

Dear EIPS families,

As the end of spring break approaches, we wanted to touch base regarding the alternative-learning plans we've put in place for EIPS students.

While those enrolled in diploma courses began working with their teachers the week before last, the majority of students will start that process on Monday, April 6. By now, your child's teachers should have been in touch with you to let you know how learning will move forward. If you aren't yet sure of the arrangements, or have any questions, contact the school for assistance.

Delivering learning in this way is new for both you and our teachers. There may be some technical challenges at times—for instance, families with multiple students may face internet bandwidth issues with their home-service providers. Overall, students will need to adjust to a very different format, and teachers will learn, as they go, what works best for those in their classes. We ask for your patience as we walk this untried path together.

As when your child was attending school, relationships remain key—those students have with their teachers, and those teachers have with parents. It's essential we keep the lines of respectful and constructive communication open and identify issues or concerns that come about as a result of this significant shift in teaching practice.

Already, some families have reached out to us with questions about learning resources they could use to supplement the lessons teachers deliver. EIPS has developed an [Alternative Learning web page](#), which we're updating on an ongoing basis. It includes suggestions and tools for enhancing core competencies and links to other valuable and instructive resources to help support families. We encourage you to visit the web page from time to time to access the helpful information and links.

Finally, we know all our school families are living very different lives and are trying to adapt to the rapidly evolving situation. Many people are struggling with a drop in income, loss of jobs and uncertain health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of the disruption, children may express anxiety, confusion and sadness, and you may not be entirely sure how best to support them in their learning. To help, the web page also lists various [mental health resources](#) that may assist you and your family navigate these unprecedented challenges.

Under the circumstances, please know it's important you be kind to yourself and not feel undue pressure to get it all right from the very beginning.

Despite the unique situation, please rest assured your child's education remains top of mind for EIPS teachers and administrators. With the resources available, our teachers will do their best to help guide both you and your child through the new process. While teaching and learning will look different in the days ahead, please know your child will continue to receive both the learning supports and connection needed to help them continue to grow and succeed.

Thank you for your ongoing kindness and understanding.