



SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL

A TRADITION OF INNOVATION

Dear SAS Community,

I hope you are doing well! We are very much looking forward to starting school.

I want to share further information with you about the start of school and our COVID-19 health and safety plan. Our most important priority this year is ensuring the health and safety of our students and educators. We will need to make major changes in our routines and habits, and we all need to work together to succeed in this goal.

I want to start the conversation with our SAS core values of **compassion** and **responsibility**. Our health and safety work is based on these core values. There are important rules for us all to know well and to follow closely. But for us to ensure everyone's health and safety, it will take much more than trying to enforce a series of rules. It will take all of us working together, supporting each other, and affirmatively taking all the actions necessary to keep ourselves and our whole community safe.

Earlier this summer, we had the opportunity to receive an on-site review from the Committee for Private Education (CPE) while our summer semester classes were in session. We appreciate the feedback and suggestions the reviewers shared with us. The biggest takeaway from that visit mirrored the continued advice the Singapore Government shares widely, which is we must be continually diligent in our health and safety efforts. Constant diligence is the responsibility of each of us: parents, students, and faculty. Our diligence in these precautionary measures is one way we demonstrate our commitment to the health and safety of one another.

In my [email on Friday](#), I discussed the phased approach we are taking in the first days of school in order to carefully implement new safety protocols. We want to ensure that we prioritize efforts to create the best learning environment possible in each classroom. Once we have accomplished that, we will begin to phase in additional programs and operations, subject to receiving necessary government approvals in some cases. As a result, we will phase in cafeteria operations, afterschool activities, and other programs over time. We appreciate your patience as we roll out these various offerings.

Below I have included links to the information you need about our various beginning of year activities as well as a link to our COVID-19 health and safety guide. I encourage you to visit each of these links to find detailed information about these topics.

[Open House and First Week of School](#)

[COVID-19 Health and Safety](#)

I outline below some of the items I want to draw extra attention to at this time.

COVID-19 Safety Measures

You can view our current health and safety measures along with all of our COVID information [here](#). One item that we want to make you aware of is our daily temperature checking policy. Students will need to have their temperature taken twice each day. **To make this possible, we ask that every child from second grade to twelfth grade bring a thermometer with them to school each day.** We will verify their temperature in the morning during the first class of the day and will take their temperature once more in the afternoon. We encourage you to buy a thermometer that your child can use without the need of assistance from an adult. We will begin selling thermometers in the Eagle Stop at the beginning of the year. **You will no longer need to fill out temperature slips each morning.**

If you have additional questions beyond the information found on our COVID-19 website, please share those questions with our director of parent engagement, Dr. Leigh Martin (lmartin@sas.edu.sg) and we will get those questions added to our FAQ section on the web page.

Teacher Assignments

We will share advisor assignments for middle school and high school students and teacher assignments for elementary students with all families on Thursday, July 30 before the holiday weekend. After you receive your child's advisor/teacher assignment you will receive an email from your child's advisor/teacher with an invitation to sign up for a short Zoom meeting on Monday or Tuesday of the following week. Please download Zoom to ensure you can participate.

Uniforms sales, SASCards, bus registration, etc.

Typically, welcome week and open house have been a time to purchase uniforms, collect SASCards, and conduct other operational business to prepare for the year. Families will be able to conduct that business virtually this year. The [Eagle Stop online portal](#) will open on Friday, July 24 and parents will be able to access each of these functions digitally. We will prioritize the needs of new families first because they do not have these items currently. If you are a returning family, we ask for your patience as we support our new families during their transition. We understand that we may have some students not in the dress code during the first week of school as we get uniform requests sorted out. Our faculty and school leaders know this and will allow flexibility with the dress code this first week until all students are able to have the opportunity to purchase and receive their uniforms.

Lunch and Cafeteria (No Food Service at the Start of the Year)

For at least the first two weeks of the school year, we ask that every student bring their own lunch. We will let you know via eNews when we are able to start up our cafeteria operations.

Medical Form for New Students

All new students are required to complete a medical form before joining us on campus. Here is a [link to that form](#). **Note this is only a requirement for new students.*

Distance Learning Practice Day

On September 4 we will hold a schoolwide practice distance learning day to prepare for the possibility that we may return at a future date to distance learning if so required. **On this day all students will stay home to practice distance learning.**

Our first eNews will be shared this Friday via email. I encourage you to [bookmark the page](#) as well so that it is easily accessible. We will continue to share more information about the start of school in the coming weeks.

Best,

Tom Boasberg
Superintendent



Singapore American School
40 Woodlands St 41
Singapore 738547

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