

The Well School is preparing to open campus for the 2020-2021 school year for in-person and hybrid learning. In response to the Guidance that has been received from the <u>CDC</u> and the <u>State of NH</u>, we have created our initial re-entry plan. Our intent is that this plan will be in place until December 19, 2020 (Winter Break), but we acknowledge that this plan is fluid and could change at any time based on new information.

As a school, we feel confident that our small size, our three buildings, and ample outdoor space lends to an environment that we can safely return to campus. We have always used our outdoor space to explore, now we will do it even more!



Hygiene:

All students will be instructed on appropriate hand-washing techniques by our staff when they return to campus. We will increase the number of times students and staff are washing their hands throughout the day. Proper hand-washing will help us reduce the risk of spreading germs. We have also increased our hand sanitizing stations in classrooms and throughout campus.

Person Protective Equipment (PPE):

Students will be expected to wear masks at pick-up and drop-off, they also may be asked to put them on at times when physical distancing is not possible. Students will not be asked to wear masks in the classroom except in cases where close contact cannot be avoided, or at the specific request of their parent or teacher. All teachers and staff (adults) on campus will be asked to wear masks and/or shields when interacting with students and other adults.

If your child does not have a mask, our school has been receiving PPE from the State of NH. We have disposable masks, gloves and face shields that are available to all students and staff.

Cleaning:

We have implemented a new and extensive cleaning protocol. Traditionally, our upper school students perform jobs at the end of the day. We feel that Jobs is a valuable program that instills ownership and leadership in our older students, however, we will need to modify what Jobs will look like in the fall. We may still implement some form of Jobs in their primary classrooms/areas, however, the primary cleaning and disinfecting will be done by staff, not our students.

Screening / Illness / Sick Policy:

We are carefully researching the best way to screen our students and staff on a daily basis. We will have a screening process in place that follows the recommendations set forth by the CDC, and the State of NH. Our intention is to streamline the process to allow for an easy drop off transition while safely ensuring the health of our students and staff.

Should a child feel ill at school, we will have an isolation room, monitored by a staff member, for them to wait until a parent can pick them up. More information on our sick policy including when a child should stay home and how long to stay home, will be available in the coming weeks.

Visitors:

We will limit the number of visitors on campus and require screening prior to entry to ensure the safety of our students and staff. All visitors, including parents, will be required to wear a mask on campus.

Tuition:

We are working with our Board of Trustees to examine our tuition rates if the need to return to remote learning is present. We will update our families once a policy on tuition is finalized and approved.

In-person Learning Environment:

In order to keep small numbers of students and faculty cross-over, we will divide our students and staff into pods (self-contained groups). The pods will consist of:

Preschool: Cubs and Bears

Lower School Pod 1: Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade

Lower School Pod 2: 3rd grade and 4th grade

Upper School Pod 1: 5th and 6th grade Upper School Pod 2: 7th and 8th grade

The purpose of the pods (self-contained groups) is to reduce the number of students and staff congregating in any given area. For example, pods will stay together for recess or Upper School PA. Pods will have shared hallway space and bathroom facilities. There will be no mixing of pods throughout the day to minimize the risk of cross contamination.

Hybrid Learning Environment:

Our school has adopted Google Classroom as it's online learning platform. We are preparing for hybrid learning and remote learning, should it become necessary.

Our teachers are working to become certified on Google Classroom and the Google Suite for Education. If a student needs to stay home due to illness, quarantine, or the family is not comfortable with returning to school yet, we will support them with a blend of synchronous and asynchronous school work.

Note on remote learning:

The Well School operates independently from the ConVal School District. We do follow their snow cancellations and delays to allow for consistency for families when there is a snow storm. However, if ConVal decides to teach remotely for any other reason than a statewide mandate by the State of NH, The Well School may choose to, but is not required to do so.

Pick Up /Drop Off:

We will be modifying our current pick up and drop off procedures to reduce the number of people on campus. Our intention is to make the process efficient and safe for students, staff, and families. More specific information will be forthcoming.

Bus Transportation:

The Well School is working within the guidance on our bus transportation for pick up and drop off. Students will be required to wear a mask while on the bus to and from school.

Field Trips:

To reduce the need to organize transportation of students to and from off campus vistits, we will not have field trips planned for the fall.

Classroom Instruction:

Students will be seated with a minimum of three feet between them, or a clear plastic barrier to attain the physical distancing required. Students will not be required to wear a mask in their classroom unless physical distancing is not attainable. Staff and teachers will use masks (See PPE). Supplies will be individualized or sanitized between use.

We intend to utilize our vast outdoor space to conduct as much class time as possible outside. Windows and doors will be open to allow for airflow in our classrooms and buildings. When the weather changes, we will adjust our protocols to ensure proper airflow and ventilation are achieved.

Substitute Teachers:

Should a teacher be out due to illness or quarantine, we have been working on compiling a list of individuals who are willing to substitute teach. We do have some staff members who are available to help. If you, or someone you know, would like to be placed on the list, please reach out to TJ Mackey, Head of School for more information at tjmackey@wellschool.org.

Specials:

Specials are an integral part of our student's experience at The Well School and we want to ensure every student still has the opportunity to engage in Spanish, PA, Handwork, Music, Art, and Theater while on campus. All Specials teachers will teach in the primary classrooms or outside. Having our Specials teachers teach in the primary classrooms will minimize the cross-over between classes and materials. Supplies will be individualized or sanitized between use.

Lunch:

Lunch will be served to all students who participate in our lunch program. We will be modifying our lunch service to avoid gathering in the lunch room, however, students will still have the opportunity to receive their lunch and eat either outside or in their classrooms depending on grade and primary teacher preference. Snacks should not be shared.

After School Activities:

Our staff is working diligently on creating our after care program and study hall. Both will be modified to ensure the safety of our students and staff, but we are committed to providing this program for our families that will run until 5:30 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

Fall Sports:

At this time we do not have a clear picture of what our fall sports programs will look like. As we get closer to the school year, we will update families on our plans, but right now it is just too soon to know if we can safely offer element soccer, travel soccer, cross country, and lower school soccer.

Events/Gatherings:

<u>Saturday School Days</u>: At this time we are not requiring students and/or families to attend Saturday School Days. We may or may not be offering them depending on the current situation at the time of the event. We will make sure all families are informed on the status of each Saturday School Day prior to the event.

<u>Mountain Day:</u> We have not finalized our decision on Mountain Day. Although, we can hike safely, it may be a challenge to keep physical distance and transportation for our students may be an issue. We are still discussing if potentially pods can hike separately. More information on Mountain Day to come!

<u>Parent Orientation:</u> Parent orientation will look different than in the past. We will not gather in the theater, then break off to individual classrooms, instead we are working on a plan that allows the primary teacher to decide the best method. As the school year approaches, we will inform parents as to how parent orientation will occur.

<u>Camping Trips:</u> Camping trips are, and have always been a highlight of our 3rd through 8th grade student's year. We want them to experience a class camping trip, therefore, we have decided that the fall camping trip will be moved to spring, so that our students can still have this experience as a class. Final details will be shared later in the year.

<u>All School Meeting:</u> Our traditional All School Meeting will look different this year. We are looking at ways that our students can interact while physically distancing. We have very creative students and staff who will be brainstorming ideas and ways to keep this fun Friday afternoon activity. More information on All School Meetings will be available as we near the beginning of the school year.

<u>Coffee House, Poetry, and Plays:</u> Each class will still perform music as a class with our Music Director, plays with our Theater Director, and perform poetry. We are unable to gather as we normally do in the theater, but we have the ability to record the class and offer a video for viewing.

Reading Buddies:

For the fall, we are postponing Reading Buddies. We will continue this valued program as soon as it is safe to do so.

Morning Coffee Klatch:

Unfortunately, we will have to postpone morning coffee klatch in the Community Kitchen due to reducing the number of people on campus and gathering in groups. We will resume as soon as it is safe to do so.

We believe that if we all work together we can create a healthy, safe environment for our students and staff. Please understand that this plan is fluid. We are adjusting daily to new and improved methods, additional information on how to proceed, and always adapting to what is best in terms of safety for our students, staff, and families. We will be updating our families as soon as information becomes available and are grateful for the continued support our school has received from our community. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back on campus this fall!