



## Frequently Asked Questions

August 6, 2020

Following are answers to many of the questions posed on the Return to School survey. If you have additional questions, please feel free to reach out to us. Please review the Back to School plan sent earlier and posted on the Bishop Dunne website. At this point, it appears that approximately 2/3 of our students will be learning on campus and 1/3 will be learning remotely for, at least, the first quarter of the school year. We are looking forward to a great school year!

### **What is the schedule for the beginning of school?**

[Please refer to the schedule posted on the website.](#) We will begin the school year with eLearning for all students on August 17. Starting September 8, classes will begin to be phased-in for those who choose on campus learning. We are starting with half days to make sure our faculty and students are fully prepared to begin the school year in a hybrid learning environment. The afternoons will give us time to make adjustments based on our daily experiences.

### **What about masks and shields?**

The medical experts tell us masks are critical to controlling the spread of the virus. Everyone on our campus will wear masks at all times. Students may remove masks to eat and during scheduled outdoor breaks. Masks with ventilation valves **are not allowed**. Disposable masks and cotton masks are allowed. A shield may be worn **in addition** to a mask, **but not instead** of a mask. Shields do not provide the same level of protection when worn alone. We will strictly enforce all safety procedures and ask for parents to reinforce these with your children. It is so important for us to work together to keep everyone safe.

### **What are the lunch procedures?**

We will have four lunch blocks. As always, students may bring their lunch. Unfortunately, microwaves will not be available for student use. Students will pre-order lunch. It will be prepackaged and ready for pick up. Menus will be available weekly. We do not allow food deliveries at any time during the day.

Students will sit one to a table in the cafeteria. Tables will be spaced 6 feet apart with all students facing in one direction. There will be no talking during lunch because students will be eating and not able to wear masks. If there are too many students scheduled for a lunch to fit in the cafeteria, we will have students eat in other areas of the school.

Students, including seniors, may not leave campus for lunch.

### **Will tuition change for those who learn remotely?**

Tuition will be the same for all students. Most of our costs do not change whether a student is on campus or off campus. The vast majority of our costs are related to personnel and those numbers do not change. We will continue to offer financial assistance to families who apply through FACTS and demonstrate need.

### **Will I be able to switch my child from on campus to remote learning after school begins?**

You will be able to switch to remote learning after school starts. Once you choose remote learning, your child will remain there until the end of the quarter. Each quarter you will be able to review your learning plan and make a change, if necessary. Once we start back to on campus learning on September 8, you will not be able to switch from remote learning to on campus learning until the end of the quarter.



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As a reminder, we will phase in on campus learning beginning September 8. We want to carefully teach students our new protocols and we think we can accomplish that by bringing students back slowly. All students who choose on campus learning will be back on campus by September 11.

- Tuesday, September 8: 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades return to campus, A Block and B Block.
- Wednesday, September 9: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> return to campus, C Block and D Block.
- Thursday, September 10: 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> return to campus, E Block and F Block.
- Friday, September 11: All students on campus; G Block and H Block.

This schedule is also available on the webpage: [bdcs.org/2020-back-to-school](https://bdcs.org/2020-back-to-school).

### **Can my high school student participate in athletics if they are learning remotely?**

Parents of students learning remotely may choose whether they want to allow their children to participate in Marching Band and athletics. Please be aware that students will be in contact with others on campus and with students from the schools against whom we will compete, both at Bishop Dunne and at away contests. If there is a Zero-hour practice, students learning remotely will need to be home ready to start class at 8:30 a.m.

We hope by allowing students the option of participating in athletics and Marching Band, they will have more choices related to their high school experience this year.

### **How many students will be in each classroom?**

We do not know yet exactly how many students will be in each class. We will do our best to keep students as far apart as possible. If our normal class size is 24, with 2/3 of the students present there would be approximately 16 students in the classroom. Some classes are much smaller than 24 so the class size will reflect that lower enrollment.

### **What forms do I need to complete after we make our choice?**

Next week, you will be sent forms based upon your choice. You will fill them out online through CareMonkey (which is changing its name to **Operoo** on Monday, August 10). Those families who have selected on campus will receive the on campus waiver form and the eLearning agreement (for the first weeks of school). Once on campus school begins, you will also receive the weekly screening form. Those choosing remote learning will receive the eLearning agreement form. Please be looking for these and complete them as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and continued support as we plan for the opening of school. Our teachers have been on campus this week working hard to develop the skills to offer the best education possible for the students of Bishop Dunne. We can't wait for school to start!