



Cavell Seismic Busing FAQ

1. **Question:** What measures are going to be put in place with regards to COVID-19?

Answer: The Vancouver School District takes guidance from the Public Health Officer, Vancouver Coastal Health and the Ministry of Education regarding health and safety measures for COVID 19. We do not know what the guidelines will state in late August/early September 2020, so we will have to wait for any updated guidelines. In the COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings, there is a Student Transportation on Buses section to be implemented as of June 1, 2020. These guidelines were as follows:

Buses used for transporting students should be cleaned and disinfected according to the guidance provided in the [BCCDC's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#) document.

Additional measures should be taken, including:

- Encouraging private vehicle use where possible to decrease transportation density.
- Consider installing a physical barrier between the driver and passengers (e.g., plexiglass).
- Have students sit in their own seat:
 - Students should be separated side to side and front to back.
 - Students from the same household can share seats if space is limited.

2. **Question:** What happens if my child misses the bus in the morning (therefore a parent drives them to school) or a parent drives their child to school and requires busing home at the end of the school day?

Answer: As long as your child is registered for busing service and has been given a bus number they have a spot on that specific scheduled bus. If you (as a parent/guardian) are picking your child up from school and not requiring the bus service at the end of the day, please let the school know so that they are not looking for your child at the end of the day.

3. **Question:** What is the procedure for kindergarten gradual entry? Will there be another bus service running?

Answer: Gradual entry to kindergarten will be carried out in accordance to school communication. The bus service will operate twice per day. Once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Additional buses will not be added for gradual entry to kindergarten. Even though kindergarten students will not be riding the bus during gradual entry, it is important that they register for the bus service because they are eligible and will be integrated with other students for the bus service once they begin full days.

4. **Question:** We intend to use the bus service, however, in situations where my child will not be on the bus, how/who do we have to advise/inform?

Answer: Communication with the school is important to ensure all students are accounted for. If for some reason your child is not taking the bus, please communicate with the school office. The current school phone number at Cavell will be transferred over to the swing site.



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5. **Question:** Why does Cavell have to start at 8:45AM? Can Cavell start at a later time such as 9:15AM?
Answer: There must be staggered start times between Maple Grove and Cavell to try to mitigate traffic in the area. If Cavell had a later start time, the buses would be arriving during the time where the majority of parents pick up and drop off their children and therefore add to the traffic/congestion in the neighbourhood.

6. **Question:** Will Douglas Park Out of School Care be operating out of Maple Grove or Cavell?
Answer: We heard from the Cavell community in October 2018 that they had a strong preference of keeping the Out of School Care in the Cavell neighbourhood and at the Cavell Elementary site during the seismic project upgrade. Therefore, Douglas Park Out Of School Care will operate out of the modular building at the current Cavell site.

7. **Question:** If my child is in Douglas Park OOSC, what bus will they be on?
Answer: It will be up to the school to schedule which students are on each bus.

8. **Question:** How will the students on the bus be organized? Will siblings be on the same bus?
Answer: The school organizes the scheduling of students on each bus. Where possible, siblings are kept together.

9. **Question:** What grade levels will be on each bus?
Answer: The scheduling of which students are on each bus is organized by the school, but buses will be composed of different grade levels.

10. **Question:** Will there be a bus rehearsal/practice run for students?
Answer: We will work with Lynch Buslines to determine if a rehearsal bus trip is possible in late summer. This will be completely optional for parents and consist of students getting on the bus, travelling over to Maple Grove, getting back on the bus and then returning to the Cavell site.

11. **Question:** Will there be supervision on the bus? If a child is not following the expected code of conduct on the bus, how will it be addressed?
Answer: The only adult on the school bus is the driver. If a child is not following the expected code of conduct it will be communicated with the school and then back to the specific child's parents/guardians. If a child continues to struggle following the expected code of conduct, their busing privileges may be revoked, and alternative transportation would be required by the parent/guardian.

12. **Question:** If my child has after school programming after school on certain days, what do I do?
Answer: If your child is not going to take the bus after school, please ensure you communicate this to the school office so that they are aware and not looking for your child at the end of the day.



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13. **Question:** Are there seatbelts on the bus?

Answer: There are no seatbelts on the bus. Lynch Buslines has an answer on their website regarding seat belts as follows:

“School buses do not have seat belts because they are built with compartmentalization. To learn more about compartmentalization, refer to this [Transport Canada article](#).”

14. **Question:** Will there be a school staff member at Cavell construction site to ensure my child gets on the bus to the swing site in the morning?

Answer: It is the responsibility of parents to be at the Cavell pick up/drop off site to ensure their children get on the bus.

15. **Question:** Who will be meeting the students when they get off the bus? Will it be their actual teachers?

Answer: When students get off the bus at the swing site in the morning, Cavell staff will be there to meet them. It may not be their own classroom teacher, but it will be a member of the Cavell staff (Teacher, SSA or Administrator).

16. **Question:** How will you ensure that students are released to the appropriate adult when returning to the Cavell site in the afternoon?

Answer: It is the responsibility of parents to be at the Cavell pick up/drop off site to meet their children when they get off the bus.

17. **Question:** If we miss the bus, can we take the next one?

Answer: No. Students will be scheduled for certain buses and therefore if a bus is missed there may not be space to accommodate on the next bus.

18. **Question:** For before and after school activities, will there be an early or late bus?

Answer: The buses only operate 2 times per day. Once in the morning and once in the afternoon. There are no alternate bus times to accommodate activities before or after school. Before and after school activities will continue to be teacher directed and only operate if there is sponsorship by VSB staff. Parents will need to arrange transportation for participating students.

19. **Question:** Do bus drivers have criminal records checks?

Answer: Yes, all Lynch Buslines drivers must pass a criminal record search with vulnerable sector.

20. **Question:** Can the Cavell portable and modular building on site be used for primary classes?

Answer: No. Keeping the Cavell community together at one site is important. The modular building and portable are not equipped with adequate resources/facilities (such as gym space and office space) to provide a well-rounded educational experience.