

PURNELL SCHOOL

Spring 2021 Return Plan and Guidelines

School Year 2020-2021

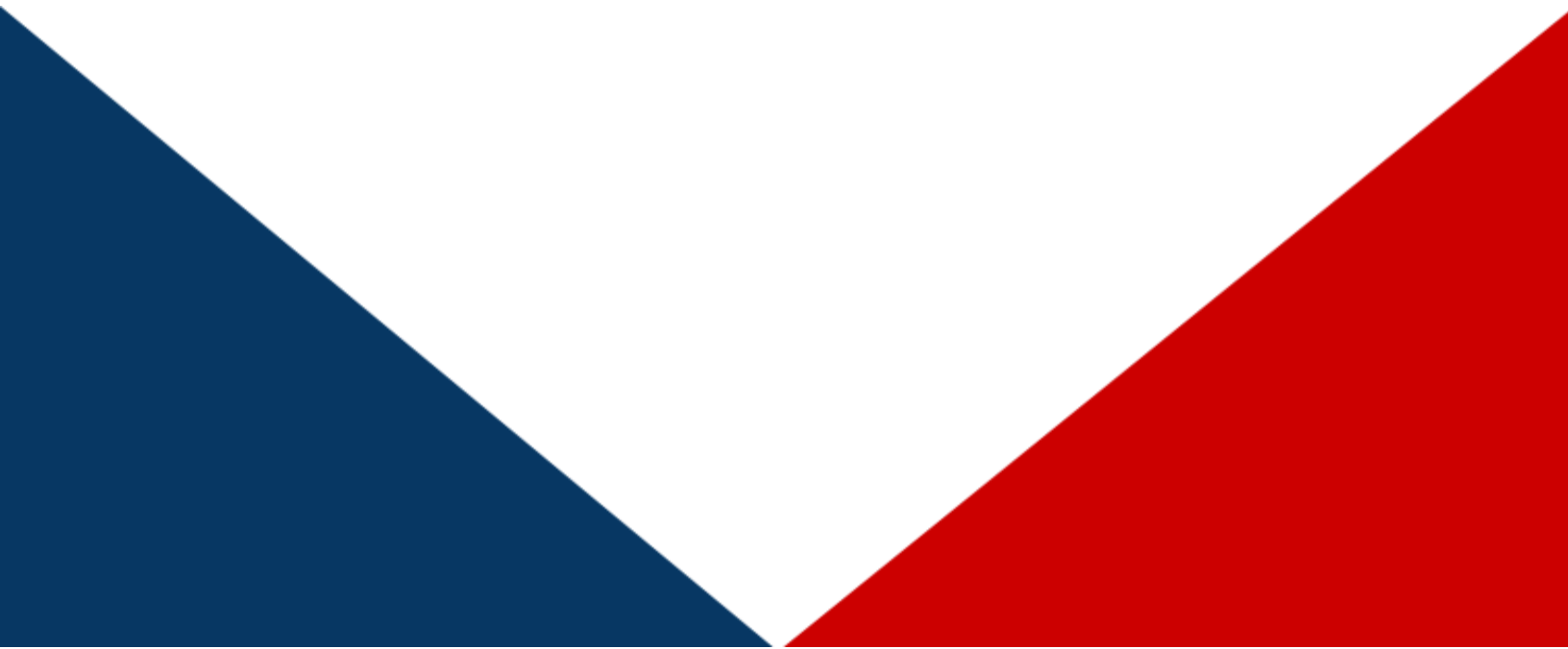


Table of Contents

Letter from the Head of School	4
About Our Plan	6
Planning Assumptions	6
Current Understanding of COVID-19	7
Sources of Information & Knowledge	7
Symptoms of Covid-19	7
Verifiable Prevention	8
Know how it spreads	8
Everyone Should	8
Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others	9
Cover coughs and sneezes	9
Clean and disinfect	9
Monitor Your Health Daily	10
Report from Dr. Allyson Agathis	10
Physical Plant	10
Evaluations	10
Exclusion from School/Contact Tracing	11
Community Safety Standards	11
Students and Staff Arrival Routine	11
Suspected COVID-19 Diagnosis Care and Procedures	12
Timeframe for Self-Isolation/Quarantine Based on Testing Result	13
Returning to Campus for Students and Employees after Exposure to Suspected or Positive COVID-19 Diagnosed Person(s)	15
Residential and Campus Life	16
Return to Campus Registration and Orientation	16

Dorm Life	17
Hygiene	18
Dining Hall Procedures	18
Boarding Students Weekend Leave and Return Policy	18
Purnell Pledge	19
Pledge	19
Social Life and Recreation	20
Community	20
Protecting Myself	20
Protecting Others	21
Protect Our Community	21
Health Center	21
Health Center Guidelines	21
Overall Traffic Patterns	22
Temperature Check Procedures	22
In and Out Protocol	22
Arrival and Dismissal	23
Arrival	23
Dismissal	23
Sick and Well Visits	23
Students Who Are Being Sent Home Under the Suspicion of COVID-19	24
A Confirmed Case of Covid-19 Reported to Purnell School	24
Academics	24
Simultaneous In-person and Remote Instruction	24
Distancing in the Classrooms	25
Disinfecting Protocol in the Classroom	25
Co-Curriculars Activities	25

Athletics	25
Performing Arts	25
Community Service	25
Weekend Options	26
Transportation Guidelines	26
Bus Transportation Policy	26
Contingency Plan	26

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Purnell Community,

Welcome back to school in person! We were successful as a community in the fall because of our collective commitment to following preventative measures: consistent mask wearing, physical distancing, and sanitizing hands and surfaces. I thank each and every one of you for helping Purnell stay Covid-19 free!

This coming semester, infection rates are higher, so this is not the time to relax our vigilance. All preventative measures and access to buildings remain in effect.

We have pushed back our semester start to January 11 at 4:00 PM. This will allow for every student to be tested (required) and quarantine for 14 days if returning from another state.

In addition, families are required to declare whether their daughter will attend school in person or learn remotely from January 12 - Spring Break. Students may elect to learn remotely if she or a household member has an immunocompromising condition. This decision is due in writing to Head Nurse Chrissy Schmidt by December 18. This decision may not be changed until after Spring Break.

We continue to agree that in-person learning is most effective for both academic progress and social-emotional wellbeing.

This plan is the result of a strong team effort and has also been informed by our consulting physician Dr. Allyson Agathis.

We are pleased to continue to offer a full Purnell School experience for our students in a way that balances the best of in-person education and socialization with the necessity of optimizing the safety and health of all students and staff. While the operational details are specific, we have approached our planning with three clear and basic principles:

- To take an approach based on science.
- To construct a reasonable operational plan based on the best data available.
- To be nimble and flexible, but always mission consistent.

We agree with the statement of the American Association of Pediatrics that all students benefit from being back at school in person for reasons that include not only academics, but community engagement, communication, collaboration, collective and mutual support, and physical, outdoor activities. All of these are critical for personal growth and

development and, crucially, for a return to some sense of normalcy, routine, and structure.

At the same time, we acknowledge the seriousness of this global pandemic and the methods known to date of transmission and the best means of prevention. We reopen with eyes wide open about these scientific facts. To our advantage, we are a small community on 83 acres. We continue to follow the guidance from our State and County Departments of Health.

We are grateful for these circumstances and are convinced that there is no better place to be in school than back on campus at Purnell School.

At the end of this report, you will find an updated Pledge that is required of every community member. The strength and safety of our community depends on each of us individually. Each of us is responsible for not simply our individual health but also the health and safety of our entire community.

Our School and our community is strong, caring, and resilient. This too shall pass. We will manage together as a community committed to maintaining the health and safety of our fellow students and staff members.

With respect and dedication,

Anne M. Glass, Ed.M.
Head of School

About Our Plan

Planning Assumptions

The following are the high-level assumptions the school is currently using to inform its planning for health and safety, teaching & learning, and operations. These assumptions are based on the best information to date and can and will be updated. Specifics on how these assumptions might look in application can be found in the school's [Purnell COVID-19 Operations Decision Matrix](#)

1. Physical distancing is necessary and appropriate to mitigate the risk of contracting and or spreading the virus and should be practiced whenever feasible.
2. Small, consistent, controlled groups are necessary and appropriate to mitigate the risk of contracting and od cr spreading the virus - i.e, classes stay together and minimize their contact with other students and adults. It will also assist in contact tracing in the event a member of our community becomes infected with the virus.
3. Visitors and guests on campus will be highly limited and controlled.
4. Sharing of physical materials, resources, supplies, etc. is highly discouraged whenever possible.
5. Temperature assessments of all employees and students will be necessary.
6. Masks for students, teachers and staff will be required when indoors or in close proximity outdoors.
7. Increased, frequent and campus wide cleaning and disinfecting practices and policies will be necessary along with education and enforcement of personal hygiene best practices.
8. Testing for COVID-19 is readily accessible and results from a CDC-approved lab are expedient.
9. Employees and students who test positive for COVID-19 will require a 14 day quarantine period and this may extend to employees and students who are symptomatic of COVID-19 or have exposure to someone who is positive or symptomatic for COVID-19.
10. Education on all of these assumptions and their corresponding policies and procedures will be required for all employees, will be shared with families, and modified into student-friendly versions.

Current Understanding of COVID-19

Sources of Information & Knowledge

The School is basing its preparations and guidelines for reopening and operating on the information and guidance currently available from the Governor Murphy of New Jersey, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), The World Health Organization (WHO), and Local and State Departments of Health. In addition, the School has received a COVID-19 plan and standing orders for the Health Center from our medical advisor, Dr. Allyson Agathis.

The School remains in communication with the [National Association of Independent Schools](#) (NAIS), the [Southern Association of Independent Schools](#) (SAIS), the [New Jersey Association of Independent Schools](#) (NJ AIS), and the [Association of Boarding Schools](#) (TABS).

The Board of Trustees also created a Health and Safety subcommittee of the Risk Assessment Committee to advise and support the School's Leadership Team. This committee includes leaders from the following industries:

- Healthcare (Physician)
- Finance
- Manufacturing
- Food and Beverage
- Hospitality

Symptoms of Covid-19

The School subscribes to the CDC's list of COVID-19 symptoms. The CDC states: Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Based on the most current information available, the school is making plans based on the following:

- COVID-19 is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.
- COVID-19 can also be spread via tiny droplets projected during speaking, singing, coughing, sneezing.
- For these reasons, maintaining physical distance and wearing a mask can mitigate its spread.
- Until a vaccine is widely available, COVID-19 will continue to be a public health concern.
- Persons who have been exposed but are asymptomatic can still transmit the virus.

Verifiable Prevention: Know how the virus spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) available to the general public.
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to [spread mainly through the air and from person-to-person](#).
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
 - These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 - COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not experiencing any symptoms.

Everyone Should

Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- The mask is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Everyone should wear a [mask](#) in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other [social distancing](#) measures are difficult to maintain.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The mask is not a substitute for social distancing.

Cover coughs and sneezes

- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.

- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- It's especially important to wash:
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - Before touching your face
 - After using the restroom
 - After leaving a public place
 - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After handling your mask
 - After caring for someone sick
 - After touching animals or pets

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact
- Inside your home: Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - If possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members.
- Outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
 - Remember that people without symptoms may still be able to spread the virus.
 - Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
 - Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Clean and disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Then, use a household disinfectant. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants external icon will work.

Monitor Your Health Daily

- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.

Report from Dr. Allyson Agathis

Students who present with any symptoms need to be evaluated for possible infection with COVID 19.

ALL STUDENTS COMING TO THE NURSES OFFICE MUST BE MASKED

Physical Plant

- Two areas are pre-designated in the health office, one for ill students and one for non-ill students.
- Students who are presenting with non-illness symptoms i.e.:
 - Injuries, lacerations or abrasion
 - Regular medication dosage timing
 - Mental health symptoms
 - Shall be immediately evaluated in the area of the nurses office designated for these.
- Overflow areas may be needed for potentially ill and/or COVID students.
- Designated areas will be pre-designated and able to be annexed on demand when needed.
- NO NEBULIZERS should be used in the nurse's office during the COVID pandemic. Students should be switched to metered dose inhalers with spacer devices before the start of the school year on their medication order [forms.as](#) all asthma like symptoms may also be COVID.
- Parents will be notified ASAP that their child is ill in the nurse's office, so as not to delay pick up.

Evaluations

All students entering the nurses office shall be triaged IMMEDIATELY in a designated area for;

- Temperature
- Oxygen saturation
- Reasons for being there
- Symptoms.

so that they may be placed in an appropriate area to continue evaluation

“Symptomatic student“ areas are separated with room dividers, and room dividers will be covered with clear removable plastic. This plastic should be inverted and removed from the bottom up between students.

Nurses taking care of ill students should be utilizing PPE (Personal protective equipment). Nurses will be wearing N95 masks or KN95 masks when taking care of students who are ill.

Please remember that much of the PPE is Disposable. Remember that UV sterilizers are surface sterilization only. Nurses will wear easy to launder clothing to protect themselves, their family and other students that way fibers aren't absorbed.

All items utilized by a symptomatic student must be chloroxed before returning to supplies, plastic coverings for all are best suggested.

Rooms where students had Covid may need to be closed for 4 to 24 hours before reopening depending on recommendations and updates.

Exclusion from School/Contact Tracing

Exclusion from school may be updated as CDC guidelines change.

Currently student who have:

1. Known exposure with no symptoms: will be excluded for quarantine for 14 days.
2. Known exposure with symptoms should be tested. They should be excluded for at least 10 days from time of diagnosis AND 3 days from dissolution of symptoms.
3. Students with exposure include classroom cohorts and siblings.
4. Students who have a known exposure, even they are asymptomatic, will be required to go home until test results return. If they are positive for COVID-19, they need to follow 1 and 2 above. If their test is negative then must be asymptomatic for 24 hours to return to school.

Community Safety Standards

Students and Staff Arrival Routine

In line with NJ Dept. of Education Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools and CDC guidelines, the School will require a Health Screening of all students and employees prior to entering the school buildings. This screening may include answering questions like the following:

- Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 48 hours: cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, fever necessitating the use of Tylenol or Ibuprofen?
- Has any member of your household experienced any of the symptoms as listed in Question 1?
- Have you or any member of your household been exposed to an individual with a known case of Coronavirus?

In addition, students and staff will complete a temperature check before entering the building to confirm they do not have a fever of 100.4° Fahrenheit or higher.

Screenings will be conducted in a nondiscriminatory manner and results will remain confidential with only essential members of the School's administration knowing if any student or employee screens positive.

In the event that an employee or student screens positive, they will report to a designated, controlled waiting area until arrangement can be made for the employee or student to leave the School.

Suspected COVID-19 Diagnosis Care and Procedures

If a student or employee meets the criteria for being symptomatic for COVID-19 as defined by the CDC(see above) OR tests positive for COVID-19, the School will require they follow the following recommendations based on CDC guidelines and Purnell School Policy before returning to campus:

For Persons with COVID-19 or Symptomatic for COVID-19 Under Isolation:

1). Symptom-based strategy

Persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*; and,
- At least 1 day (24 hours) have passed *since recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,

2). Test-based strategy

Persons who have COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and

- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
- Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens).

For Persons Who have NOT had COVID-19 Symptoms but Tested Positive and are Under Isolation:

1). Time-based strategy

Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had **any** symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test. If they develop symptoms, then the symptom-based or test-based strategy should be used.

2). Test-based strategy

Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had **any** symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens).

Timeframe for Self-Isolation/Quarantine Based on Testing Result

The purpose of **quarantine** is to keep people who might have been exposed (but not sick) to COVID-19 away from others. **Isolation** is to keep sick people and those infected with the COVID-19 virus away from those who are not infected. Self-quarantine/isolation are voluntary practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

It is expected that any person getting a COVID-19 diagnostic test (nasal swab or saliva) will self-quarantine after specimen collection **AND** are advised of the results of their test, unless otherwise directed by those administering the test.

These recommendations are not for individuals who got a serologic test (antibody). Depending on the test result, see below for the length of time that the individual should self-isolate/self-quarantine. If an individual who tests COVID-19 positive has a weakened immune system (immunocompromised) due to a health condition or

medication, they may need to isolate longer than 10 days. They should speak to their healthcare provider for more information.

Timeframe for Self-Quarantine or Self-Isolation	
10 days since symptoms first began AND 24 hours (1 full day) fever-free without use of fever reducing medications AND improvement in symptoms	Symptomatic Tested Positive (+)
At least 24 hours (1 full day) after symptoms go away NOTE: If person is a household or close contact, or a traveler from impacted area, they should complete 14-day quarantine	Symptomatic Tested Negative (-)
10 days after specimen collection, assuming no symptoms develop [^]	Asymptomatic Tested Positive (+)
No self-quarantine days required	Asymptomatic Tested Negative (-)
14 days from last known exposure with the COVID-19 + person NOTE: Household contacts should begin quarantine as soon as aware of exposure to COVID-19 + person and continue the quarantine for an additional 14 days AFTER the COVID-19 person's isolation ends. Contacts who develop symptoms [^] or who test positive should isolate.	Asymptomatic Tested Negative (-) But is a household* or close contact* or traveler from impacted area* Asymptomatic Not/ never Tested But is a household* or close contact* or traveler from impacted area*

COVID-19 incubation period is 2-14 days. Symptoms often appear 5-6 days after exposure but may appear up to 14 days after exposure. A person is considered infectious two days before they test + or develop symptoms. However, some individuals do not develop symptoms and may expose others without knowing.

***Household contacts** are individuals who live in the same house as a lab confirmed COVID-19 case.

***Close contacts** are individuals who were within 6 feet of a lab confirmed COVID-19 case for a prolonged period (10 minutes or more) or had direct contact with the infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., were coughed on). Walking past a lab confirmed COVID19 case or just being in the same building does **NOT** qualify as being a close contact.

***Traveler from the impacted area** refers to states/territories/countries with increasing COVID-19 cases with a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents **or** areas with 10% or higher positivity rate over a seven-day rolling average. ^Asymptomatic positive individuals who develop symptoms during their self-quarantine timeframe, should self-isolate and refer to the “Symptomatic, Tested +” column.

Refer to NJDOH Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation Guidance for more information. Updated guidance recommends time-based over test-based strategy for return to work. Re-testing is not recommended in most cases, it results in prolonged isolation of persons who continue to shed detectable SARS-CoV-2 RNA but are no longer infectious. https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-QuickRef_Discontinuation_Isolation_and_TBP.pdf

NOTE: Recommendation for self-isolation/quarantine is to stay/sleep in a separate room from others living in the home and use a separate bathroom (if possible). This includes not being in close contact with household members (i.e., not sharing meals and spending time together in common areas) or going to work or out in public other than for health care. Wash hands often and clean and disinfect household items. To locate a testing site near you: covid19.nj.gov/testing.

Returning to Campus for Students and Employees after Exposure to Suspected or Positive COVID-19 Diagnosed Person(s)

If a student or employee has exposure to a person(s) who meets the criteria for being symptomatic for COVID-19 **or** who tests positive for COVID-19, the School will require they follow these recommendations based on the CDC’s Public Health Recommendations for Community-Related Exposure:

Person	Exposure To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual who has had close contact (< 6 feet)** for a prolonged period of time *** (<i>This would include classmates and teachers</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Person with COVID-19 who has symptoms (in the period from 2 days before symptom onset until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation; can be laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) Person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (laboratory confirmed) but has not had any symptoms (in the 2 days before the date of specimen collection until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation)

In the event a student, faculty or staff member experiences a qualifying exposure, on or off campus, as defined above, they must adhere to the following before returning to campus:

- Stay home until 14 days after last exposure
- Follow other CDC Public Health Recommendations for Community-Related Exposure

Residential and Campus Life

Return to Campus

We have always been a resilient community that will never be truer than in the coming academic year. Each of us must do our part to take care of ourselves and one another — remaining flexible in ever-changing circumstances, adopting new norms, and adhering to public health requirements that will limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect us all. This Spring will be unlike any other, but the reward for embracing our shared responsibility will be great: a return to our treasured residential and academic community where all members can thrive.

- A negative PCR or rapid Covid test is required for any student to return to school. Results should be emailed to cschmidt@purnell.org.

- Students will return at 4:00 PM January 11 and begin spring semester classes on January 12.
- Physical distancing, mask wearing, and limitations on gathering sizes will be a part of campus life.
- We will adjust our off-campus permissions for students and ask all community members to practice safe habits on and off campus. Outside activity and visitors to campus will be restricted.

Dorm Life

- Students will be required to maintain physical distancing and wear masks when in the presence of others, including while inside dorms. When in the dorms you must wear a mask, if you are in your own room, by yourself with the door closed you do not need to wear a mask. However each student should have a mask in their possession at all times.
- Students must wash their hands regularly, and restrooms will have capacity limits. All halls will be cleaned and disinfected by our Housekeeping Staff on a daily basis, with students assisting with cleaning efforts on a rotating schedule. All breezeways will also be equipped with hand sanitizer stations. Signage and reminders will be placed throughout all dorms.
- Dorm Parents and Admin on will monitor activity on the halls and will work with students to ensure compliance with physical distancing and health and safety measures. Floor Leaders will also play an important role in creating a dorm culture where communal health and safety are priorities. Recognizing that supervising students at all times is not feasible, we will also rely on a shared trust and partnership with students.
- No Day Students are permitted to enter the dorms or be in any of the dorm lounges or rooms.
- Furniture will be left in rooms that are intended for additional occupancy. Students are not permitted to cover the extra beds in their room as all “extra” surfaces need to be able to be wiped down and sanitized.
- Designated trash bins will be in the dorms for disposing of masks.
- All students will be able to keep their cell phones within the first week of school, however use of cell phones will be limited to 9pm-10pm during weekdays for the first two weeks of school.

Hygiene

- A morning and evening hygiene routine will be in place for the Fall 2020 for all boarders.
- All dorm restrooms will have capacity limits.
- Health guidelines and protocols, including those for hand-washing, cleaning and disinfecting, will be posted on halls, near entries and exits, outside restrooms and in common areas throughout all dorms.
- Students will have allocated sinks, showers, and stalls in the bathroom on their hall. They will not be permitted to use the facilities in other dorms. We are providing single rooms to all boarding students to reduce any density and facilitate physical distancing.

Dining Hall Procedures

- Dining operations and formats, for example, will be adjusted. Masks are required in all buildings, including classrooms, dining facilities, dorms, and in outdoor settings where physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Cleaning and disinfecting protocols consistent with CDC standards.
- Plexiglass partitions will be on each table, with a limited number of people sitting per table.
- All seats are assigned in the dining hall for the entire semester, this must be adhered to at all times.
- Buffet style self-service, including hot stations, salad bars, and beverage stations will not be available. All food and beverages will be either pre-packaged for you to take or served to you from behind a counter by a Sage Food Service worker wearing appropriate PPE.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at each entrance of the Dining Hall.
- All food will be clearly labelled and easily accessible.
- Crew will be very limited.
- Reusable bottles/mugs may be used in the Dining Hall, however further restrictions will apply, these will be shared in orientation.
- No outside tupperware or other containers can be used for food storage.

Boarding Students Weekend Leave and Return Policy

- **Emergency Planning:** Boarding families need to provide the School with their plans and designated local contacts to assist student(s) in case of medical emergency or a campus closure.
- All parents, guardians and/or parent proxies must be able to collect their student within a 5 hour window if determined by the health center/administrator, regardless of time of day. This proxy/guardian must be reliable to respond. In the event that no proxy/guardian is available, the student will be required to be picked up immediately by her parent/guardian.
- All parents, guardians and/or parent proxies must be reachable throughout the day and evening. Purnell must be provided the best number to call in case of an emergency.
- We ask all students to limit all unnecessary personal travel, and limit weekend and evening activities when off campus.
 - Group slumber parties are prohibited unless masks are used consistently.
- Families should continue to practice safe physical distancing, mask wearing, and hand washing when students are home for weekends or when day students return home after school.
- Household members should refrain from indoor activities without a mask.
- Boarding students under suspicion of Covid-19 plan:
 - Students are required to be vigilant in wearing masks until either;
 - The MD has cleared the at home student because it happened to be a viral, e.g. something like a strep throat.
 - The MD opted for testing & had to wait for the test results. If the results are positive, then the dorm floor will all self quarantine on campus for 14 days or they can self quarantine at home for 14 days.
 - The positive student will return with a negative result & a doctor's note clearing them to return.
 - A negative result 5 days after exposure and without symptoms, no one at school quarantines at any point.

Purnell Pledge

Purnell's core values remain constant, but these very values call for temporary changes which are necessary to protect everyone, our students, faculty, staff, and community to the best of our abilities. To provide everyone on campus with a reasonable sense of security, we must all agree and know that everyone else on campus has agreed to abide by certain behavioral guidelines. These guidelines may be modified and further specified over time as changes require. The following pledge will be printed for every student and explained during Orientation.

Pledge

- I understand, as a member of the Purnell community, that I am an important part of the school and that the community is stronger when we all do our part to keep the Purnell campus safe. I understand that the health and safety guidelines below are necessary to protect the health and safety of others in my community and beyond.
- I understand that violations of this contract could result in being sent home. Purnell takes serious behavior that jeopardizes the health and safety of others in the community and will respond appropriately.
- I agree to take daily wellness checks, monitoring symptoms, being tested as recommended by health professionals, and tracking my contacts should I test positive.
- I agree to abide by all federal, state, city, and Purnell mandates, policies, protocols, and procedures related to COVID-19. I agree to participate in any required training.
- I agree to maintain physical distance (6 feet) from others whenever possible.
- I agree to wear a mask/facial covering when I leave my dorm room.
- I agree to effective hand hygiene: washing my hands frequently for at least 20 seconds before and after interacting with others throughout the day.
- I agree to wipe down high touch surfaces with which I come in contact, including but not limited to desks and tables, dorm room handles.

Social Life and Recreation

- I agree to refrain from organizing, hosting, or attending events, parties, or other social gatherings off-campus that may cause safety risks to me and other members of the community.
- I agree to follow all new COVID policies which Purnell has set in all aspects of

community life.

- I agree to congregate only in designated outdoor and indoor areas of campus, wearing a facial covering, maintaining adequate physical distance, and complying with all signage.
- I agree to sit only in seats designated and clearly marked in classrooms and other campus buildings.
- I agree to follow procedures for entering and exiting classrooms.
- I agree to refrain from having guests, including family members on campus.
- I agree to wear gloves and a mask and maintain appropriate physical distance when travelling home.

Community

Protecting Myself

- I agree to monitor for the symptoms of COVID-19 and report to a medical professional if I experience fever of 100.4 F (38 C) or higher, dry cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste or smell.
- I agree to wash my hands often with soap and water and use hand sanitizer.

Protecting Others

- I agree to maintain appropriate physical distancing, especially in classroom settings.
- I agree to stay home if I feel ill or after exposure to someone who is ill or has tested positive for COVID-19.
- I agree to notify the Health Center if I feel ill or have been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- I agree to wear an appropriate face mask and other protective gear as directed by Purnell.
- I agree to be positive, considerate, and helpful to anyone around who may be troubled or struggling.

Protect Our Community

- I agree to keep my clothing, belongings, personal spaces and shared common spaces clean.
- I agree to participate in testing and contact tracing to preserve the wellness of the community.

- I agree to carefully observe instructional signs and follow directions.
- I agree to observe and uphold all Purnell's COVID-19 policies.

Health Center

Health Center Guidelines

- The HC is open 7:30am - 10pm M-F & on Weekends 8:30am - 9:30pm.
- Access to the HC is limited to necessary visits which include sick & well visits, medication administration & appointments.
- Masks must be worn at all times while in the HC & physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required.
- Upon entering & leaving the building all are required to use hand sanitizer.
- All unused beds in the HC will remain stripped down to the vinyl mattress covering for easy disinfecting. Only when a student is admitted to that bed will the bed be made.
 - Upon discharge from the bed, it will immediately be stripped & the bedding put in the laundry bin which is kept in the utility closet.
- All chairs made of cloth will be removed from the HC or covered in plastic slip covers.
- No Parents, guardians, proxies or visitors will be permitted in the HC. This includes any outside visitors or services such as ACT or SAT prep, outside therapist.
- Laundry service will be moved to Boynton Breezeway.

Overall Traffic Patterns

- Traffic patterns have been modified to ensure minimal traffic passing the bedrooms. This eliminates the flow of well students & employees passing through a potentially sick section of the HC. It also ensures a peaceful, quiet rest area for those not feeling well.
- Offices in the Health Center have been relocated to the Classroom Building and the Library (Ms. Browne, Ms. Shaw, Dr. Torres).

Temperature Check Procedures

- Day students will have their temperature checks & Covid-19 screening done at the HC door.

- 5 day & 7 day boarders will have their temperatures checked & screened for Covid-19 symptoms twice daily, First check will be done before mandatory daily breakfast or before morning meeting. The Second check will be done during mandatory study hall in the evening. The nurse will come around to each study hall location & assess the students where they are.
- All employees will be required to respond to a daily screening for Covid-19 symptoms and exposure & do self temperature checks.
- If any employee is exhibiting symptoms of Covid they are to call or email Chrissy Schmidt, Joe McPeak, or Vicky Browne
- If any day student is not feeling well, especially if they have a fever, they are to stay home & attend classes remotely if they are able. A parent/guardian/proxy must call into the HC & advise the nurse of the situation & absence before 8am.

In and Out Protocol

- All students will still sign in and out of the HC.
- Students will no longer be flipping their In/Out card, the nurse will now do this.
- For general In/Out, clipboards are now kept at the west end of the building (the parking lot entrance to the HC).
- There will be a partition that prevents students from accessing the rest of the HC. This partition creates a vestibule at the entrance allowing for an area to sign in & out.

Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival

- No one is permitted to enter any building on campus without having their temperature checked & screened for Covid-19 symptoms.
- All day students & students who arrive from an extended period of time off campus will have their temperatures checked & screened for Covid-19 symptoms before entering the HC to sign in.
- After the student has signed in she will then sanitize her hands & leave through the same door.

Dismissal

- Students will dismiss from the west end of the building.
- Students will now wait for their ride in their room, a dorm lounge, student day room or outside the HC.

- Once their designated person arrives they will ring the HC bell to have the nurse come down to verify their driver matches their pre-approved permission.
- The student will sign out on the clipboard in the vestibule & the nurse will watch them leave.

Sick and Well Visits

- Plans and resources for isolating students who test positive for COVID-19 and quarantining close contacts, including the provision of health care and the ability to participate in classes remotely.
- We now have a sick waiting area for students that aren't feeling well. This area will be curtained off from well students coming into the HC to take their daily medications. This area is located outside the nurse's exam room. Potentially sick students will be admitted directly through the exam room door.
- Well visits are considered, splinters, blisters, paper cuts, scrapes & injuries. These students will enter through the nurse's office door.

Students Who Are Being Sent Home Under the Suspicion of COVID-19

- Purnell does **not** test for Covid-19, all that are suspected of having Covid-19 will be sent home & will contact the student's pediatrician & follow their recommendations.
- Any student who is determined to have symptoms of Covid-19 & is suspected of having Covid-19 will immediately be isolated in the HC's isolation room. The student will **not** be permitted to leave the isolation room for any reason. This means she will not be permitted to go back to her room to gather belongings.
- Parent/guardian/proxy will be notified immediately of the situation & will be required to come pick up the student **within 5 hours**.
- The student will receive all of her meals in the isolation room which will be delivered by the nurse who must use full isolation precautions by wearing appropriate PPE & taking all precautions to limit the spread of any contagions.
- There will be no visitors allowed in the isolation room.
- There will be a separate waste basket for PPE directly outside the isolation room.
- The nurse will maintain contact with the parent/guardian/proxy & the nurse is to be notified immediately of any positive Covid-19 results & of any pertinent information from the pediatrician.

A Confirmed Case of Covid-19 Reported to Purnell School

- The nurse will notify Bedminster's Department of Health of any confirmed cases of Covid-19 & CDC guidelines will be followed in regards to quarantine & isolation & when to discontinue quarantine & isolation. See above section labeled: [Suspected COVID-19 Diagnosis: Care and Procedures](#).
- Contact tracing will determine who will be quarantined for 14 days and removed from campus.
- Anyone in quarantine that exhibits any symptoms of Covid-19 will move to the HC immediately, admitted into isolation & will be sent home as indicated above.
- All that are in temporary quarantine on campus will be monitored & assessed daily.
- All in temporary quarantine on campus will receive meals in their rooms or the Health Center.
- All in temporary quarantine on campus will attend classes remotely from their room, if able.

Academics

Simultaneous In-person and Remote Instruction

Students will attend in-person classes. At the same time students will be provided with the classroom materials and resources on our learning management system for times that they are not able to attend class, while following the proper permission and absence protocols. Remote learning is available for students who themselves have immuno-compromising conditions or family member with immuno-compromising conditions.

***** Families must determine by December 18 if their daughter needs to learn remotely due to medical reasons. A Google Form will ask for your decision. This decision is for the 3rd quarter lasting from January 12 - spring break, without exception. Families choosing the remote option must have a medical reason pertaining to Covid-19 to choose this option. If you have questions, please contact [Anne Glass](#) or Chrissy Schmidt.**

Distancing in the Classrooms

In the classroom students will wear masks and adhere to the physical distancing protocol. All common spaces including classrooms have been carefully measured and arranged to provide for safe distancing.

Disinfecting Protocol in the Classroom

Students will have assigned seating in the classroom. At the end of class students will wipe down surfaces (desks and chairs). In addition, per our nurse and consulting physician teachers will disinfect the classroom before each class.

Co-Curriculars Activities

Athletics

- We are actively working to provide the best athletic and co-curricular experience possible this year but cannot yet provide detailed guidance about any specific sport or activity at this time.
- Similar to previous years, we will provide students the opportunity to engage and actively participate in performing arts, community service, lifetime and recreational activities, fitness activities, intramural activities, training, and, if conditions permit, interscholastic competitive play.
- If interscholastic competition is not viable, our team offerings will include developmental opportunities such as: skills/drills training, strength & conditioning, small group directed coaching, and game strategy.

Performing Arts

- COVID-19 also creates specific challenges for each of the performing arts, but we intend to offer meaningful and comprehensive opportunities in the arts in the coming year.

Community Service

- The expectation of our students meeting their Community Service hours is still the same. This year we will offer a variety of on campus activities and options to focus on raising awareness as well as partaking in projects that will benefit others. During this time, our focus is on outreach and activism.

Weekend Options

- While operating under COVID-19 precautions, it is our expectation that most of our weekend activities will take place on campus. All our activities will be

innovative, taking a focus on Health & Safety, Kindness, Social Justice, Community Service, and Mindfulness. The same weekend sign up process is in effect, students are expected to sign up for one activity each day and will be held accountable for that obligation.

- Please note that trips off campus will be limited and carefully planned.

Transportation Guidelines

Bus Transportation Policy

- Drivers and passengers must wear face coverings at all times while in any Purnell vehicle.
- Drivers must wear face coverings even when there are no passengers.
- Passengers are to sit in a staggered pattern. Students will sit one person per seat with masks on at all times. No one sits in the seat directly behind the driver's seat.
- All school vehicles will have hand sanitizer for use at the start and end of every ride.
- For Minivans - passengers must sit in the last row, with the middle seat stowed away or removed for easier access.
- Passengers load from back to front, exit front to back. No walking past another passenger. The first passenger on the bus sits in the last row and exits last.
- All passengers enter and exit from the passenger side.
- All vehicles have been measured to calculate maximum capacity of riders including the driver.

Contingency Plan

It is important to note that while we are fully committed to resuming in-person education, we understand that the public health conditions, and the course of the pandemic may change at any time. Should conditions ultimately preclude campus being open, we will be prepared to support the continued academic progress of our students as well as student life activities, and counseling. Our remote learning program will be in operation all semester for those students studying off campus and for those students who may become ill.

We are counting on every member of our staff, faculty, students, and families to abide by these best practices in order to keep our campus safe.

In the even that any member of our community becomes ill, you will be notified immediately and we will report to our county and state health officials.

It is our hope and fact-based strategy that by beginning the school year early and by enforcing proven preventative protocols that we will have a healthy and complete fall term. We thank you for your collaboration with Purnell to ensure a semester of learning and growth in a safe environment.

Please direct any questions you may have to reopening@purnell.org. We will use this email to update frequently our FAQ document located on our Reopening page.

We wish all of our families and staff a healthy fall,

Purnell School