

# Oregon Episcopal School

*RESIDENTIAL LIFE PROGRAM  
2020-2021*

*Reopening Plans*



## **Plan for Reopening the Dorms**

- **Principles for reopening:**
  - Health and Safety
  - Optimizing Learning
  - Community and Responsibility
  - Inclusion and Access
- We plan to use a combination of testing, symptom tracking, de-densifying, use of outdoor space, improved filtering of air, frequent cleaning of common spaces and bathrooms, contact tracing, and robust quarantine and isolation protocols as needed, among other things.
- Students and adults will practice physical distancing, wear face coverings, and increase personal hygiene, including hand washing and cleaning of common spaces after use.
- In order to reduce the risks associated with travel, the dorms will stay open for all three breaks and we will discourage international travel.
- New expectations for students will be added as an addendum to our Upper School and Residential Life Sections of the All School Handbooks



## Key Considerations

- There is no single measure we can take to ensure safety, but we can mitigate risks by layering prevention and assessment tools.
- The residential life experience will be significantly different; however, we know there will continue to be opportunities to build community and grow in new ways.
- While we cannot monitor every member of our community to comply with social distancing, mask-wearing, and other protective measures, we hope to instill a mindset of shared community interest. We need to all take individual action to protect our OES and wider community.
- Despite our best efforts, COVID-19 will likely appear in our School community at some point this year. We will follow public health guidance and mitigation measures to limit the spread.
- Please know that external or internal events could force our campus to close again. We will stay in close communication all year and will be prepared to respond to a closure during this academic year.



## Academic Life

- More information about the Upper School program will be shared with the entire OES community by **August 1st**. Head of School Mo Copeland and Head of Upper School Asha Appel will host a Zoom Webinar on Thursday, August 6th 7:00-8:00 PM PST to further explain plans.
- We plan to open the campus and school this fall with classes that blend classroom-based instruction and continuous learning. *Students will likely attend classes in the Upper School buildings 2 days a week.*
- In order to create physical distancing, some aspects of classes will take place as continuous learning (both synchronous and asynchronous) over Zoom from students' homes or dorm rooms.
- Academic support in the dorms will remain a cornerstone of our program—we will still have study hall, peer study groups, academic check-ins and writing help, to name a few. .
- Students who cannot join us in the fall will have an increased amount of support from current and additional staff. More details in the Continuous Learning slide below and in forthcoming communications.



## Residential and Campus Life

Our **4 Cornerstones**—*Community Life and Leadership, Academic Support, Outdoor and Experiential Education, and Health and Wellness*—are even more central to our community than ever before. Despite the limitations and challenges imposed by the pandemic, we are committed to growth and learning in our residential setting.

- We will focus on both the opportunities and responsibilities of living in community.
- We will continue to provide skill development for learning independently at OES and beyond, including time management and self advocacy.
- We will take advantage of our 50-acre campus and surrounding outdoor spaces in Portland and Oregon to provide students with entertainment, exercise, community building, and leadership opportunities.
- We will help students understand the importance of practicing good hygiene and room cleanliness, making health and well-being a priority, balancing their social-emotional needs, and developing self-awareness.



## **Health and Wellness**

**Staffing:** Morgan McFadyen, RN, is our full-time nurse and her office is conveniently located in the dorms. We are also partnering with a medical group to consult and provide medical advice for the year. In the event that a student tests positive for COVID-19, we will employ a nurse staffing agency to increase our health staff for various lengths of time as needed.

**Primary Care Physician:** We partner with a Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) local clinic physicians and nurses. They will continue to serve as our international students' primary care physician for routine medical needs.

**Legacy Health Partnership and Testing:** We are working with medical professionals at Legacy Health to inform, review, and assist our implement of systems and protocols. They will also help us develop testing protocols for arrival and quarantine, as well as ongoing testing. They will provide access to this testing through their labs.



## **Health and Wellness**

**Screening and Contact Tracing:** We will require daily symptom reporting by students and all employees using a symptom tracking app. Several members of our faculty and staff have taken a contact tracing course through Johns Hopkins University. They will assist the county and act to identify anyone exposed to the virus and partner with local agencies to identify risk.

**Quarantine:** Students who have come into contact with someone who has tested positive or who have symptoms, but have not tested positive, will stay in their rooms or available health rooms and will engage in continuous learning.

**Isolation:** Students who test positive and are able to go home or to a supportive local guardian within driving distance will be encouraged to do so. For those who cannot travel, we have dedicated health rooms with personal sinks and access to an isolation bathroom, shower room, and laundry facilities. Students who need to be isolated will be cared for by a dedicated nursing staff and dorm staff.

**Mental Health Support:** The support of our students' mental and emotional health are more important than ever. We will increase our preventative and proactive approaches to support students and respond with care and attention to emergent needs as they arise.



## **Continuous Learning Support**

**We acknowledge continuous learning in time zones different from one's teachers has its challenges. In order to support our students who cannot return to campus right away, or who choose not to return due to concerns about COVID-19, we are increasing academic support in the following ways:**

- We will work with each student to customize their schedule of classes to optimize continuous learning in a remote environment
- The Dorm Academic Resource Team will continue to be a resource for dorm students
- We will identify continuous learning cohorts that can meet with teachers and one another during daytime in their time zones
- We will continue to provide access to our specialists, such as college counselors, chaplains, deans, and other support staff.





## Arrival and Quarantine

- Based on new guidance from the Oregon Health Authority and plans for the opening days of school in Upper School, students should plan to arrive on August 30th and 31st. *(If flights have been booked already for the 23rd or 24th based on previous communications, we can accommodate you. Contact Sarah as soon as possible).*
- Students should self-quarantine and monitor symptoms at least 7 days prior to their travel to reduce the risk of bringing COVID-19 to the dorms.
- If you can be tested for COVID-19 within 5 days of traveling, please do so inform Nurse Morgan immediately if you test positive so that we can discuss appropriate next steps.
- Students and families should follow [CDC advice for travel](#) when in transit from home to the OES campus (wear face coverings, wash hands frequently, physically distance as feasible, and be vigilant to protect your health and others').



## **Arrival and Quarantine Continued**

- We will have staggered move-in times and only allow students and one additional family member in the building at a time. More specific details will be sent when we know your travel plans. Once students arrive and are moved in, visitation will be suspended until further notice.
- Students will quarantine in singles as possible and doubles with siblings/relatives, travel partners, or other configurations.
- Meals will be delivered to rooms by our food service partners, Bon Appetit, for a period of time, and then we will transition to using outdoor spaces and our large dining hall (with physical distancing).
- More specific information about the details of arrival and quarantine will be coming in the next several weeks.



## Phases of Community Living

Throughout the fall, and likely throughout the whole year, we will need to go in and out of phases of community living. The following categories are areas where we will need to constantly assess the safety of different on and off campus activities and maintain or add restrictions.

**Phase 1:**  
**Red (vigilant)**

**Phase 2:**  
**Orange (alert)**

**Phase 3:**  
**Yellow (cautious)**

**Phase 4:**  
**Green (mindful)**

- Signing out from campus
- Visiting rooms
- Using the common areas
- Face coverings
- Activities
- Food delivery
- Visitors to campus
- Overnight sign-out
- Access to other facilities on campus



# Upcoming Dates and Decisions

## Scheduled Zoom Question and Answer Sessions

- July 21st: 9:00-10:00 AM PST with Sarah Grenert-Funk
- July 21st: 5:00-6:00 PM PST with Sarah Grenert-Funk
- July 28th: 5:00-6:00 PM PST with Sarah Grenert-Funk
- August 7th: 7:00-8:00 PM PST with Asha Appel and Mo Copeland

**Between NOW and August 5, 2020:** Complete the 2020-2021 Boarding Options Form

**August 23-24:** Begin at-home self-quarantine

**August 30/31:** Move into the dorms for quarantine and orientation (new and returners)

