THE ST. PAUL’S SCHOOLS
2020–2021 REOPENING PLAN
UPDATED AUGUST 26, 2020
# THE ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN

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GUIDED BY OUR MISSION

The pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus not only presents a serious public health crisis but poses an extraordinary challenge for educators worldwide. Last school year was unlike any other in the history of The St. Paul's Schools. Now we have shifted our attention to reentry strategies for the fall with the understanding that the threat posed by this virus will be with us indefinitely.

Our current plan is to open the 2020–21 school year in virtual learning for grades K–12, and then have students return to campus in a phased reentry beginning on September 14. Preschool will begin on campus as regularly scheduled on August 26, and Pre-K on September 2. Our deeply relational model of education works best in person, and we believe it is in students’ best interest to bring them back together. In order to return and remain on campus, we are redesigning schedules, modifying learning spaces, and putting in place an abundance of safety precautions.

Although we are taking every possible step to be able to offer live education, we know there will be some students who, for a variety of reasons, will be learning remotely. We are acquiring technology to ensure that students working from home can follow along with classroom instruction in real time. Planning for a hybrid model also will permit us to move readily back into distance learning should circumstances require.

Above all, we seek to maintain the educational excellence of our programs while ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate meaningfully, whether learning on campus or remotely. No matter the conditions, we will deliver our mission to help our students grow in mind and spirit and prepare them to serve in the world—a mission that is more critical than ever during times of global challenge.

This 2020–21 Reopening Plan provides an overview so that all members of our community know what to expect. The plans shared in this document are based on the most current public health assessment. We ask that you continue to be flexible as we work diligently to stay abreast of new information and modify our plans accordingly.
COMMUNITY PLEDGE

With the guidance of local public health officials, we are putting in place new community standards and behaviors to promote a safe learning environment for our students, faculty, and staff. We are developing protocols around the use of personal protective equipment, introducing screening measures to detect illness in the community, and enhancing processes and procedures around sanitizing and disinfecting.

Undoubtedly this will be more of a home-school partnership than ever before and an opportunity to work together to protect each other’s health. Whether it is ensuring that students wear masks, keeping students home if they have symptoms of illness, or abiding by public health guidelines, we trust that all of our families, faculty, and staff will commit to our community standards to help mitigate the spread of Covid-19 and keep our campus open.

It will take all of us working together to make this successful.
INTRODUCTION

We are committed to delivering our mission through an educational experience rooted in on-campus programming while also providing learning options for those who are unable to be on campus due to health risks.

While we aspire to be on campus, we are preparing for a variety of scenarios, knowing that we could encounter another wave of infections and a need to return to distance learning.

We are pleased to present two reopening scenarios, described below. We believe each approach will enable us to deliver the type of program that has defined The St. Paul’s Schools experience for years: a student-centered experience grounded in strong relationships with teachers and a problem-based approach to learning that fosters curiosity and excellence.

TWO MODELS FOR LEARNING NEXT YEAR

MODEL 1: IN-PERSON / HYBRID LEARNING

OVERVIEW

With our large campus, we are fortunate to be able to bring our students onto campus for in-person instruction while still maintaining appropriate physical distancing. However, campus life is going to look and feel different for us this fall. St. Paul’s is implementing changes to support physical distancing and the best practices necessary for schools to reopen safely.

- We are reducing the number of students per class and converting non-classroom spaces into classrooms to achieve proper spacing.
- We are working to create smaller, consistent groupings of students (i.e., cohorts) so that a) exposure is minimized, and b) if a student receives a Covid-19 diagnosis, only that student’s close contacts need to quarantine.
- To promote safety, certain programs, particularly in the performing arts, will not be able to run as they have in the past, and our community gathering times, such as Chapel, will switch to a virtual format.
- The daily schedule was designed to allow for a smooth transition between a live and distance learning environment, should the need arise.
THE ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN
PART 2: LEARNING MODELS (MODEL 1)

PRESCHOOL

- Each classroom constitutes a cohort group, and the cohort groups will not mix.
- Each group will be assigned a time to use the playground and the Big Room, both of which will be cleaned between each use.
- Each classroom will have their own designated outdoor toys that will be disinfected after use.
- Children will continue to eat in their classrooms. The school will continue to provide morning and afternoon snack as well as milk with lunch.
- The 3s will not have regular visits to the lower school this fall, but we are exploring opportunities for lower school resource teachers to provide virtual experiences for the 3s.
- Enrichment programs and classes led by outside teachers and special visitors will be canceled or moved outside when deemed safe.
- Items brought from home need to be limited to essential items.
LOWER SCHOOL

- Lower school students in grades K–4 will begin in distance learning and gradually return to campus by grade level beginning September 14 for five days a week of in-person learning which includes core subjects and special area classes.
  - The in-person learning schedule will be 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday.

- Students will be grouped into cohorts by homeroom. Each grade level could have as many as four cohort groups.

- Students will not travel to specials, but rather the special area teachers will travel to the cohorts to teach.

- Students will eat lunch in their homerooms.

- Recess times will be scheduled and organized in order maintain the integrity of the established cohorts.

- The lower school will adopt a 1:1 technology model, which means each student will receive an individual tablet or laptop.

- Each student will have his or her own bin of manipulatives, school supplies, and leveled readers. There will be no shared/communal supplies.
ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

- SPSG middle school students will begin in full distance learning and gradually return to campus in a hybrid model (schedule shown below) which involves two days on campus and three days of remote learning. Monday and Tuesday will be on campus, with distance learning on Wednesday through Friday. Wednesdays will be a half day to allow for sanitization of the building.
- Classes will meet every other day (A-day or E-day) to allow for longer, 60-minute class periods, lunch, and community time.
- Assignments may be given for classes that do not meet on a given day, and independent work time will be built into students’ schedules so that they can tend to those assignments and seek extra help, as needed.
- Religious studies, life skills, STAR, physical education, arts, Prayers, Chapel, and advisory are part of the rotation, whether they happen in person or virtually.
- Students will be in cohorts by grade and will be split into subgroups that they will stay with for the day. A-day groups will be different from E-day groups to provide a healthy mix of voices and perspectives.
- The division will adopt a 1:1 technology model, meaning each student will have her own personal device that is not shared. We will provide a laptop to each student in grades 5–7. As in previous years, eighth graders will supply their own devices.

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<td>STUDENT ARRIVAL 7:40 to 7:55 A.M.</td>
<td>STUDENT ARRIVAL 7:40 to 7:55 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLASS 1 8:05 to 9:05 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 1 8:05 to 9:05 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 1 8:05 to 8:55 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 1 8:05 to 9:05 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 1 8:05 to 9:05 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLASS 4 12:10 to 1:10 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 4 12:10 to 1:10 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 4 11:30 A.M. to 12:20 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 4 12:10 to 1:10 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 4 12:10 to 1:10 P.M.</td>
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<td>CLASS 5 1:20 to 2:20 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 5 12:25 to 1:15 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 5 1:20 to 2:20 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 5 1:20 to 2:20 P.M.</td>
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<td>CLASS 6 2:30 to 3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>FACULTY PD</td>
<td>CLASS 6 2:30 to 3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 6 2:30 to 3:30 P.M.</td>
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ST. PAUL’S SCHOOL FOR BOYS MIDDLE SCHOOL

- SP middle school students will begin in full distance learning and gradually return to campus in a hybrid model (schedule shown below) which involves two days on campus and three days of remote learning. Monday and Tuesday will be on campus, with distance learning on Wednesday through Friday. Wednesdays will be a half day to allow for sanitization of the building.
- In-person classes will meet for 80 minutes with each class meeting every other day.
- Each day includes homeroom and community time, allowing our advisory program, clubs, and Chapel to continue, whether in person or virtually.
- Arts, PE, and Religion classes are part of the rotation.
- We added an eighth period to the rotation, which we will use for various virtual elective opportunities to be determined.
- Additional time for lunch and recess are built into each day.
- The division will adopt a 1:1 technology model, meaning each student will have his own personal device (provided by the school) that is not shared.

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<td>CHAPEL 8 TO 8:20 A.M.</td>
<td>LIVE HOMEROOM 8:30 TO 8:45 A.M.</td>
<td>HOMEROOM 8:30 TO 9 A.M.</td>
<td>LIVE HOMEROOM 8:30 TO 9 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>“A” CLASS 8:20 TO 9:40 A.M.</td>
<td>“E” CLASS 8:20 TO 9:40 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 1 9 TO 9:45 A.M.</td>
<td>“A” CLASS 9 TO 10 A.M.</td>
<td>“E” CLASS 9 TO 10 A.M.</td>
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<td>BREAK 9:40 TO 9:50 A.M.</td>
<td>BREAK 9:40 TO 9:50 A.M.</td>
<td>BREAK 9:45 TO 10 A.M.</td>
<td>BREAK 10 TO 10:30 A.M.</td>
<td>BREAK 10 TO 10:30 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>“B” CLASS 9:50 TO 11:10 A.M.</td>
<td>“F” CLASS 9:50 TO 11:10 A.M.</td>
<td>CLASS 2 10 TO 10:45 A.M.</td>
<td>“B” CLASS 10:30 TO 11:30 A.M.</td>
<td>“F” CLASS 10:30 TO 11:30 A.M.</td>
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PART 2: LEARNING MODELS (MODEL 1)

UPPER SCHOOL (SPSG & SP)

• Upper school students will begin in full distance learning and gradually return to campus in a hybrid model (schedule shown below) which involves two days on campus and three days of remote learning. Thursday and Friday will be on campus, with distance learning on Monday through Wednesday. Wednesdays will be a half day to allow for sanitization of the building.

• While on campus, students will attend four 80-minute classes and enjoy one 60-minute lunch/community block each day. On remote learning days, during synchronous learning meet for X minutes.

• The schedule will continue to consist of 8 blocks, but only 4 blocks will meet each day, on alternating days—A, B, C, D on A-Day, and E, F, G, H on E-Day.

• Each day students will spend their lunch time in their advisories, where they will also devote time to community-related events, e.g. Chapel/Prayers, clubs, grade meetings, assemblies, etc.

• Due to the extenuating circumstances brought on by Covid-19 and the restrictive nature of the associated guidelines, there will be no add/drop period at the start of a semester.

### DISTANCE LEARNING SCHEDULE

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<th>MON.</th>
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<th>THURS.</th>
<th>FRI.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>&quot;E&quot; DAY</td>
<td>ALTERNATING &quot;A / E&quot; (SHORTER DAY)</td>
<td>&quot;A&quot; DAY</td>
<td>&quot;E&quot; DAY</td>
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### HYBRID LEARNING SCHEDULE

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<td>REMOTE LEARNING</td>
<td>IN-PERSON LEARNING</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;A&quot; DAY</td>
<td>&quot;E&quot; DAY</td>
<td>ALTERNATING &quot;A / E&quot; (SHORTER DAY)</td>
<td>&quot;A&quot; DAY</td>
<td>&quot;E&quot; DAY</td>
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BEFORE/AFTERCARE

- In an effort to uphold health and safety standards, we will not be able to offer beforecare or aftercare for any students in the fall.
- Students may enter the building as early as 7:40/7:45 a.m. and go directly to their homeroom/first period classroom to wait until class begins at 8 a.m.
- Lower school students may remain in the classroom to be picked up between 3:30 and 4 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 1:30 and 2 p.m. on Friday.
- Students should be picked up or depart campus at the end of their last academic commitment each day.

LEARNING FROM HOME

- We understand that some students will not be able to attend classes in person due to familial health risk, illness, or quarantine.
- Each classroom will be equipped with a webcam. Students who are unable to physically attend school will be able to observe classes and follow along remotely through livestreaming.
- See Part 4, “Health Suites & Quarantine Protocols” (page 26), to understand the circumstances under which individual students or cohorts of students will be expected to quarantine and learn remotely.
- These students following along from home will be able to connect with teachers asynchronously to ask questions and share additional insights.
- Students in all grades will use the Learning Management System (LMS) to track assignments, locate resources, and turn in work.
PERFORMING ARTS CLASSES

Covid-19 presents unique challenges when it comes to the performing arts, leading us to make changes to our curricular programs in dance, choir, and theater. All disciplines are planning for live rehearsals with appropriate social distancing and mask-wearing measures in place. Our primary commitment is to the safety of our students, families, and faculty, while doing our very best to offer a deep and comprehensive set of artistic experiences at The St. Paul's Schools this year.

**CHOIR**

In choir, students will wear masks and sing in socially distanced settings and/or study music theory. These parameters are evolving, based on the work of medical professionals from around the world, and some classes and performances may be held in outdoor spaces—with adequate acoustics—weather permitting.

**THEATRE**

Our theater productions may look quite different this year. We are planning to utilize innovative stage direction and sets to maintain social distance. We have plans in place to “pivot” our productions to online or hybrid settings as necessary, or to show them in live settings (where possible and safe) with limited audience sizes while streaming to the greater public. We are examining options to hold some performances and classes in outdoor spaces, weather permitting, such as the Darrell Nature Pavilion or Poolhouse.

**DANCE**

Dance students will work in distinct “radii” in our studios, socially distanced. Great care will be taken to sanitize barres between each class, and students will learn choreography that reflects the requirement to remain within “circles” that will be taped on the floor. Class sizes will be limited to reflect social distancing requirements, and course materials will be unique to each student, not shared.
LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Our Learning Services teams will continue to support students through in-person or distance learning, and teachers will continue to implement each student’s formal education plan regardless of setting.

- While campus is open, learning specialists will provide instruction in math, reading, language, and study skills through division-specific classes and one-on-one support. (Please note that in the SP upper school, all learning specialist support and academic coaching will be provided via Microsoft Teams.)
- Using Microsoft Teams, Learning Services will partner with teachers and families for consultation meetings and to create individualized learning plans.
- Learning specialists will partner with teachers and advisors to help individual students with organization and time management. (Resources can be found on the LMS.)
- During in-person instruction, “testing in a quiet space” will be provided within the classroom, not in a separate setting, since class sizes will be significantly reduced. Other accommodations, such as extended time and access to a four-function calculator, will still be provided.
- Students are welcome to schedule an appointment with a learning specialist for content-specific or general concerns by contacting their division’s learning support team.
MODEL 2: FULL DISTANCE LEARNING

INTRODUCTION

Grades K–12 will begin in full distance-learning mode and then transition to in-person or hybrid learning. In the event that we are required to close campus or parts of campus (for example, to restrict access for just one division), St. Paul’s will shift back to teaching virtually. Although we will not provide distance learning for preschool students, preschool teachers will continue to share helpful resources with families if campus is closed.

Incorporating feedback from families and teachers as well as takeaways from ongoing professional development courses, we have substantially modified our approach to distance learning for this upcoming year.

- The schedule of classes for distance learning will be the same as it is for in-person learning (see the schedules in the section titled “In-Person Learning” on pages 7–10), although the lower school schedule will be modified somewhat.

- However, the allotted time will be used differently.

- Each class will begin with a “live,” synchronous meeting that will last between 30 and 50 minutes. During that time, a teacher will present a lesson, lead a classroom discussion, or guide the class through a problem or exercise.

- The expectation is that each student’s camera will be on during synchronous class time (in order to be counted as “in attendance”) and that the student is in a setting appropriate for schoolwork.

- The “live” class meeting time will be followed by time for asynchronous work.

- Students in all grades will use the Learning Management System (LMS) to track assignments, locate resources, and turn in work.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

The St. Paul’s Schools faculty are poised to continue to deliver an excellent educational experience this upcoming school year. Since our students are at the heart of everything we do, our faculty are ready to know our students, teach our students, and reach our students, whatever challenges the year may bring. To maintain that excellence, we are committed to growing professionally.

• This summer our faculty participated in “Designing, Building, and Teaching Hybrid Learning,” a course on how to effectively leverage technology for active and mastery-based learning, through One Schoolhouse.
• Faculty will be nimble in seamlessly transitioning from in-person to online instruction as needed.
• Additionally, many faculty are engaged in discipline-specific professional development, allowing them to harness the very best of 21st-century teaching practices in their daily interactions with students.
• On our shortened instructional day each week, faculty will continue to engage in professional development—learning, growing and refining their skills in service to our students.
INTRODUCTION

We have joined a group of area independent schools who are working to establish some common health and safety practices for our campuses. By following these practices at St. Paul’s, we can work collectively to protect our community and keep our campus open.

THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES HAVE GUIDED OUR WORK IN THIS AREA:

- Prioritize the safety of our community first and foremost.
- Focus on the variables we can control.
- Use reliable scientific sources to guide our understanding of the virus and how to limit exposure.
- Ensure health-related policies are clearly communicated and then consistently implemented and enforced.
- Remain adaptable, knowing experts’ understanding of the virus will evolve.
- Seek ways to reduce risk of virus transmission, not eliminate it.

Our approach can be broken down into Four Pillars of Health and Safety:
PILLAR 1: PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND COHORT GROUPS

CLASSROOMS

To allow for appropriate physical distancing, class sizes will be reduced and non-classroom spaces will be converted into classrooms. Using a nationally recognized mathematical model that was developed at St. Paul’s, we have determined how many people can fit in a classroom with a six-foot radius around each student and adequate space for the teacher in front. Using these numbers, we have enough square footage to accommodate all students in classrooms.

- In some cases, two neighboring classrooms will be needed, with a proctor to help in one room while the teacher is in the other room.
- In addition to our traditional classroom spaces, the plan requires the use of the temporary classrooms (MLB), the squash courts, various administrative buildings, and the Ward Center dining areas for classroom space. We are doing work this summer to remove walls to create adequate spaces where necessary.

COHORTS

For effective social distancing, we recognize the need to minimize interactions between cohort groups. Our goal was to keep students in consistent groupings throughout the day when possible while ensuring they have access to the same breadth of course offerings.

- In the preschool, the cohort group consists of child’s classroom and teachers. Total numbers in each cohort will vary based on age, ranging from 8 to 15.
- In the lower school, the cohort group consist of a child’s homeroom, which will have no more than 12 students.
- In the middle schools, each grade constitutes its own cohort.
- In the upper schools, the core cohort is the advisory. The full cohort size depends on each student’s individual schedule, but could be as large as 80 students.
PILLAR 2: HEALTH SCREENING & PREVENTATIVE HYGIENE

BEFORE SCHOOL...

- Parents must complete a daily health assessment. For K–12 students, temperature-taking will happen at home each morning, with parents logging information into an app. (More information about this process will be provided.) It is possible that this will be augmented with additional temperature checks during the school day.

- Please keep sick students home. Parents must not drop off their children if they display any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or have had recent contact with someone who has displayed any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or who has been diagnosed as positive for COVID-19. *If your child stays home sick, we ask that you please inform us of the reason and any medical diagnosis.*

- Wash hands thoroughly before leaving home.

- Parents must drop their children off outside of the building. Staff will greet students at the entrance. Students will sanitize or wash hands upon entry and go directly to their classroom.

- Please pack lunch, snacks, and enough water for the full day.

- Please do not bring toys or other items from home unless indicated by the school.

- Children should come to school with their computing devices fully charged and with their personal headphones.

TRAVEL

**No unnecessary travel.** We are asking that families, faculty, and staff follow state and federal guidelines with respect to personal and business travel. Governor Hogan directed the Maryland Department of Health to issue a public health advisory for out-of-state travel. Under this advisory, Marylanders are strongly advised against traveling to *states with positivity rates of 10% or higher.* Any member of our school community who travels to one of these hotspot states should have a Covid test and share the negative results with the school nurse or self-quarantine for 14 days.
PILLAR 2: HEALTH SCREENING & PREVENTATIVE HYGIENE

WHILE AT SCHOOL...

**TAKING TEMPERATURES**
As mandated by our childcare licensing authority, preschool and pre-K students will have their temperatures taken before entering the building and have to answer a daily health intake questionnaire.

**MASKS**
Masks will be required while indoors for all faculty and staff and for students in grades pre-K and up. Masks are optional for preschool students.

- Students, faculty, and staff will provide their own masks to ensure a comfortable fit.
- Based on medical guidance, we recommend cloth masks with multiple layers of fabric (no gaiters or bandanas) but face shields may be permitted where needed.
- We anticipate making exceptions to the mask rule for outdoor activities if students can properly social distance.
- Masks should be solid-colored or patterned and free of slogans, writing, or large branding.

**DOORS**
Doors will be propped open as students are entering rooms to eliminate need to touch handles.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING**
Students should adhere to social distancing protocols while on campus.
PILLAR 2: HEALTH SCREENING & PREVENTATIVE HYGIENE

WHILE AT SCHOOL...

HANDWASHING
Students must wash/sanitize their hands...

- as they enter and exit classrooms using the stations at each doorway,
- before and after recess,
- after PE,
- before and after eating,
- after using the restroom,
- after handling equipment,
- after sneezing or coughing.

DESKS & CHAIRS
Each student must take an antibacterial wipe and wipe down his or her desk and chair before sitting.

PERSONAL ITEMS
Students will bring all belongings with them to the classroom, including coats, lunchbags, and backpacks. Lockers and cubbies will not be used, except in the preschool and in certain lower school classrooms.

LUNCH
Students will eat lunch in their classrooms (see “Food Services” section on page 24 for more info).
PILLAR 2: HEALTH SCREENING & PREVENTATIVE HYGIENE

WHILE AT SCHOOL...

SHARING
We are working to reduce the sharing of items.

- We are introducing a 1:1 technology program in the lower and middle schools so that each child will have his or her own device.

- We will provide an individual set of learning materials, such as math manipulates, pencils, rulers, etc., for each student.

- In the lower school, shared classroom libraries will be put in storage for the year and each student will receive reading materials in the personal supply bin.

SYMPTOMS
Any student showing symptoms of Covid will be isolated and sent home (see “Health Suite & Quarantine Protocols” on page 26 for more information).

HEALTH TRACKING AND CONTACT TRACING

- Our Magnus Health system enables us to document any illnesses and symptoms on our campus so that we can track and monitor the health of the community and make early detection of any illness trends.

- If a student goes home sick, we are relying on parents to inform us about any diagnoses so that we can track illnesses accurately.

- For tracing, we are relying on data from attendance records. We also will depend on trained members of our community to do contact tracing in the event that a member of our community tests positive for Covid.
PILLAR 3: CLEANING, SANITIZING, VENTILATION, AND DISINFECTING

BATHROOMS
Bathrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day and will be well stocked with soap, paper towels, and other supplies.

HIGH-TRAFFIC AREAS
High-traffic areas such as reception will have Plexiglas or other barriers.

HVAC SYSTEMS
The St. Paul’s Schools has taken actions to improve air flow and ventilation in all school buildings, in accord with at least the minimum recommendations (ASHRAE standards for acceptable indoor air quality) to mitigate exposure to COVID-19. This work includes: an air-balancing procedure to maximize airflow without compromising comfort; ensuring humidity is set at the recommended ranges of 40-60%; cleaning all fan coils, which will cleaned on a regular basis; upgrading air filters to remove a higher percentage of airborne contaminants; keeping fans running for constant air flow; and adding air purification where appropriate.

SANITIZATION
Teachers will manage the minor sanitizing of the classroom and materials, wiping down surfaces throughout the day.

MAINTENANCE
High-contact points such as handrails, door handles, light switches, buttons, and whiteboards will be sanitized on a continuous basis throughout the day by the maintenance staff.

CDC
Cleaning and sanitizing of buildings will follow enhanced protocols provided by CDC.
PILLAR 4: COMMUNICATIONS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES TRAINING

- Signage explaining safety requirements and proper handwashing techniques will be placed throughout the campus as constant reminders.
- We are establishing directional traffic patterns in our buildings and those directions will be clearly marked.
- We will provide health and safety trainings during orientation both for students and for faculty and staff who will be supervising.
- We will be providing expert tips throughout the summer via social media to help prepare students for back-to-school, including pointers for getting them acclimated to wearing masks, fun handwashing tutorials, and more.

PRE AND LOWER SCHOOL
- Facebook: facebook.com/StPaulsPreLower
- Instagram: instagram.com/StPaulsPreLower

GIRLS’ SCHOOL
- Facebook: facebook.com/StPaulsSchoolForGirls
- Instagram: instagram.com/spsggators

BOYS’ SCHOOL
- Facebook: facebook.com/MdStPauls
- Instagram: instagram.com/MdStPauls
SPECIFIC AREAS OF ENHANCED PROTECTIONS

CAMPUS ACCESS AND VISITOR POLICIES

- We simply cannot increase our risk of spreading Covid from a guest to our campus community. Therefore, we have determined that for the first three weeks of school, at a minimum, campus will be closed to visitors and guests, including current parents and volunteers.

- Essential vendors will be permitted on campus after proper screening. All other vendors will only be allowed on campus before or after school hours only.

- All special events and meetings scheduled for the first semester are to be held via videoconference, including Parents’ Association meetings, Admissions open houses, arts productions, and Development events.

FOOD SERVICES

- Managing school lunch is incredibly challenging for schools during this pandemic. At St. Paul’s, our dining halls and lunchrooms are not large enough to allow for proper social distancing. Sage food service will not be available until further notice.

- Students will eat together with their cohort groups in the classroom or outside.

- Graul’s delivery option will continue in the lower school when school resumes. However, families will only be able to order cold food options.

- We also are expanding the Graul’s lunch delivery option to grades 5–12. Parents will order lunch directly through the Graul’s website and the meal will be delivered to school and distributed. Only cold options will be available. More information will be provided before school starts.

- Students who do not order through Graul’s will bring their lunches from home. Students should pack their own snacks and drinks, including enough water to last through the day. Water fountains and filling stations will not be available.
THE ST. PAUL’S SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN
PART 4: SPECIFIC AREAS OF ENHANCED PROTECTIONS

TRANSPORTATION
At this point, we are not able to offer our usual bus transportation next year, although we are looking into alternative options.

SCHOOL STORE
We have not yet decided whether to open our physical school stores for the 2020–2021 school year. If we do open them, there will be a strict limit on the number of students who can enter the store at one time and trying on items will not be permitted. In early August, we launched a new website for The St. Paul’s Schools, which includes an online school store with St. Paul’s gear for all ages and divisions.
HEALTH SUITES AND QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS

- If temperature is elevated or student shows other signs of illness, we ask that you pick up your child as quickly as possible (within an hour at maximum). Students will be escorted to your car by a staff member.
- The Health Suite will only be available for students who are injured or those who need to be isolated prior to being sent home due to illness.
- There will be two areas designated: one area for general issues, prescription medicine dispensing, and triage, and a separate area for isolation.
- Cleaning of the spaces will be completed prior to any new students being admitted.

For the purposes of this decision aid, COVID-19-like illness is defined as:

- New onset cough or shortness of breath OR At least two of the following:
  - fever of 100.4 or higher
  - chills, shivering
  - muscle pain
  - sore throat
  - headache
  - loss of sense of taste or smell
  - gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea).

NOTE: This definition was adapted from the clinical criteria in the CDC case definition of a probable case of COVID-19.

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS
HEALTH SUITES AND QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS

### Person (child, care provider, educator, other staff) with ONE NEW symptom not meeting the definition of COVID-19-like illness.

- Exclude person and allow return when symptoms have improved and criteria in the Communicable Diseases Summary have been met as applicable. If person develops symptoms of COVID-19-like illness, follow processes below for person with COVID-19-like illness.

### An asymptomatic person (child, care provider, educator, other staff) tests positive for COVID-19.

- The asymptomatic person should stay home for 10 days from positive test.

### Person (child, care provider, educator, other staff) with COVID-19-like illness.

- Exclude person and recommend that they talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19 or whether there is another specific diagnosis.
- The person should isolate pending test results or evaluation by their health care provider.
- Close contacts of the ill person should quarantine per CDC guidelines.*

### Close contacts

- Close contacts should stay home for 14 days from the date of last exposure even if they have no symptoms or they have a negative COVID-19 test done during quarantine.

### Person has positive test for COVID-19.

- The ill person should stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

### Person does not receive a laboratory test or another specific alternative diagnosis by their health care provider.

- The ill person should stay home until symptoms have improved and criteria in the Communicable Diseases Summary have been met as applicable.
- The person should consider being tested/retested for COVID-19 if symptoms do not improve.

### Person has negative test for COVID-19.

- Health care provider documents that the person has another specific diagnosis (e.g. influenza, strep throat, otitis) or health care provider documents that symptoms are related to a pre-existing condition.

### Close contacts* should stay home for 14 days from the date of last exposure even if they have no symptoms or they have a negative COVID-19 test done during quarantine.

- Close contacts are defined as any individual who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes, including any members of the school community who share a household with that person.

### The ill person

- The ill person should stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

- The person should consider being tested/retested for COVID-19 if symptoms do not improve.

- Close contacts may return to school as long as they remain asymptomatic.
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Returning to a traditional campus environment, even with the new requirements for public health, is an important part of the emotional and social development of children. Our school counselors will continue to provide confidential and comforting support to assist all students and families through in-person or distance learning.

- While campus is open, learning specialists will provide instruction in math, reading, language, and study skills through division-specific classes and one-on-one support. (Please note that in the SP upper school, all learning specialist support and academic coaching will be provided via Microsoft Teams.)
- Counselors will continue to consult with teachers, advisors, and parents when there are student concerns and partner with them to support students with social-emotional needs or those who may be in crisis.
- Resources for families will be provided on the school’s LMS and website.
- We will continue to host grade-specific and school-wide health and wellness events and educational programs throughout the school year.
- Counselors will make referrals for community providers and consult with therapists and psychiatrists to complement that care.
- To help students maintain a healthy state of physical and emotional wellbeing, counselors will provide school-wide recommendations for stress management and social-emotional activities and routines.

COORDINATED CLASSES

We are working on plans for upper school classes that have a mix of boys and girls learning together. These plans include physical partitions and/or increased social distancing so that we do not mix cohorts of students.
INTRODUCTION

Our students thrive when they are interacting with classmates and teachers on our beautiful campus and engaging in the co-curricular opportunities that a St. Paul’s education provides. However, given the heightened precautions around Covid, some of these opportunities will not be possible and others will be modified from their traditional forms.

THEATER PRODUCTIONS

We have determined that a fall musical, maintaining appropriate social distancing for vocal music, is simply not feasible in our spaces. *Matilda* is moving to the spring for performances, and auditions are being rescheduled for early September. We are exploring other performing arts like dramatic works, monologues, and plays for the fall production, which will be our junior/senior show.

ATHLETICS

Our sports leagues, the MIAA and IAAM, have postponed all fall athletic competitions and championships. This decision impacts cross country, field hockey, football, soccer, tennis, and volleyball. The MIAA and IAAM Board of Governors will reconvene in mid-October to evaluate the public health crisis and manage competitive options for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Athletics are an integral part of a St. Paul’s education. As an alternative to league play, we are exploring opportunities for strength, conditioning, and intra-school competition that are in adherence with local health and safety guidelines. These activities for upper school will begin on September 8 (SP) and 9 (SPSG). Middle school sessions, if offered, would not begin before September 21.

TRIPS

There will be no off-campus trips or excursions during the fall semester. That includes field trips, industry visits, global exchanges, service-learning trips, retreats, and off-campus professional development.

• Industry visits and guest speakers will take place in a virtual forum.
COMMUNITY SERVICE

• Community service is one of the pillars of an Episcopal school.

• We have greatly reduced the number of hours required, as well as extended the timeframe for completion due to the current circumstances and cancellations of service-learning trips and experiences both locally and globally.

  • By the end of Quarter 3 of senior year, members of each graduating class should have completed, at minimum, the following number of service hours:

  • Class of 2021 – 15 hours
  • Class of 2022 – 30 hours
  • Class of 2023 – 45 hours
  • Class of 2024 – 60 hours

• Students are encouraged to find volunteer opportunities that align with their personal learning goals, interests, and skills they wish to apply in service of others. These opportunities can be virtual or in-person.

• Please contact Reverend Ballenger or Chaplain Phillips for more information about current volunteering opportunities.

ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

We may need to modify the activity requirements for upper school students for the 2020–2021 school year. Credit expectations will be adjusted depending on how Covid-19 affects our extra-curricular activities, including theater and athletics.
NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY

Despite our best efforts and the tremendous thought that has gone into creating this plan, there remain circumstances beyond our control. Based on public health predictions, we anticipate possible outbreaks of Covid-19 which could potentially disrupt on-campus programming next year.

In the event we are notified by government officials or the health department of the need to close our campus or we make a decision to close our campus based on the prevalence of illness in our school community, instruction will continue remotely. Please note that we do not need to follow Baltimore County Public Schools, but our decisions will take into account the local public health environment.

OUR COMMITMENT

DURING ANY PERIOD OF TEMPORARY DISTANCE LEARNING, WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO:

• Delivering on our mission
• Providing students with a high quality, student-centered learning experience
• Finding ways to keep our community connected and engaged
• Communicating regular updates
TUITION & FEES

We are committed to supporting families who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the pandemic and the economic downturn. We are delaying and extending tuition payment plans and have allocated additional financial assistance for families that have experienced a significant change in circumstances. (Learn more about Covid-19 Emergency Relief on our St. Paul's Covid-19 Resources page.)

Our aim is to offer a robust and meaningful learning experience, whether that takes place in person or remotely. Accordingly, we plan to modify tuition only for our preschool and pre-K families in the event of a temporary campus closure. Per next year's contract addendum, preschool families will receive a 50 percent tuition credit for any days that the campus is physically closed and/or the student's classroom is closed due to Covid-19. For any day our campus is physically closed and we are operating in distance learning, pre-K families will only be charged the half-day tuition rate. The reduced tuition rate will be issued as a credit on your account.

If you have opted to take out Dewar tuition insurance, that insurance will refund a portion of your fees if you withdraw your student, assuming the student has attended classes for the first 14 days of school at a minimum. Please note that if campus is open but a student chooses not to attend school physically due to their personal concerns, their choice to study remotely would not count towards the requisite attendance requirement.
WE CAN’T WAIT TO SEE YOU!

When the time comes to welcome our students back, we will be ready and eager.

Although school will look somewhat different in September, we truly believe that we have designed an experience that preserves all the hallmarks of a St. Paul’s education while at the same time promoting health and safety.

We are sure you have many follow-up questions and we will communicate further details as our planning progresses. Thank you for your partnership and your trust as we move ahead together.

If you have questions about this plan, please send them to the Emergency Response Team by emailing ertcoronavirus@stpaulsmd.org.