

It is our intention to return to campus for in-person instruction for the 2020-21 school year. As we study the recommendations from the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and NCDHHS (NC Department of Health and Human Services) we are preparing three possible scenarios for the opening of school on August 17. *Green phase* will involve minimal social distancing with full in-person instruction. *Orange phase* will involve moderate social distancing and options for hybrid learning (both in-person and remote options) for MS and US. *Red phase* will involve remote learning only. Based on current guidelines and recommendations from the CDC and NCDHHS **as of June 18th, 2020 it is our intention to start the school year on August 17 in the orange phase.**

The following school-wide changes will be implemented in *orange phase* in order to ensure the safest environment possible:

- students in kindergarten-grade 12, staff, faculty and delivery personnel will wear masks in the building
- everyone will observe social distancing in classrooms and hallways
- plexiglass barriers will be installed on preschool work tables
- use of shared materials (pencils, books, computers) will be minimized as much as possible
- frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged
- plexiglass barriers will be installed in front of our reception areas
- staff and students will have their temperature taken as they arrive and before they exit their vehicle
- food delivery will be limited to the school's lunch vendor, My Hot Lunchbox (all other food delivery services will not be allowed)
- parents and visitors will be restricted to the office area
- traffic in all the hallways and stairwells will become one-way, with clearly established traffic patterns
- morning arrival will begin at 7:30
- LS and MS students will go directly to classrooms at morning arrival (gym will be closed)
- LS and MS students will enter through hallway doors, not main door

The following are narrative descriptions of ***orange phase (moderate social distancing)*** by division:

Lower School: All students will attend Lower School with increased measures to mitigate or reduce transmission of infection. This includes placing student desks six feet apart, reducing student movement between classrooms (specials teachers travel to the students) and eliminating the use of shared materials (such as pencils and crayons) or equipment (such as HL items or playground) as much as possible. Arrival and dismissal procedures will be altered to maintain defined contact circles.

Middle School: All students will attend Middle School in person, but will be in self-contained cohorts. Students will report to their cohort classroom each day and teachers will rotate to that room for instruction. We will have a five-day rotating schedule that allows for 45-minute classes that meet all five days of the week, with one being a tutorial time. Electives will be assigned to cohorts on a half trimester basis giving all students exposure to 12 electives throughout the year. Students will maintain 6-feet of social distance while in the classroom and we will limit the sharing of materials as much as possible, including playground equipment and HL equipment. There will be no mixing in the hallway and no use of lockers, as students will keep their belongings in their own space in their cohort classrooms. Arrival and dismissal procedures will be altered to maintain defined contact circles.

For those parents who are uncomfortable sending their Middle School student to campus at all or for any student who has symptoms or has potentially been exposed to COVID-19, they will be able to attend all classes virtually every day without penalty.

Upper School: The Upper School will have a hybrid schedule, that includes both online and on-campus learning. Upper School students will be divided into two groups, attending on-campus classes two or three days a week and virtually attending class the other days. We will have a five-day rotating schedule that allows for 45-minute classes that meet all five days of the week. Therefore, a student will be on campus

either Monday and Thursday or Tuesday and Friday as well as every other Wednesday. When the student is at home, they will log on to Google Meet and attend each class virtually – simultaneous to the students having class on campus. Clubs, advisory and community-building activities will be incorporated into the schedule to facilitate connections between students and teachers. Our classrooms will accommodate between six to ten students at six feet apart – depending on the room. We will have fans in the rooms and doors open to increase air flow and tables will be marked in the Gathering Space in order to facilitate social distancing. Lunch and morning meetings will take place in smaller groupings and outdoor class meetings will be encouraged.

For those parents who are uncomfortable sending their Upper School student to campus at all, or for any student who has symptoms or has potentially been exposed to COVID-19, they will be able to attend all classes virtually every day without penalty.

### **Green Phase**

*Green phase (minimal social distancing)* will be implemented if conditions improve.

Lower School: All students will attend Lower School with some precautions, including wearing masks and washing hands frequently.

Middle School: All students will attend Middle School with some precautions, including wearing masks and washing hands frequently.

Upper School: All students will attend the Upper School with some precautions, including wearing masks, frequent hand washing and changes in some classrooms.

### **Red Phase**

*Red phase (remote learning)* will be implemented if conditions deteriorate.

Lower School: All Lower School instruction will be remote. Weekly schedules, assignments and recorded lessons will be shared utilizing Google Classroom. Classroom teachers will provide one asynchronous lesson each day and one opportunity for whole-class synchronous interaction each day. Opportunities for live, small-group instruction will be available at a minimum of twice per week. “Specials teachers” will provide two grade-level lessons each week. When possible, assignments will be given digitally rather than in packet or print-required format.

Middle School: All Middle School instruction will be remote. We will follow a schedule similar to the one used this past spring, but with increased amount of direct instruction, including Wednesday. Electives and Healthful Living will both be incorporated into this schedule as well. Teachers will provide direct instruction and class meetings at least three times a week and advisory will be incorporated into the online schedule.

Upper School: All classes will be online and we will follow a schedule similar to the one used this past spring. Teachers will provide direct instruction or virtual class meetings at least three times a week while clubs, advisory and community-building activities will be incorporated into the online schedule.

For the most up-to-date information about our return to school, please visit our website and refer to the “**Return 2020**” tab at the top right of the page.