



30 School Street  
Tilton, NH 03276  
tiltonschool.org

August 13, 2020

Dear Tilton School Families,

As we make final preparations to welcome students back to school this fall, our goal is to create an environment that delivers on the Tilton experience you expect, even if the details of our program must, by necessity, be modified during this extraordinary year. We stand ready to support students on campus, and we will also provide virtual learning for any students who cannot be present due to health or travel restrictions.

The school is in the process of formulating protocols for on-campus learning and activities, establishing measures to promote a healthy community. These protocols will include behavioral requirements for students, faculty, and staff, including social distancing, wearing masks, and hand washing. In the coming days, students will be asked to sign a social contract which outlines these new expectations, and these obligations will extend to both boarding and day students. We ask that you continue to stay current on information provided by public health officials. Please partner with us in understanding how you and your child can help reduce the risk of transmission.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, sneeze, or even sing. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from contaminated surfaces and then to the nose, mouth, or eyes, causing infection. Person-to-person transmission is also possible. The disease is extremely contagious, and individuals may spread the disease to others without feeling sick themselves. While many people are infected and do not experience serious symptoms, tragically, many others become seriously ill and even die.

We are developing health screening protocols on how we will handle students who test positive with COVID-19, become symptomatic, or are exposed to others with COVID-19. We are also preparing contingencies in the event that an outbreak of COVID-19 requires the campus to shut down. Our protocols will be updated from time to time based on evolving guidance and directives from state and local health departments and the CDC. We will post information as it becomes available [on our website](#), and this information will be updated frequently. We ask that you carefully review these protocols, discuss them with your child, and cooperate with us to promote the safety and health for the entire Tilton community.

In the School's efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Tilton will be conducting COVID-19 testing of students and employees. This may include testing upon arrival, periodic surveillance testing, testing because of the presentation of symptoms, and as otherwise decided by the School in the best interests of the student and the School community. As you may have read, currently, the test results are not guaranteed to be accurate, and there is the risk that some test results may report false negative or

positive results. Despite this, we view the testing as an important component of our new safety protocols, and being tested is a condition of being on campus. The school will provide such information about your child as may be requested from the testing company in order to perform the testing, and the testing company will share the results of the testing with the School. Parents will also be informed of any positive test. Your child's testing results will be maintained as a confidential medical record but may be shared on a need to know basis within the School and to public health officials as required or needed to help safeguard your child's health and well-being and that of other members of the School community.

No matter our efforts, we cannot guarantee that your student will be free from the risk of contracting the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. It is important that you understand that even with precautions in place, as a result of being on campus, your child may be exposed to COVID-19 and contract the disease; that your child may transmit the disease to others, including members of your household; and that as a result, your child and household members may experience COVID-19 symptoms, and may require isolation, quarantine, and hospitalization.

Families should acknowledge that by sending your child to our campus, there is an unavoidable risk that you and/or your student may become infected with COVID-19. If your child or a member of your household experiences any COVID-19 symptoms at any time (including cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, nasal congestion, fatigue, fever, chills, muscle aches, headaches, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and/or loss of taste or smell) please notify our health center; you and your child should remain off campus until symptoms have abated and you are provided clearance by a medical professional that you or your child are no longer contagious.

Thank you for your patience, flexibility, understanding, and cooperation as we embark on this challenging year. Despite these challenges, we are excited to welcome students back to campus, and we are optimistic that the 2020–2021 school year will be engaging and enriching for every Tilton student. Lastly, I ask that you return a signed copy<sup>1</sup> of this letter to the school, acknowledging your understanding of the risks of school attendance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,



David Thiel  
Head of School

---

<sup>1</sup> Tilton will provide an opportunity to sign this letter digitally. You may choose to return a paper copy or a photograph of the signed document if that is more convenient.

**Important: Please read this letter carefully before signing below. This letter must be signed and returned to Tilton School before your child may return to campus.**

I have chosen to have my child attend Tilton School for the 2020-21 school year during the COVID-19 Pandemic. I understand that there are risks of exposure to the virus from symptomatic and asymptomatic carriers. I understand that Tilton School has put in place new safety rules and precautions, which may be updated at any time, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. I acknowledge that these rules and precautions may or may not be effective in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. I assert that I have spoken to my child to ensure that he/she understands those rules and agrees to comply with such rules and precautions which may be implemented by the school. These may include, but are not limited to, mask wearing, hand washing, hand sanitizing, physical distancing, travel restrictions, or required quarantine/isolation. I understand that failing to comply with these rules and precautions will be considered a violation of the School's expectations of student behavior and disciplinary policies, and that failing to comply could subject my child to sanctions up to and including expulsion.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and the inherent risks of exposure to those who may be infected with COVID-19. Understanding these risks, I voluntarily choose to send my child to Tilton School and assume the risk that my child may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by returning to the campus. I understand and acknowledge that given the unknown nature of COVID-19, it is not possible to fully list each and every individual risk of contracting COVID-19, nevertheless some of the generally understood risks are: acute respiratory failure, pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, acute liver injury, blood clots, acute cardiac arrest, injury, secondary infection, acute kidney injury, septic shock, disseminated intravascular coagulation, pediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome, and death. I agree to cooperate with the School in its efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by reinforcing with my child his/her responsibility to exercise safe practices as implemented by Tilton School.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I UNDERSTAND THE SCHOOL'S APPROACH TO ON-CAMPUS LEARNING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE RELATED RISKS OF EXPOSURE TO THE VIRUS, AND CONSENT TO MY CHILD ATTENDING THE SCHOOL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student if age 18 or older

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name