



# SIDES

SIDES is a BC public school in School District 63 that provides free educational programs K-12 for BC residents. SIDES programs follow the BC Ministry of Education mandated curriculum. The elementary programs are designed to be delivered by a Home Facilitator, who is most often a parent, guardian, or other family member who can support the child at home full-time.

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## Elementary

SIDES Elementary programs offer all of the curriculum content through engaging, clearly organized lessons delivered through our online course management system, Brightspace. Students are also provided with books and print resources that accompany the online lessons.

SIDES students and their Home Facilitators receive support from their SIDES Teacher with program delivery, assignment feedback and assessment, live online vclasses, and some in person opportunities for local students. Your child's teacher will complete formal report cards three times a year (December, March and June).



**Content in lessons may include:**  
**background information, guiding questions, instructional videos, activity sheets / graphic organizers, experiments, educational games, and projects.**

## Grades 4 and 5

The Grade 4/5 program is an integrated online program that includes the following subject areas:

- English\*
- Math\*
- Science\*\*
- Social Studies\*\*
- Physical and Health Education
- Arts Education (Drama, Dance, Art)
- Career Education
- French (Grade 5 only)

At the Grade 4/5 level, students may begin to take on some independence with their learning. As your child's Home Facilitator, you will continue to play a vital role in overseeing and taking part in their daily lessons; however, some students may be able to complete some lessons, or portions of lessons, independently. To encourage this gradual transition, many Grade 4/5 lessons are written directly to the students. Lessons may include: background information, guiding questions, instructional videos, activity sheets / graphic organizers, experiments, educational games, and projects. As Home Facilitator, you will be expected to work through the lessons with your child and assist your child to upload requested samples of their work to the assignment dropboxes for assessment. Feedback from your child's teacher is provided through the assignments dropboxes of the courses.

\*Four lessons are released each week and students are responsible for keeping up with work and assignments.

\*\*These lessons are released in 5 week chunks. Students can work through 4 lessons per week or have the option of working ahead.

SIDES students are also provided with supplementary online programs that focus on Reading and Math such as Raz Kids and Mathletics.



# Program Highlights

## The SIDES advantage includes:

- Follows new BC curriculum
- Support from BC certified teachers
- Support for students with special needs
- Program designed to provide choice and flexibility
- All lessons and learning resources are provided
- Timely feedback for student assignments and 3 formal report cards each year
- Access to Ministry of Education funds to enhance educational program

## Online Vclasses/Field Trips

Options for attending virtual classes and/or field trips throughout the year will be provided. These classes are delivered through ZOOM, a live online classroom where students meet teachers and peers in real time.

## In Person Opportunities

Occasional sessions for local students may take place in our classroom at SIDES Beaver Lake Campus, 4828 West Saanich Road or may be community field trips. The content covered in these sessions may focus on Fine Arts, Science, Social Studies, Physical and Health Education and many of the curricular core competencies that focus on valuing diversity, working productively with others, and sharing ideas.

## Special Events

Students are invited to attend events organized for SIDES students such as the Terry Fox Run, Year End Celebration, or National Indigenous Day.



# What is my Role as the Home Facilitator?

As the Home Facilitator, your role in your child's education is critical. The following are some of the most important responsibilities you hold as the Home Facilitator:

- establish a daily routine
- guide your child through lessons
- provide an appropriate learning space
- communicate regularly with your child's teacher
- submit assignments regularly
- submit a Home Facilitator report each term
- ensure your child has access to a reliable computer, printer, and to the internet

## How Much Time Should We Spend on School?

As the Home Facilitator, it is critical that you spend a full school day interacting with and guiding your child through their schoolwork. The best way to be successful at SIDES is to keep up to date and work every day.

## Example of Home Learning Schedule

Home Facilitators are encouraged to establish a weekly and daily routine that works for their child. It is recommended that Home Facilitators begin with the length of a typical school day. As students progress with the program, time tables may be adjusted to meet the needs of each individual child. The side bar shows an outline of what a typical week may look like.

The Daily Routine	Suggested Time
English	1 – 1.5 hrs
Math	1 hr
Science or Social Studies	1 hr
Physical and Health Education	1 – 1.5 hrs
Arts Education	1 hr per week
Career Education	1 hr per week
French (Grade 5 only)	1 – 1.5 hrs per week





# Registration Process

If SIDES sounds like a good fit for your child, please proceed with the following steps to register.

1. If needed, contact SIDES Beaver Lake Campus to speak to the grade level teacher by emailing [sides@saanichschool.ca](mailto:sides@saanichschool.ca) or phoning 250-479-7125. You may want more information on the program or have specific questions.
2. Fill out an online application. Once the application has been received, a SIDES staff member will contact you to arrange an intake meeting.
3. You will receive an email requesting documents for the registration process that include:
  - your child's birth certificate
  - parent/guardian's proof of residency
  - registration assignments to be completed by your student
  - Saanich Schools GSuite permission form
4. Attend the intake meeting with your child and the SIDES teacher. At this meeting, you will share information about your child as a learner to complete a Student Learning Plan.
5. Withdraw your student from their previous school.

**Thank you for taking the time to understand more about the SIDES elementary program. Email [sides@saanichschools.ca](mailto:sides@saanichschools.ca) or phone 250-479-7125 to speak to a teacher and gain more specific information about the program at your child's grade level.**

