

## **Reopening of school play and recreation facilities**

With the resumption of in-class instruction on a part-time basis set for June 1, the Vancouver School District will begin to reopen its outdoor facilities for use by students and the wider community.

As District staff look forward to welcoming students back to schools and as part of the [BC's Education Restart Plan](#), barriers and closure notifications on areas closed-off for public use will be removed. The phased-in reopening of equipment and facilities will begin Thursday, May 28 and will include all playfields and playgrounds with the exception of playgrounds under construction or renovation and fields normally reserved for rentals. Basketball courts will reopen in phased-in manner throughout the coming weeks.

Sports fields, courts, school grounds and play structures will be available for student use during the school day and for use by the wider public outside of school hours. Members of the public are reminded that school property is not to be used during school hours.

In March, the District closed facilities and equipment on school property in alignment with the same decision by the Vancouver Park Board. Green spaces and school grounds at the District's school sites remained open for public use since throughout the initial COVID-19 response.

The decision to reopen facilities is based on the advice of public health officials including Vancouver Coastal Health and the Public Health Office of BC. Educational signage advising users of health and safety measures, such as keeping a safe physical distance from people who are not members of the same household, will be posted. In addition, members of the public are reminded to wash or sanitize their hands frequently and to avoid using equipment if they are ill by staying home if when they are sick.