



Okanagan Indian Band

12420 Westside Road • Vernon, BC, • V1H 2A4
Telephone: 250-542-4328 • Facsimile 250-542-4990
Email: okibadmin@okanagan.org

January 7, 2022

EDUCATION UPDATE

Way ǰast sǰǰǰilt students, parents and staff.

With approval from the OKIB Health Department, both the daycare, cultural immersion school and language Nest programs will be **open on Monday January 10, 2022.**

Please make sure to monitor your child's health before making the decision for them to return to school. If your child exhibits any symptoms associated with COVID-19 please keep them at home and have them assessed by a health professional. A sick child will infect staff and if there are no staff then the school and/or daycare will have to close again.

The school, daycare and nest programs are important to the overall health and wellbeing of the children and the community. However, it may be necessary to close the school in the future if regional caseloads increase drastically.

Parents are not obligated to send their children to the school, daycare or nest programs if they feel it is unsafe to do so. If you decide to keep your child at home please inform the school, daycare and/or nest staff of your intentions.

School bus services will also likely return on Monday, unless you hear otherwise. Our bus driver is inspecting the bus tomorrow to make sure it is ready for Monday.

Despite potential exposure within the daycare and school this past week, there was no known COVID transmission, likely the result of the strict protocols followed by staff and students. Rapid testing kits will be arriving at the daycare and school within the week, which are an additional tool in the fight against this virus.

All OKIB members must remain vigilant as the Omicron variant has symptoms that are relatively mild, much like the common cold. If you feel sick or have cold-like symptoms, please stay home and isolate. If these symptoms progress, contact the OKIB Health Department 250-241-7595.

- **snc'c'amala?tn** COVID-19 safety plan may be reviewed <https://okib.ca/uploads/files/COVID-19-Health-and-Safety-Plan-for-Parents.pdf>
- **ckwu kw ǰlap il sk'kwǰilt nal ǰǰǰǰǰap** **will open, as scheduled, on January 11, 2022** and follows the same safety plan as described for the daycare.
- **nǰmaplqs i? snǰmaǰa?tn i? kl sqilxwtǰt** COVID-19 safety plan may be reviewed at <https://okib.ca/uploads/files/COVID19-Health-and-Safety-Plan-for-staff.pdf>

- All Provincial and Independent schools will follow the Ministry of Education’s request to re-open on January 10, 2022.

Parents, students and staff are encouraged to use the Provincial **health check app** that can be downloaded to help you assess the daily wellness of your young student

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e2s1>

In the meantime, stay strong and stay safe.

Lim’ ləmt | Thank you



Gareth Jones - Director of Education, Language and Culture

snc’c’amala?tn | Early Childhood Education Centre

ckwu kʷ ʔlap il skʷkʷʔilt naʔ ʔxəxʔxap | Language Nest

nkmaplqs iʔ snmama?tn iʔ kl sqilxʷtət | Cultural Immersion School

Tel: 250.542.5094 –Ext.2002 | Cell: 250.540.9384 | Email: gareth.jones@okanagan.org