
Kingsway Connection

An e-publication of Kingsway Learning Center & Services Inc. ♦ SEPTEMBER 2020

A message from Rachel Chan, Kingsway's Chief Executive Officer

A new school year like no other



I hope you and your family are safe and well. During this time when so much is unlike anything we have ever done before, I've found it comforting to revisit several of Kingsway's consistent commitments. While our commitments haven't changed, what they look like today is a little different.

- **Safety:** "Back to school" has never before involved quite so much hand sanitizer, but Kingsway has always been and will continue to be a place where student and staff safety is paramount. We have adjusted existing [policies and procedures](#) and implemented new ones to adapt to the latest guidance from experts.
- **Students and families:** Family surveys indicated that the overwhelming majority of families wanted to be back to school in person as soon as it was safe enough to do so. At the same time, we also know there are some students for whom it is safer to stay home right now. We are committed to working with families to develop individualized solutions.
- **Flexibility:** Kingsway's staff is used to trying new things to get the job done, and this year is no different. None of us can predict what the next several months will look like, but staying flexible is going to make it easier to shift as circumstances require it.
- **Communication:** With so much in flux and so much on the line, we know it will be imperative to maintain clear, consistent communication. Whether it's [through our newsletters](#) or more specific outreaches from Kingsway staff, we're committed to keeping the Kingsway community in the loop.

These elements are the things that will get us through this together, and help us emerge on the other side stronger. I'm confident that by staying true to these commitments, we'll not only get "back to normal" when we can, but also actually reach for something better. Thank you for your continued support of Kingsway!

KINGSWAY'S 2020-2021 BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

Extended School Year brings some students back for in-school therapies



Maggie Myers, Occupational Therapist, works on a tabletop, fine-motor activity with Ethan, focusing on writing his name with hand-over-hand assistance.



Alex works with Ms. Myers as she focuses on providing him with vestibular input (balance) through the use of the swing, while he works on knocking down the bowling pins with the ball. He's in the zone!

Adventures in spacing



Moving, reconfiguring, spreading out--it's all in the name of social distancing and safety. A transformation of our Community Based Instruction (CBI) Learning Lobby (left) has turned that area into a fun and functional fitness space to meet students' needs for exercise and movement. Photos below: some new classroom configurations.



Safety first at Kingsway

Screening staff and students

- ✓ Daily temperature checks and health questionnaire.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- ✓ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Kingsway will provide staff and students with appropriate PPE, requiring staff to wear face masks at all times, and requiring students to wear face masks to the greatest extent possible.

Hand washing & hygiene

- ✓ Staff and students will wash hands: upon arrival to, and departure from, school; after specific activities; before and after restroom use; and before and after eating. Every classroom and learning space will have hand sanitizer available.

Increased Sanitation

- ✓ All high-touch areas such as tables, chairs, door knobs, phones, classroom materials, therapeutic equipment, communications devices, and other shared technology will be sanitized regularly. Kingsway's custodial team will also be increasing the frequency of sanitation and disinfecting.

Social Distancing

- ✓ Social distancing: Staff will maintain six feet of social distancing to the greatest extent possible, understanding that our students require significant physical and instructional support that may make social distancing difficult in many cases. Kingsway has implemented the use of classroom partitions and a hybrid schedule which will keep cohorts of students small and provide visual guides to decrease close contact.

Add Friends & Family to Kingsway's e-newsletter list [HERE](#).

Neither wind, nor
rain, nor power
outage...



Hurricane Isaias left thousands without power, including **Jennifer Dovi**, Kingsway's Music Teacher. But the need to teach her virtual lessons was not to be curtailed!

Ms. Dovi hopped into the car that has WiFi and an electrical outlet! Necessity really is the mother of invention!

No matter what, summer is summer!
Our families keeping cool, safe, and engaged



From left: **Todd** is all set up and enjoys a visit to the Jersey shore; **Laura** loves crafting, and the snowman table cover keeps her thinking cool thoughts; **Gary** and his sister chill in the pool.



From left: **Emma** floats with a smile; **Abby** (right) and her sister have fun with Play Doh projects; Adult Program client, **Emily**, takes leisurely pool time to a new level!



Anna: Gone fishin'.



Everyday learning moments

Connor's daily chore at home is sorting silverware. His mom says that he has mastered it while at home during the pandemic and is now taking the initiative to start sorting on his own.



One More Thing...



A Kingsway family shares some inspiration.
Thank you, Genevieve, for your beautiful artwork!

We know it's not possible for everyone right now, but if you're able, please consider giving to Kingsway to support our ongoing programming and our coronavirus response efforts. *Thank you!*

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