



BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

2022-2023
RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN



Well-being

Everything we do is with the
BFA Community in mind.

The BFA Campus will reopen on August 4 with updated guidelines in place that have been carefully considered to address and promote the safety, health, and welfare of our community.

These procedures have been thoughtfully developed with local, state, and national guidance to ensure the best standard of care. BFA recognizes that plans are subject to change based on advisement from governing agencies.

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We strive to balance the community's need for information with the uncertainty of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. This plan is based on the most recent information available as of July 21, 2022.



BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

Fall 2022 Learning Options



Two Learning Options

**ON-CAMPUS
LEARNING**

OR

**REMOTE
LEARNING**

**OUR DECISIONS ARE GUIDED BY
GUIDELINES & INFORMATION FROM
THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:**

- Centers for Disease Control
- World Health Organization
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- Georgia Department of Education
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- Other Metro Atlanta Schools, Public and Private
- Georgia High School Association
- Southern Association of Independent Schools
- Atlanta Area Association of Independent Schools

BFA's COVID-19 Task Force is constantly monitoring available information and will make the best possible decisions for our community.



OPTION 1: ON-CAMPUS LEARNING

In this option, a student will attend on-campus classes as scheduled. BFA will continue to practice social distancing guidelines by reducing the number of students on campus in each house and in each classroom at a given time, while also allowing students to experience the benefits of in-person learning in the classroom environment.

BFA will continue to offer all clubs and extracurricular activities, in accordance with public health guidelines, since almost everyone on campus has been fully vaccinated.



KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE: ENHANCED MITIGATION MEASURES



Throughout the day, we will regularly disinfect student desks and commonly touched surfaces, such as door handles and stair rails, with a commercial disinfectant. Classrooms will be sprayed in the evenings with a commercial disinfectant.



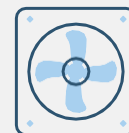
We have social distancing signage around the campus.



All members of the school community have access to touchless hand sanitizer stations throughout campus.



We have moved some of the furniture to storage and will still use some individual desks/chairs to enable social distancing.



We have air filtration systems to regularly purify the air in our classrooms and gain more access to outside air.



We will follow public health guidance regarding the usage of facial coverings and temperature screening as needed. (See page 6)

STOP!



THE SPREAD

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

General Health Guidelines

Check-In: Students, faculty, staff, and guests will continue to follow the check-in procedure, which involves symptoms screenings and, as needed, temperature checks.

Masks: At this time, masks are optional inside the buildings. Outside, no one is required to wear a mask.

Extracurriculars: Lunchtime and after-school extracurricular activities will be offered during the fall semester.

Classroom Guidelines

Seating: Classrooms will allow for proper distancing between students and teachers. Individual desks have replaced a few of our larger tables.

School Supplies: Students must bring their own laptop or tablet (with webcam, charger, and headphones), supplies, and textbooks (e-books when possible) to school with them every day. Teachers will not be able to share supplies or texts with students as they did before COVID-19. We will continue to decrease the use of paper in the classroom.

Lunch & Snack Guidelines:

Limited Kitchen Access: The kitchens, including coffee stations, will be available at break and lunch ONLY. We will limit accessibility to the kitchens to a few people at a time. Students may use microwaves, coffee pots, and urns. All students are asked to bring their own lunches.

Snacks & Drinks: Students may use the water fountains and water coolers and will be provided with pre-packaged snacks during break times. Students are encouraged to bring their own additional snacks, if desired.

Food Deliveries: Parents may order food for their student's lunch to be delivered between 11:30 am -12:15pm.

Lunch: Lunch will be from 11:30am - 12:30 pm so that students may participate in clubs and SAT/ACT Prep over lunch. Students will report to "their house" for lunch unless they are taking part in a club.

Outside Seating: Students may eat outside on nice days, taking advantage of outside seating.

ON-CAMPUS SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

In conjunction with consultation from our public health resources, we can hold in-person classes by following these guidelines:

- Ability to practice social distancing guidelines with a smaller number of students in classrooms.
- Establish a protocol for visitors: calling the front office before entering, screening visitors, etc.
- Visitors who have been exposed to COVID-19 or have tested positive for COVID-19 should reschedule their visit and follow CDC guidelines for "Close Contact" or "Positive Test."
- Restrict nonessential visitors and volunteers.

Daily Schedule:

7:30-8:00 am:	Students & Teachers Arrive & Check- In *
8:01-8:05 am:	Morning Meeting/ School Announcements/ Advisory Meeting
8:06-8:50 am:	Period 1
8:51-9:30 am:	Period 2
9:31-10:00 am:	Break/Mid-morning Meeting/Current Events
10:01-10:40 am:	Period 3
10:41-11:20 am:	Period 4
11:21-11:30 am:	Clean-Up/ Advisory Meeting
11:31-12:30 pm:	Lunch/Study Hall/Clubs/Faculty Meetings
12:31-12:35 pm:	Afternoon Check-In */Meeting/School Announcements/ Advisory Meeting
12:36-1:20 pm:	Period 5
1:21-2:00 pm:	Period 6
2:01-2:30 pm:	Break/Mid-afternoon Meeting/Current Events
2:31-3:10 pm:	Period 7
3:11-3:50 pm:	Period 8
3:51-4:00 pm:	Clean-Up/Advisory Meeting/Dismissal

* The Junior House students will check in at the Carriage House entrance.

* The Senior House students will check in at the Media Center entrance.

PROGRAM TIMES:

AM Program: 8:00 - 11:30 am

Longer Day Option 1: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Longer Day Option 2: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

PM Program: 12:30pm - 4:00 pm





OPTION 2: REMOTE LEARNING

In this option, BFA will offer students fully online instruction via live digital interaction with teachers and other students. Students will follow BFA's synchronous remote learning model while receiving an unparalleled academic experience.

In the event of a government-mandated quarantine, **ALL** students will follow the Remote Learning schedule.



Remote Learning Summary

BFA's synchronous remote learning model allows teachers and students to recreate the school day at home, following BFA guidelines on dress code and classroom behavior, through the following avenues:

- A daily schedule of instruction followed by students live on Zoom.
- Teachers available to answer questions and provide personalized help during Zoom sessions.
- Meetings with the advisor so students can maintain connections with their advisory teacher.
- College and school counselors available for scheduled individual Zoom or phone meetings.
- Digital platforms including:
 - Blackbaud Learning Management System as the primary method for communicating assignments and plans.
 - Google Drive to keep open communication between teachers and families via Weekly Sheets.

School Growth in Digital Learning

- We use a Learning Management System (Blackbaud) for remote learning.
- Our teachers have attended focused professional development sessions to prepare a remote learning experience, and to explore ways to provide more experiential, hands-on learning to supplement classroom sessions.

SELECTING A BFA LEARNING PLAN

BFA is proud to continue fulfilling our mission and provide our high-quality education to all students, even during these exceptional circumstances.

BFA will offer an On-Campus Learning option as well as a Remote Learning option for all families with COVID-related concerns. Families may choose one of these two learning options.

Families may switch from On-Campus to Remote Learning, or vice versa, at any time throughout the school year by: (1) submitting advanced written or emailed notification to Amy Barnes, and (2) receiving approval from the Registrar's Office.

*Please note, tuition rates will not be influenced by program choice.



How to Calculate Quarantine After a COVID-19 Exposure (Depending on Vaccination Status)

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

**IF YOU
Were
exposed to
COVID-19 and
are NOT up to
date on
COVID-19
vaccinations**

Quarantine for at least 5 days

Stay home

Stay home and [quarantine](#) for at least 5 full days.

Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) if you must be around others in your home.

[Do not travel.](#)

Get tested

Even if you don't develop symptoms, [get tested](#) at least 5 days after you last had [close contact](#) with someone with COVID-19.

After quarantine

Watch for [symptoms](#)

Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

Avoid travel

It is best to [avoid travel](#) until a full 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

If you develop symptoms

[Isolate](#) immediately and [get tested](#). Continue to stay home until you know the results. Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) around others.

Take precautions until day 10

Wear a well-fitting mask

Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a well-fitting mask.

If you must travel during days 6-10, [take precautions](#).

Avoid being around people who are [more likely to get very sick](#) from COVID-19.

**IF YOU
Were
exposed to
COVID-19 and
are up to
date on
COVID-19
vaccinations**

No quarantine

You do not need to stay home **unless** you develop symptoms.

Get tested

Even if you don't develop symptoms, [get tested](#) at least 5 days after you last had [close contact](#) with someone with COVID-19.

Watch for symptoms

Watch for [symptoms](#) until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

If you develop symptoms

[Isolate](#) immediately and [get tested](#). Continue to stay home until you know the results. Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) around others.

Take precautions until day 10

Wear a well-fitting mask

Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a well-fitting mask.

[Take precautions if traveling](#)

Avoid being around people who are [more likely to get very sick](#) from COVID-19.

How to Calculate Isolation After Testing Positive for COVID-19

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

Calculating Isolation

Day 0 is your first day of symptoms or a positive viral test. **Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.** If you have COVID-19 or have symptoms, isolate for at least 5 days.

**IF YOU
Tested
positive for
COVID-19 or
have
symptoms,
regardless of
vaccination
status**

Stay home for at least 5 days

Stay home for 5 days and [isolate](#) from others in your home.

Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) if you must be around others in your home.

[Do not travel.](#)

Ending isolation if you had symptoms

[End isolation after 5 full days](#) if you are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and your symptoms are improving.

Ending isolation if you did NOT have symptoms

[End isolation after at least 5 full days](#) after your positive test.

If you got very sick from COVID-19 or have a weakened immune system

You should isolate for at least 10 days. Consult your doctor before ending isolation.

Take precautions until day 10

Wear a well-fitting mask

Wear a [well-fitting mask](#) for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask.

Do not travel

[Do not travel](#) until a full 10 days after your symptoms started or the date your positive test was taken if you had no symptoms.

Avoid being around people who are [more likely to get very sick](#) from COVID-19.

Additional Resources

- **Georgia Department of Public Health:**
 - <https://dph.georgia.gov/>
- **Georgia Department of Public Health COVID-19 Testing:**
 - <https://dph.georgia.gov/covidtesting>
 - District 3-5/Decatur/DeKalb Health District:
<https://www.dekalbhealth.net/>
 - COVID-19 Testing Line: 404-294-3700 (Option 1)
- **Georgia's COVID-19 Hotline:**
 - [\(888\) 357-0169](tel:8883570169)
- **CDC Resources:**
 - **How to Protect Yourself and Others:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>
 - **COVID-19 Symptoms:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
 - **Quarantine and Isolation:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>
 - **COVID-19 and Children:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/symptoms.html>
 - **COVID-19 Prevention in Schools:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>
 - **Communication Tools:**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/index.html>

