

April 15, 2020

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Returning to learning

Schools and educators have been asked to return to offering learning to students starting April 16. This learning will be happening from a distance as face-to-face classes have been suspended for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. This is an unprecedented situation and we understand that teaching your students from a distance is a challenge. We are here to support you in this journey and as the situation evolves, we will be working with school administrators and school staff and providing updated information, resources and guidance through the Educator Update and Admin Updates every week. For further questions, guidance or support, we encourage you to go through your school administrators.

Yukon learning continuity requirements

The [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements](#) document has been updated and the full document is now available online. This document will be updated as needed and updates will be posted online and provided to schools.

- **Working with Yukon First Nations**

We have updated the Yukon Continuity Learning Requirements to include information about working with Yukon First Nations. We encourage you to review the updates and work with your school administrators to ensure you continue to communicate and work with Yukon First Nations to ensure Yukon First Nations ways of knowing, doing and being continue to be part of student learning.

- **Guidelines For Preparing Pick Up And Drop Off Of School Materials**

Please see the attached document outlining guidelines to be used for the safe pick up and drop off of school materials.

COVID-19 Yukonnect site for school staff

We have established a [SharePoint site](#) for school staff that includes all key documents for supporting schools during this time, such as:

- Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements
- Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements: Teacher Planning Guide
- School Learning Continuity Plan Checklist
- Education Working from Home Technology Guidelines
- Protecting government and student information while working from home
- Technology loans for students
- FAQs for school staff and parents
- All DM memos to school staff and parents
- All Global Notes from the Government of Yukon with important HR and information related to your work during the COVID-19 pandemic

Accessing Yukonnect: For teachers and EAs to log on to Yukonnect, use your Rapid ID credentials (yesnet) email address) and your Rapid ID Password.

Covid-19 Health and safety

The Government of Yukon has issued important health and safety directives that school staff should be aware of. These directives can be accessed on the [Health and Safety page](#) of the Government of Yukon's COVID-19 Yukonnect Site. [Directive 3](#) is the most recent directive that school staff should be aware of.

- **Directive 3 – Health and Safety Measures:**

Directive 3 is Effective March 26 and was amended April 9, 2020. It includes important information on the following:

- Ensuring physical spacing in the workplace
- Hygiene practices in the workplace
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Information for supervisors to ensure health and safety practices are being following in the work place

If school staff have any concerns about physical spacing or access to proper hygiene facilities or products while at the school, they should contact their school principal or supervisor to have these concerns addressed.

- **Cleaning at schools**

To ensure the health and safety of school staff who are visiting schools, schools are being deep cleaned, including thorough cleaning of all surfaces and wiping down of items in the building such as computers, phones and keyboards. School staff can view the [cleaning guidelines](#) that are being followed to clean schools during this time on the [Health and Safety page](#) of the Government of Yukon's COVID-19 Yukonnect Site.

- **Supporting wellbeing, mental wellness and working at home**

Taking care of our mental health during COVID-19 is equally important as attending to our physical health. Many staff are also working from home, which can cause challenges to our mental wellness. We encourage you to connect with your colleagues on a daily basis, maintain routines, set a consistent schedule with breaks when needed and to put work away when you finish for the day.

Also, please remember that supports are available to you and your families. For Yukon government employees, including Yukon educators, the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) provides seven free counselling sessions annually per family for eligible employees.

To make an appointment, call 867-668-EFAP (3327). Counselling services are available over the phone and by videoconference. In addition to EFAP, Yukon government employees have up to \$1000 for counselling services through the Canada Life benefits package. More information is available on the Benefits page on Yukonnect.

If you haven't already taken the Mindwell Take 5 challenge, we invite you to try it out. Visit the Mindwell website and find lots of mindfulness tips. [Mindwell U Take 5](#).

Reporting and assessments

- **Spring assessments cancelled**

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, students will not complete the normal territory-wide spring assessments (e.g. EYE, BOEHM, DART, SWW, OPI, WPA etc.).

Professional learning opportunities

- **Microsoft Office 365: Sway**

Microsoft Sway is a simple to use web-based presentation software that could be used to build striking asynchronous remote learning opportunities in minutes. Find [professional development opportunities and samples](#) on our website.

Sway is available by logging into [RapidIdentity via the yesnet homepage](#).

- **Microsoft Office 365: Teams**

Learn how to use Microsoft Office Teams to connect and collaborate with your students.

- 10 AM, April 17th | Part 2 – Tools for Teaching and Learning in Microsoft Teams: Create engaging lesson plans in Microsoft Teams. Learn to create assignments while integrating your LMS, and your favourite apps, sites and resources. Link to join [here](#).

Teams is available by logging into [RapidIdentity via the yesnet homepage](#).

Find professional development opportunities and much more in our [Learning Continuity Toolkit](#).

Resources for educators

- **Career Education 8-12 Teachers**

Find new information on how to effectively use [Myblueprint](#) remotely.

- **Bring STEM Discovery home**

Let's Talk Science has a great selection of resources and activities for engaging children and youth at home. Check back often as more learning resource collections are added every week. [Let's Talk Science resources](#).

- **Marilyn Burns Math Blog**

Check out her [latest posts](#) for lots of ideas when teaching math to your students.

Action items

- Read the updated and complete [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements](#).
- Find key documents on the new [SharePoint site](#) for school staff
- Read the Health and Safety directives on the [Health and Safety page](#) of the Government of Yukon's COVID-19 Yukonnect Site, including the new [Directive 3](#).
- You can view the [cleaning guidelines](#) in schools.
- Visit the [Mindwell U Take 5](#) website for mental health tips.
- Learn how to use Microsoft Sway. Find [professional development opportunities and samples](#) on our website
- Learn how to use Microsoft Teams. Join [here](#) and find professional development opportunities and much more in our [Learning Continuity Toolkit](#)
- Find new information on how to effectively use [Myblueprint](#) remotely for Grades 8-12.
- Find science resources at [Let's Talk Science resources](#).
- Check out Marilyn Burns' [latest posts](#) for lots of math ideas.