the designated spots outside, in the school hallway or in the marked area of the classroom depending on the centre, providing there is room inside. Families are encouraged to limit the number of belongings they bring with them.
5. With SS Centres with no direct exterior door, facilitators will lead the participants to the StrongStart centre following the direction of the arrows. When walking through the school hallways, and while in the centre, adult or caregivers will be required to wear a mask, children will not.
6. Before entering the classroom there will be a handwashing/sanitizing station either in the hallway or entrance to the classroom. With most centres having a sink, families can walk directly to the sink to wash hands.

7. Once hands are washed SS Facilitators will direct participants to a play area and prepared/sanitized materials. Children will be allowed to move between play areas, with the caregiver accompanying the child.
8. Each area will have a set number of plastic bins with learning materials. All materials will be washable with a large bin being provided at each designated area to put used toys. A limited number of materials will be available to ensure proper cleaning occurs between sessions.
9. A private change table area will be provided with a closed garbage, nearby sink, and wipes for surface sanitation.
10. Circle time will have participants throughout the room, physically distanced as possible.
11. Pre-packaged snacks, and/or cut fruit or vegetables will be offered to families as they leave the facility. There will be no snack time during the session itself.

Example of indoor session:

9:00 – Enter/Wash hands: Facilitator will direct participants to their play area for free play time.

9:40 – Each family cleans up their area, putting used toys into the ‘must wash’ bin and then washes their hands before circle time.

9:50 – Circle time physical-distanced throughout the centre. Facilitator in the middle.

10:10 – Wash hands before leaving

10:15 – Pre-packaged snack given as families depart.

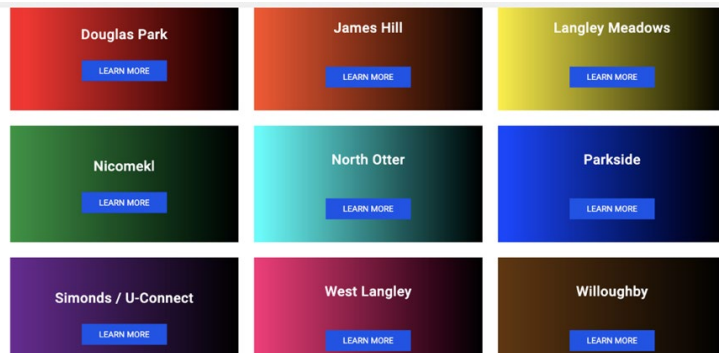
There will be strict adherence to Covid-19 safety protocols with family health-check questionnaire completed before indoor/outdoor learning, strict hand-hygiene procedures for both caregiver and children, physical distancing between families and StrongStart Facilitators as well as strict cleaning procedures facilitated by the facilitators.

Appendix A: <https://strongstart.attendase.com/> This link will take you to a page that provides an overview of the StrongStart program as well as all nine sites listed for parents to sign-up at their chosen centre:



Participate with your young child (aged birth to five) in a free, play-based, drop-in program. StrongStart BC programs provide rich learning environments for language, physical, cognitive, social and emotional development. Qualified early childhood educators employed by the Langley School District facilitate activities where children find opportunity to make friends and interact with others of similar ages.

Due to Covid-19, we have made some changes in how StrongStart is offered. Please read your school site's page for more details on these changes.



The site will then take families through a set of easy-to-follow steps that will lead them to a selection of times to sign up their child.

September 30, 2020

- 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, September 30, 2020
StrongStart - James Hill (Outside)
(0 / 10)

October 1, 2020

- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, October 1, 2020
StrongStart - James Hill
(0 / 4)

October 2, 2020

- 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm, October 2, 2020
StrongStart - James Hill
(0 / 4)

October 5, 2020

- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, October 5, 2020
StrongStart - James Hill
(0 / 4)

After completing the process, the families will receive a confirmation with the links to the Health Check Form and Registration Form.

Appendix B: StrongStart Health Check Form and Letter to Parents.

September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians/Caregivers:

Re: Daily Health Check for StrongStart

The following Daily Health Check Form is required for you and your child(ren) to participate in our StrongStart sessions. Please complete and return this form to the centre one time only when you attend your first session. **One form must be completed for each child.** We need your acknowledgement, care and consideration, to ensure we keep our school communities healthy and safe.

If a child answers "yes" to any of the following questions they will not be able to attend:

Daily Health Check			
1. Symptoms of Illness	Does your child have any of the following symptoms?	Please check Yes or No	
	Fever	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Chills	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Shortness of breath	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	Nausea and vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
2. International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside of Canada in the last 14 days?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

If you answered "YES" to one of the "Symptoms of Illness" questions above (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to your StrongStart centre when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered "YES" to two or more of the "Symptoms of Illness" questions above or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

When a **COVID-19 test** is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.

- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to the StrongStart centre once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 **test is recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from the StrongStart centre until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to the StrongStart centre when symptoms improve, and you feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

If you answered "YES" to questions 2 or 3, use the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

Please review the above symptoms with your child daily. Health and safety of our students and staff is a top priority. Please contact your centre facilitator if you have any questions or concerns.