Safe Return to School

Conditions essential to the implementation of the plan for reopening schools

- Optimum access to COVID-19 testing for people exhibiting symptoms
- Limited exposure for people vulnerable to the virus
- Stable or diminishing number of new cases
- Maintenance of the R0 indicator (virus propagation indicator) at level 1 or below

Measures to be implemented in schools

- Return to school is non-compulsory
- Compliance with the 2-metre social distancing rule
- Maximum of 15 students per classroom
- Staggered schedules to limit movement within the school and to limit the number of instances when students move at the same time (for example, students will take turns using the schoolyard)
- Regular maintenance to ensure that premises are clean and sanitary
- Awareness of hygiene and handwashing etiquette
- Frequent and compulsory handwashing for all
- Reorganization of school transportation to ensure that one out of every two school bus seats is empty and that there is no more than one student per occupied seat
- Creation of a protection zone for school bus drivers
- An emergency kit ready for use if needed (gloves, medical procedure masks, smock, disinfecting solution)
- All persons (students and school staff) presenting COVID-19 symptoms prohibited from entering the school for a 14-day period
- All persons (students and school staff) with a health condition that could make them vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19 (e.g. chronic disease, severe immunodeficiency, pregnancy or breastfeeding, aged 60 and older) advised to refrain from going back to school before September 2020
- Non-essential common areas in schools closed and access to schools restricted to staff and students