



**YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION
DISTRICT NO. 1**

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**ADMINISTRATION SCOLAIRE DE
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April 7, 2020

To all parents and stakeholders:

RE: Supporting YK1 students and families during the COVID-19 pandemic

What a week! Together we have all had to readjust our lives and adapt to a situation that none of us expected to see in our lifetime. I am so grateful for all your patience and understanding as we work through the process of getting learning materials to your child.

In a perfect world, students and teachers would've returned to classrooms last week. There is nowhere else your child's teacher would rather be right now than in front of your them in our schools. These are uncertain times, and together we have to make health and safety our collective priority. Our staff will continue to follow all directions from the territory's chief public health officer and that includes the practice of physical distancing. This means we'll have to get creative in terms of how we deliver education over the next couple months.

Teachers are already working on lesson plans and how to deliver them. There will be hiccups at first as we all learn to navigate these uncharted waters. Do not hesitate to provide feedback so that your child's teacher can support their learning. Please be patient as we try to solve any issues that might occur as we roll out these new teaching methods. The circumstances that have been placed on us due to COVID-19 are forcing us to be flexible, but I have the utmost confidence in our teachers and students and know we will succeed together. If you have any ideas about new ways to learn please share them with your child's teacher. YK1's motto is "Educating for Life" and we all have something to learn.

In the coming days, YK1 will also be sharing more information about school access. We understand that students need to retrieve personal belongings and learning resources from our buildings so we're working on a plan to do that safely.

The provision of counselling services and food programs is another priority of ours. This is a time of great uncertainty for students and their families so we want to ensure these supports are in place. Please reach out to your child's school if your family needs any of these services. We're here to help.

YK1 continues to work closely with its education partners on shared priorities and will keep you apprised of those discussions. As the attached video suggests, "we're all in this together," and I know we'll get through this together. I hope you've also seen some of the videos our schools have created to show you how much we miss our students. We will always have their best interests at heart and are committed to supporting them - and you - during this time of uncertainty.

Thank you and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Drew".

Tina Drew
Chairperson
Yellowknife Education District No. 1