

OLGC School Closure Policy - in progress if/when needed...

- **authorities established previous to 2021/22 are not required to have a school closure policy.**

Note From FISA:

In the September 3rd DM Bulletin there was an item addressing the requirement for a [School Closure Policy](#) for independent schools. For schools scheduled for External Inspections or Monitoring Visits this school year you will have noticed that this policy is contained within the inspection catalogues. To be clear, this policy commences in the 2021/22 school year and school authorities of **all new independent schools are required to develop and maintain a school closure risk mitigation plan during the first five years of operation** to minimize the impact of a potential school closure on the school community. Therefore, independent schools and authorities established previous to 2021/22 are **not** required to have a school closure policy.

Purpose of the New Ministry Policy

The new School Closure

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/independent-schools/school-closure-policy-independent-schools>

Policy outlines the considerations and requirements for independent school closures in an effort to: (a) minimize the impacts of these closures on students, families and staff; (b) facilitate orderly school closures when required; and (c) ensure compliance with legislative requirements. All independent school authorities closing a school are required to follow the procedures described in this policy.

School Closure Risk Mitigation Plans

As per the policy <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/independent-schools/school-closure-policy-independent-schools> (see Policy in full), beginning in the 2021/22 school year, school authorities of all new independent schools are required to develop and maintain a school closure risk mitigation plan during the first five years of operation to minimize the impact of a potential school closure on the school community. At the discretion of the Inspector of Independent Schools, independent school authorities of schools deemed to be at risk of a potential school closure may be required to develop and maintain a school closure plan.