

Message to DCE Students RE January Changes

December 21, 2020

Subject Line: Changes to DCE Programs in January

Dear Students,

Earlier today, the Ministry of Education announced that all in-person secondary schools will be closed to students to start the new year and that students will return to in-person classes on Monday, January 25, 2021. Durham Continuing Education (DCE) will be following this direction for all its programs and students will be learning virtually during this period.

We know that this change to in-person learning can be challenging for many, however, this is being done in accordance with the Provincewide Shutdown announcement to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Most Board staff including school administrators and educators are currently away for the annual two-week holiday break. As a result, all schools (including DCE) will be holding virtual staff meetings on Monday, January 4 in the morning and school staff will be checking in with students and classes on January 4.

DCE classes will resume virtually (online) for all programs (e.g., Day School, LINC, LBS, Pathways, CNC, ELT, LTA.) on Tuesday, January 5. Programs that are already fully online such as eLearning, Night School, Learn at Home, Day School Synchronous, and some LINC and ESL classes will continue as usual. Schedules during the first week may look a little different to account for the child care obligations of students with elementary-aged children due to elementary schools being closed between January 4 to 8. More specific information will be forthcoming in terms of schedules on January 4, however students should anticipate being engaged in RealTime learning every weekday in the morning or afternoon during their regular class times.

We hope that all students and families can enjoy the holiday break with members of their household and find some time for rest and relaxation, understanding how difficult this year has been on everyone in our community. Please continue to follow the advice of the Government of Ontario stay safe over the break. We look forward to communicating further with you in the new year and thank you in advance for your understanding during this unusual time.

Sincerely,

Alex Toulis
Principal
Durham Continuing Education