



Fall 2020 Campus Reopening Plan

St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School

Version 2: August 31, 2020

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INTRODUCTION

On March 12, 2020, St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School announced that it would be closing its school buildings and other facilities and moving to virtual learning for all students as part of the District of Columbia's efforts to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus. By that time, Day School faculty and administrators had been working on what would become our Remote Learning Plan to guide instruction during the closure.

Initially, the Senior Administrative Team (Head of School and Assistant Heads of School for Academics; Development; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; and Finance and Operations), Division Heads, and Assistant Division Heads led the pandemic-response and school-reopening planning efforts with the hope and expectation of reopening school sometime during the spring. While the circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic and the District of Columbia's response never allowed that reopening to occur, that effort shifted to planning for the fall of 2020 and came to include the Board of Trustees Pandemic-Response and School-Reopening Task Force and a host of faculty and staff committees. This Fall 2020 Campus Reopening Plan, which will remain a work in progress, reflects the work of those entities and individuals during the last six months.

Along the way, administrators and faculty and staff took robust advantage of the range of publications, advisories, presentations, webinars, and networking calls that enabled us to learn more about the medical, instructional, technological, and operational realities in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and our response as an institution and a community (see the figure below, "Guidelines and Knowledge Base"). Having relied on a multitude of resources from within and well beyond our community, we also intend to seek outside review of this plan, including by the District of Columbia Department of Health and other medical and public health professionals, to ensure that it meets emerging standards as knowledge continues to evolve.

Throughout the summer, the Head of School and Division Heads have conducted regular (generally weekly, including six times from late June to mid August) Town Hall meetings with parents via videoconference, meetings that were well-attended and recordings of which were subsequently shared with the entire parent body. Many of the components of this plan have already been presented to the community in the Town Hall format, although particular details have changed as we moved to respond to the emerging knowledge base. At different points along the way, we have also surveyed our [faculty and staff](#) and parents [here](#) and [here](#) regarding their perspectives on the Remote Learning Plan, [faculty and staff](#) and [parents](#) regarding their perspectives on and concerns about returning to on-campus learning, and [faculty and staff](#) and [parents](#) regarding their plans for the 2020-2021 school year. Recognizing that these initiatives have done much to inform this reopening plan, we are grateful to all of the members of our community for their participation.

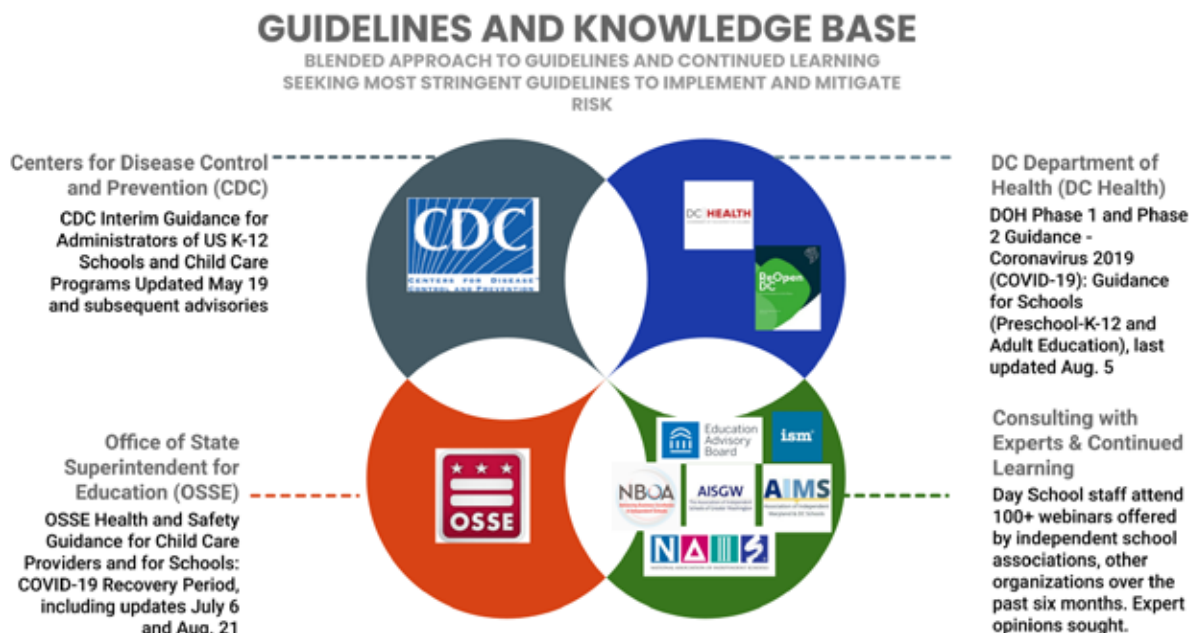
ONGOING DECISION-MAKING REGARDING EXPANDED REOPENING

St. Patrick's is eager to open our doors to all of our students, across grade levels, and it is with both sadness and determination that we take this first step of inviting our youngest students for on-campus learning while their older schoolmates begin the school year engaged in remote learning. The plans and protocols included in this document will provide the way forward for us to welcome all of our students onto campus in a responsible way, once we are confident that it is safe to do so, based on public health conditions. Guiding that ongoing decision-making process will be the effectiveness of these protocols when we have students here on campus as well as factors that are more external to St. Patrick's. Along the way, we will be monitoring measures of community transmission of COVID-19, including the number of cases reported in the District of Columbia, the positivity rate for those who are tested for COVID-19, the rate at which individuals with COVID-19 transmit the disease, and the percentage of those who test positive who have already been quarantined through contact-tracing efforts.

The ongoing planning process will continue at both the Board of Trustees and senior administrative levels, as outlined above. That process will continue to reflect the measured, deliberate approach that has characterized it to date. At every step along the way, we will put the health and safety of our students and our faculty and staff, at the center of our conversations. We recognize the hardships that remote learning introduces into the lives of our families and look forward to the time when all of us can be together, in a safe and healthy way, at St. Patrick's.

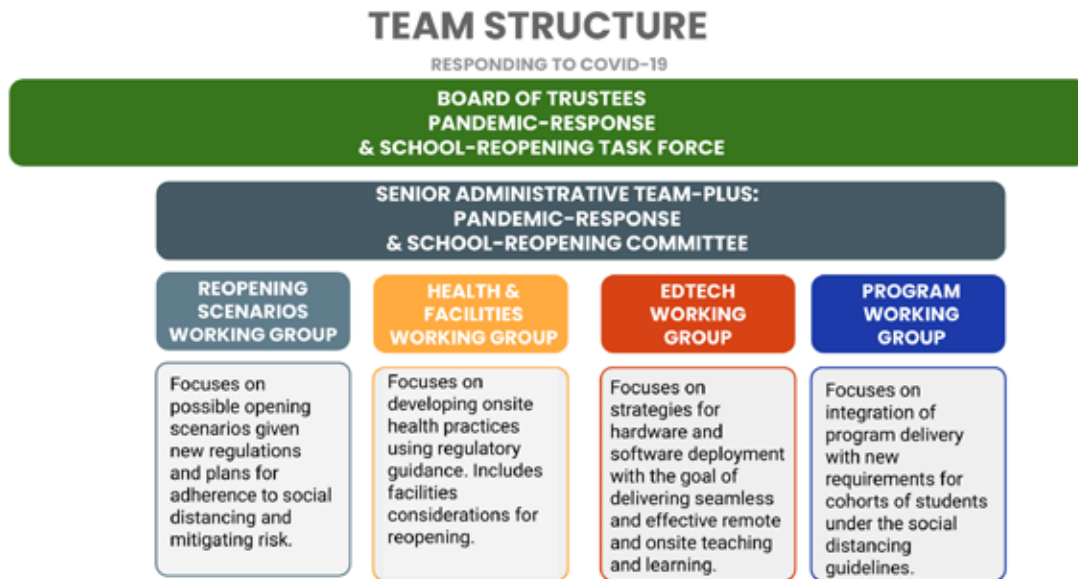
GUIDELINES AND KNOWLEDGE BASE

[The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) provide guidelines for the reopening of Kindergarten-Grade 12 schools and childcare programs, the latter through the Office of State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). In particular, St. Patrick's has relied on DC Health's recommendations as articulated in OSSE's "[Health and Safety Guidance for Schools: COVID-19 Recovery Period](#)" (most recent update: August 21, 2020) and "[Health and Safety Guidance for Child Care Providers: COVID-19 Recovery Period](#)" (most recent update: August 21, 2020) as a roadmap for developing this plan. DC Health will also review this plan upon the completion of a draft.



STRUCTURE OF COMMITTEES

St. Patrick's has relied on a working group and committee approach to organize the various planning aspects as they relate to reopening safely and responsibly in the fall. The figure below, "Team Structure," shows this structure and the goals associated with each group. This committee work has continued throughout the summer and will remain intact as we move into the fall so that we can address any issues arising during the school year using this same structure, knowledge base, and guidelines.



OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The underlying guiding principles used in decision-making across the entire structure included:

1. All discussions concerning the reopening of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School keep at the center the health and safety of students, faculty and staff, and the wider community of St. Patrick's and beyond.
2. Guiding those discussions are recommendations made by medical professionals and public-health officials, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health).
3. We believe that—whenever possible and in ways that protect the health and safety of the community—on-campus, in-person teaching and learning offer the most effective setting for promoting the ongoing growth and development of our students—cognitively, academically, socially and emotionally, spiritually, and physically.
4. Given the possibility/likelihood of at least intermittent school closures to slow the spread of COVID-19, along with the certainty that not all students or teachers will be able to participate in on-campus learning for reasons of health (broadly stated), the Day School must also have available a robust remote-learning plan that is accessible on an equitable basis to all of our students and families, promotes sustained student engagement, and supports continuity and depth of learning, continuity and depth of community, and continuity and depth of care. In addition, some elements of that remote-learning plan will be deployed even in on-campus settings, as we seek to maintain the health and safety of students and faculty and staff in our cohort-based framework.
5. Parents should have a certain degree of flexibility in choosing the preferred educational setting for their children, based on health considerations (broadly stated), but the Day School's need to plan its

instructional program, to group students appropriately for that program, and to protect the integrity of the small, stable cohorts that comprise the optimal setting for teaching and learning during the coronavirus pandemic will require some constraints on that flexibility.

6. School-based efforts alone will be unsuccessful in promoting the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, and wider community. Instead, all members of the Day School community must recognize, and act upon, their shared responsibilities, both in and out of school, to engage in and promote healthy behaviors themselves and by their children and other family members as advised by medical professionals and public-health officials to slow the spread of COVID-19. Recognizing how quickly COVID-19 can spread within a community, the choices that all of us—adults as well as children—make with respect to our behaviors, both in and out of school, will ultimately determine our success in this undertaking.

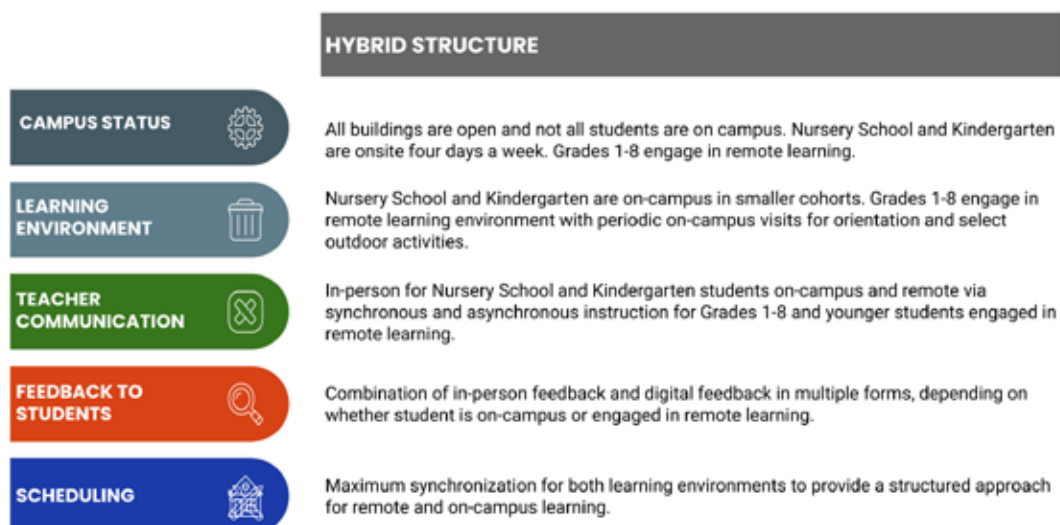
SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN AS OF AUGUST 12, 2020

On August 12, 2020, we announced the [following plan for reopening in a letter to the Day School community](#):

St. Patrick's will reopen on campus in September for children in our Infant-Toddler Center, Nursery School, and Kindergarten, although parents of those children can choose remote learning. All students in Grades 1 to 8 will begin the year engaged on a remote basis in St. Patrick's Anywhere, Our Continuous Learning Plan. We will revisit this decision by October 1, drawing on the experience of our first three to four weeks of on-campus learning with our youngest students as well as on District of Columbia and Washington metropolitan area public-health data and emerging research on the effect of COVID-19 on children.

While students in Grades 1 to 8 are engaged in remote learning, we will also offer them a variety of on-campus opportunities to come together as learning cohorts in outdoor, appropriately distanced activities with their teachers and each other, building relationships that will be of particular importance if remote learning persists. We should recognize that the fluidity of the situation continues to mean that our youngest students might have to join their older schoolmates in remote learning for the start of the school year. but we hope that will not be the case.

FALL 2020 OPENING SCENARIO



Our decision to begin with only our youngest students on campus reflects the real challenge (although not the impossibility) of engaging these children in remote learning, to which they may have to move at some point during the year; the recognition that the play-based Nursery School and active, hands-on Kindergarten programs offer abundant opportunities for outdoor teaching and learning; and physical-plant realities that have these two groups of about 90 learners (depending on how many parents choose to have their children on campus) animating widely separated sections of the building, reducing the density of both our interior spaces and our outdoor teaching and learning spaces (including tented areas) as the year opens. Parents should note that the Nursery School and Kindergarten programs will be on campus four days a week, with the fifth day devoted to remote learning. (Some of those families have already chosen to begin the year with remote learning.)

COMMUNITY-WIDE EXPECTATIONS TO KEEP ST. PATRICK'S SAFE

This Fall 2020 School Reopening Plan largely spells out the steps the Day School has taken, or will take, to promote the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, and wider community during the coronavirus pandemic. However, school-based efforts alone will be unsuccessful in promoting everyone's health and safety. Instead, all members of the Day School community must recognize, and act upon, their shared responsibilities, both in and out of school, to engage in and promote healthy behaviors themselves and by their children and other household members as advised by medical professionals and public-health officials to curb the spread of COVID-19. Recognizing how quickly COVID-19 can spread within a community, the choices that all of us—adults as well as children—make with respect to our behaviors, both in and out of school, will ultimately determine the success of our plan to provide on-campus learning for St. Patrick's students. By sending your children to St. Patrick's for on-campus learning, you are agreeing to act in a forthright and otherwise responsible manner that promotes the best interests of all of the students, faculty and staff, and families that comprise the Day School community and of the wider communities of which we are a part.

Specifically, we expect all members of our community to act in accordance with the health and safety protocols set forth in the Fall 2020 Reopening Plan and to commit to the following best practices at all times. A failure to comply can result in required quarantining of the student, loss of the ability to participate in on-campus learning or, in extreme cases, separation from the community.

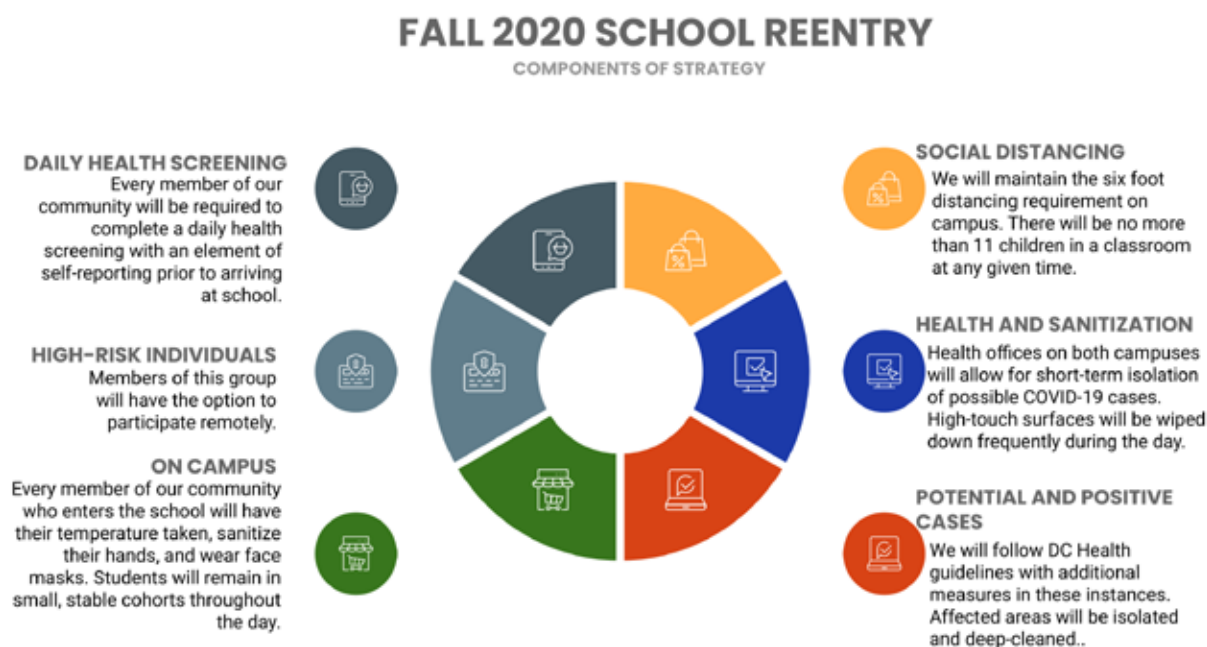
- **Follow Federal, State, and Local Public-Health Orders:** Our students and families and faculty and staff come from two states and the District of Columbia. We expect all households to comply with or exceed applicable directives from federal, state, and local departments of health regarding measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- **Report Symptoms:** Families and faculty and staff must report symptoms and temperatures via Magnus Mobile in an accurate and forthright manner before coming to school each day. We will also take students' temperatures here at school upon arrival. Symptoms include fever or chills, congestion or runny nose, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and new loss of taste or smell. If your child has any of these symptoms, please report them to the Health Office (nurses@stpatsdc.org) in addition to reporting them via Magnus.
- **Stay Home If Sick:** Parents/guardians must keep their children at home—and members of the faculty and staff must stay at home rather than come to school—if they are sick or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms and alert the Health Office (nurses@stpatsdc.org) to those symptoms. Parents/guardians and members of the faculty and staff should clear a return to school with the Health Office.

- **Stay Home If Exposed:** Parents/guardians must keep their children at home—and members of the faculty and staff must stay at home rather than come to school—if there is reason to believe that there has been exposure to someone who is infected with COVID-19 or who is awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test and alert the Health Office (nurses@stpatsdc.org) to that possible exposure. Parents/guardians and members of the faculty and staff should clear a return to school with the Health Office.
- **Limit On-Campus Visits:** Parents/guardians must limit their onsite visits to emergencies only. Any parent/guardian or visitor needing to be onsite will be expected to adhere to all safety protocols as stated in the Reopening Plan.
- **Travel:** Families should avoid non-essential travel. St. Patrick's will rely on the Mayor of the District of Columbia's directive regarding non-essential travel to identified high-risk states that requires individuals returning from those locations to self-quarantine for two weeks upon return, even with a negative COVID-19 test.
- **Large Gatherings:** All household members should avoid large gatherings, whether those gatherings are indoors or outdoors, and any gatherings at which appropriate protocols are not in place, including social-distancing and mask-wearing.
- **Face Masks:** St. Patrick's will provide students and faculty and staff with cloth masks to be worn at school each day. Please remember to keep those face masks laundered and to make sure your child has two clean masks, preferably of the same color, each day upon departure for school. All household members should be wearing masks in public places. All individuals above the age of two years old must wear masks when on the St. Patrick's campuses, except as provided elsewhere in this document.
- **Hygiene:** Individual hygiene can play an important role in slowing the spread of COVID-19. All household members should practice and reinforce proper handwashing, coughing/sneezing behaviors, appropriate distancing, and other good habits at home and out in the wider community.
- **Medical Forms and Emergency Contacts:** Parents/guardians must upload required student health forms with Magnus before the start of the school year and make sure that emergency contacts are current, including at least two individuals who can promptly pick up a child who has become ill at school. Parents/guardians must also make certain that children's immunizations are current. Public health officials are concerned about outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases if children are not getting immunized during this challenging time.
- **Seasonal Flu Shots:** All students and all members of the faculty and staff must receive flu shots, unless there are health reasons they cannot receive a flu shot documented by the individual's healthcare provider.
- **Outside-of-School Activities:** In planning students' outside-of-school activities, parents/guardians must be mindful of the Day School's reliance on small, stable cohort groups as the unit of instructional organization, designed to limit the number of individuals with whom any one student comes into contact and thereby slow the spread of COVID-19. While St. Patrick's will not be in the position of reviewing and approving parents'/guardians' plans for their children, we offer the following guidelines:
 - Outdoor activities are preferable to indoor activities, but only with proper protocols
 - The protocols observed by any out-of-cohort activity, organized or more casual, should match St. Patrick's: Consistent symptom-screening, masks required, physical distancing, handwashing/sanitizer
 - Avoid indoor playdates with students outside of a child's cohort
 - Self-quarantine upon return from any high-risk states

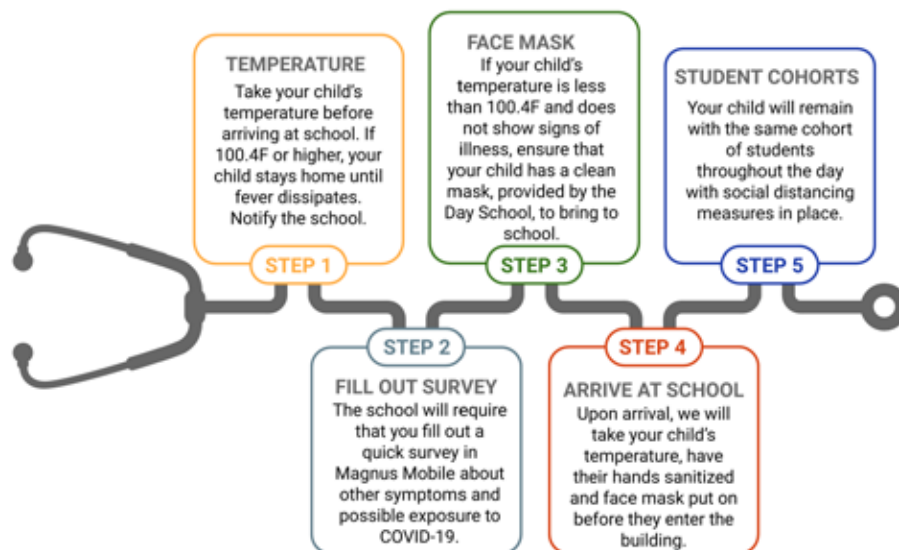
HEALTH AND SAFETY

St. Patrick's is implementing the strategy components shown below for our fall 2020 reopening based on current guidelines from the CDC, DC Health, and OSSE. In order to keep students, faculty and staff, families, and the broader community as healthy as possible, we recognize that the entire St. Patrick's community must work together and meet our individual and collective responsibilities to keep each other, and ourselves, safe and healthy. Even as we work to deploy and to comply with these strategies, St. Patrick's cannot guarantee that the campus will remain virus-free and that students or faculty and staff will not contract COVID-19.

The figure below, "Fall 2020 School Reentry," captures the various health- and safety-related components of our reopening plan, based on CDC and DC Health guidelines, the efforts of our faculty and staff working groups, and the numerous consultations, webinars, and networking opportunities in which administrators and faculty and staff have participated. We then look more closely at each of those components individually.



DAILY HEALTH SCREENING



DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

St. Patrick's will require that all students and their families and all faculty and staff will support the Day School's effort to reduce the impact and spread of COVID-19 by taking specific steps daily before their arrival at school.

Step 1: Temperature

Parents/guardians must take their child's temperature before arriving at school. If the child's temperature is 100.4 or higher, the child's parents/guardians are to contact their healthcare provider for further guidance as well as the Health Office. The child is to stay home from school for 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol).

Step 2: Complete Survey

Parents/guardians must complete a daily COVID-19 self-assessment for each child via Magnus Mobile before leaving home. Members of the faculty and staff must also complete the self-assessment, the COVID-19 Daily Survey, which serves as a daily health baseline for the child or adult prior to entering the school each morning. *[Magnus Mobile can be accessed by searching and downloading the app for Magnus Mobile V2 from the AppStore on the parents'/guardians' smart device. Parents/guardians should login into their account with their Magnus username and password, search for an individual student by First or Last Name or for multiple students by Tracker or by Group, and then select the appropriate student.]* No child will be admitted to the school without this form being completed and submitted by 7:45 AM. Faculty and staff must complete the survey by 7:30 AM. Infant-Toddler Center caregivers must complete the survey by 7:15 AM. In order to enable families to become accustomed to the Magnus Mobile COVID-19 Daily Survey, we are asking parents/guardians to begin submitting the form on August 25, whether or not their children will begin the 2020-2021 school year on campus or in a remote-learning format.

The Magnus Daily Survey asks the following questions, to be answered either "YES" or "NO":

1. Is the student currently experiencing, or have they experienced in recent weeks, any of the following symptoms: temperatures >100.4, chills, cough, shortness of breath, headaches, sore throat, muscle or body aches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or any signs of rash?

2. Has the student been in close contact with a person that has tested positive for COVID-19 or that is awaiting a COVID-19 test result?
3. Has the student had a positive COVID-19 test result in the prior 14 days?

If you answered “YES” to any of the above, please explain to the best of your ability. Should your child have a “YES” answer to any question, the child may not enter school—nor may a member of the faculty and staff—and must contact the Health Office to determine next steps. The individual may return to school when the following conditions have been met:

The individual has been cleared to return by the individual’s healthcare provider with an alternate diagnosis and meets [St. Patrick’s return-to-school guidelines after an illness.](#)

The individual has been tested for COVID-19 and remains home while awaiting test results.

The individual has a negative COVID-19 test **AND** meets [St. Patrick’s return-to-school guidelines after an illness.](#)

If the individual does not complete a COVID-19 test and does not fall into the above-listed categories, the individual must complete the appropriate isolation period:

- 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved, **AND**
- At least 10 days after symptoms first appeared, whichever is later.

Students or members of the faculty and staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19-like symptoms may not be excluded from entering the school building on the basis of those specific symptoms, as long as they have been previously evaluated by their healthcare provider and notified the Health Office of those specific symptoms and those specific symptoms have been determined not to be due to COVID-19, as provided by OSSE.

Step 3: Face Masks

St. Patrick’s will issue all children (above two years of age) and faculty and staff cloth masks to wear at school pursuant to and in accordance with OSSE, DOH, and CDC requirements and recommendations. All students above two years of age will be expected to wear masks, with the duration of wear increasing with the age of the student and older students expected to wear masks for the bulk of the school day, except for short periods when eating. In addition, students in younger grades who rest will not wear masks when resting or sleeping and will be appropriately physically distanced during rest time. All students above two years of age will be required to wear masks when traveling outside of their cohort room for any reason.

Parents/guardians must make sure that their child has a clean mask, plus a spare, to wear at school daily. The School Mask Pack masks meet applicable recommendations for fabric masks for source control. They are not intended for surgical, medical, or industrial use or for use in high-risk situations. None of these products claim or guarantee to prevent transmission of, or infection with, any disease, including COVID-19. In addition to cloth masks, all faculty and staff will also be issued plastic goggles and multi-use face shields, upon request. We will keep a supply of disposable masks on hand in the event a student, a member of the faculty and staff, a contractor, or any other individual needs a mask.

Step 4: Arrive at School

Students will follow a staggered schedule for arrival, and we will designate the doors that students will use, based on grade level, for arrival and departure, all in the interest of avoiding crowding and the loss of social distancing. Upon arrival in the carpool line, all children will place their masks on before approaching the carpool temperature screen. As students enter school, they will use hand sanitizer and

sanitize the bottom of their shoes. Students will report directly to their cohort classrooms rather than report to one of several supervised central gathering places as in years past.

Step 5: Student Cohorts

Students will be assigned to grade-level cohorts as outlined below. The goal is to create small, stable cohorts as the unit of organization and instruction that are balanced in response to parents'/guardians' selection of either on-campus or remote learning for their children. In building cohorts, Division Heads will seek to reduce cross-cohort interactions, for example, by placing twins in the same cohort, attending to the placement of same-grade-level siblings, and putting students who will attend Extended Day, once it is offered, in the same cohort. Division Heads will also be mindful of placing at least one identified friend with a student in a cohort and considering prior student experiences and teacher feedback.

Leading each cohort will generally be a homeroom teacher or learning specialist, at least through Grade 4, while other teachers with classroom experience may lead cohorts in other grades. In the Middle School, which differs from the Nursery School and Lower School in that its academic program is entirely departmentalized and its students arranged in advisories, cohort teachers will generally be those content-area teachers. Cohort teachers will serve as academic and social-emotional coaches, providing support to students in content areas and collaborating with other teachers on content-specific needs. Cohorts will not change throughout the day, with students receiving instruction from special-subject teachers and, in the case of grades that are departmentalized, from content-area teachers via synchronous (streaming devices) or asynchronous classes.

- Students in Nursery classes (three-year-olds) will be in cohorts of no more than eight.
- Students in PK classes (four-year-olds) will be in cohorts of no more than ten.
- Kindergarten to Grade 8 students will be in cohorts of no more than 11 students.

Parents/guardians were asked to submit the Program Selection Form by August 7, indicating whether they planned to have their children begin the 2020-2021 school year on campus or on a remote basis. In order to maintain the integrity of the small, stable cohort, there will not be regular student movement in and out of cohorts—that is, between on-campus and remote learning. Selections made by parents/guardians can be reviewed and revised at mid- and end-of-term moments, roughly every six weeks. Presumably a student can move from on-campus learning to remote learning during each six-week period, but a student cannot move from remote learning to on-campus learning in that same timeframe, unless the student is returning from a brief illness.

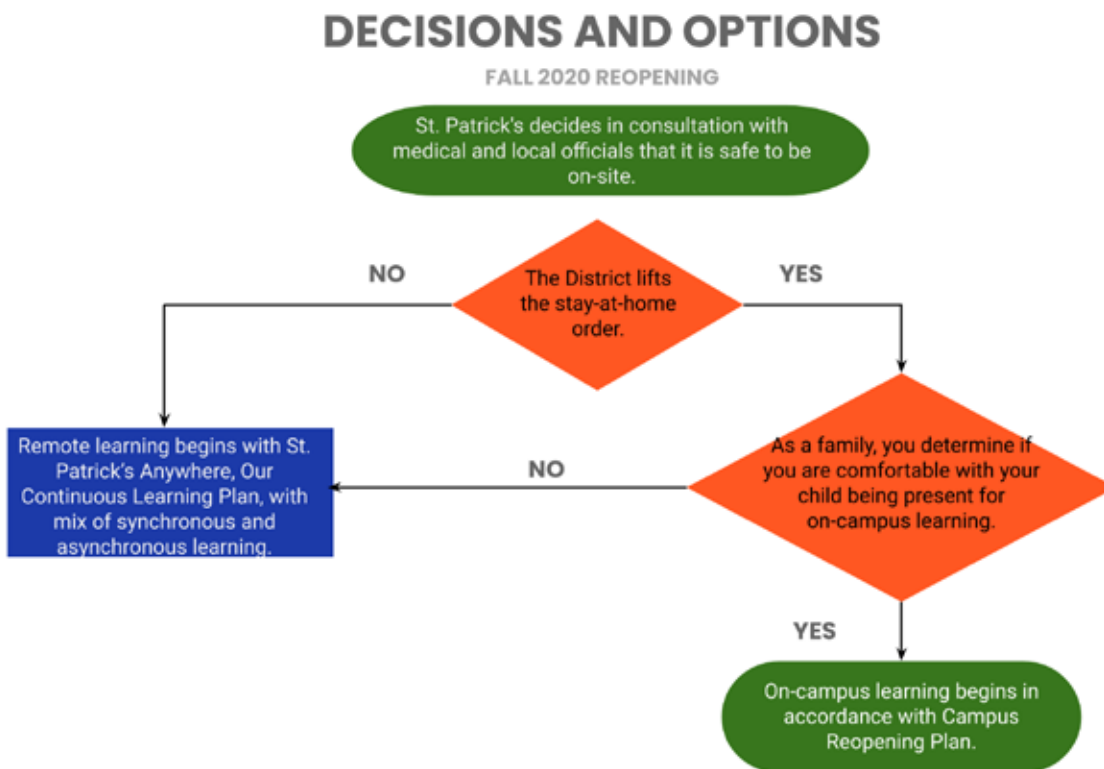
HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS

Members of this group, either faculty and staff or students, will have the opportunity to attend virtual classes or teach and work virtually. The Day School has [surveyed its faculty and staff](#) to determine the need for accommodations with respect to on-site conditions or teaching or working virtually. The Day School also surveyed [its parent body, first in mid-July](#) and [subsequently in early August](#) to determine which students would be learning remotely. Parents did not, and will not, have to demonstrate that the student or a member of the student's household was in a high-risk category. Instead, parents could choose remote learning for their children simply due to concern about returning to school in the context of the pandemic, hence our reference elsewhere to parent decision-making based on "reasons of health (broadly stated)." The figure below, "Decisions & Options," reflects the options available to families.

DC Health recommends that any individuals at high risk for experiencing severe illness due to COVID-19—please find a more complete list of conditions [Medical Condition List](#)—consult with their healthcare provider before attending in-person activities at school. Individuals with the following conditions are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
- Serious Heart Conditions
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Immunocompromised State from Solid Organ Transplant
- Obesity (>30 Body Mass Index - BMI)
- Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
- Any Student or Member of the Faculty and Staff with a Medical Condition not on this list but who is concerned about their safety based on that medical condition.

Please note that St. Patrick's is not required to secure written clearance from high-risk individuals prior to those individuals' participation in in-person activities at school.



GETTING TO AND BEING ON CAMPUS

For many years, St. Patrick's has encouraged carpooling to enable arrival and dismissal times to proceed safely and efficiently, to reduce the impact of the Day School on the surrounding community, and to reduce the impact of the Day School on the environment. However, as part of the Fall Reopening Plan, we will discourage carpooling to avoid mixing children beyond their immediate family and their instructional cohorts. We will also stagger arrival and dismissal times and designate building entry and exit points by grade level so that students can report directly to their cohort-group classrooms. Siblings will be scheduled into the earliest arrival and departure periods.

During on-campus learning, every student will remain in the same cohort and classroom throughout the day for instruction. There will be scheduled recess times for outdoor play with scheduled locations designated to support distancing of cohorts. Students will eat lunch in this same classroom or outdoors. In order to minimize the movement of faculty, we will provide the appropriate technology to enable multiple rooms to receive instruction simultaneously. There will be a faculty member with each cohort throughout the day.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND OTHER VISITORS TO CAMPUS

Parents/guardians must restrict their visits to the Day School to emergency purposes only, such as picking up a sick child from school. If a child has forgotten an essential item at home, the parent/guardian can deliver the item to the reception area on the MacArthur Campus or the Whitehaven Campus, and the receptionist will arrange for the item to be delivered to the child. Parents/guardians will not be admitted beyond the reception area on either campus, except to pick up a child who has become sick during the day. In those cases, parents/guardians will have their temperatures taken before they can proceed beyond the reception area.

Likewise, other visitors will be restricted from visiting the Day School. The Office of Enrollment Management will conduct the admission process virtually, including any tours or visits associated with the process.

Contractors performing essential maintenance or service calls will be required to have their temperatures taken and to be wearing masks upon entering the building. They will also be required to observe appropriate social-distancing measures. To the extent possible, we will schedule maintenance and service calls for times when students will not be in the building.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

We will strive to maintain the recommended six feet between students at all grade levels, even as we recognize the challenges of doing so among our youngest children. Cohort sizes have been determined to be in compliance with existing OSSE recommendations and to provide for appropriate social distancing within the cohort classrooms. We will also control pedestrian flow in hallways and stairwells. Partitions are available for use in classrooms to allow for students to work on collaborative projects while maintaining physical distance. We will also provide markers along hallways, in classrooms, and in other settings in order to assist students in judging what six feet looks like so that they can maintain the appropriate social distancing.

HEALTH AND SANITIZATION

The Health Offices on the Whitehaven Campus and MacArthur Campus will provide a separate, sanitized space for students or adults exhibiting possible symptoms of COVID-19 so that they may be isolated temporarily for care as they await departure from school. On the Whitehaven Campus, we have provided a separate two-room facility (along the hallway across from the science labs) with ready access to a bathroom for the purposes of the Health Office and isolation protocols. On the MacArthur Campus, more routine health needs will be re-routed so that the existing Health Office can be used for the purposes of isolation.

Frequently touched surfaces such as handrails, door hardware, and playground equipment will be sanitized with disinfectant wipes frequently throughout the day. Each classroom will be equipped with disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer for frequent wipe-downs of surfaces and hand sanitization between handwashing breaks.

POTENTIAL AND POSITIVE CASES

When there is a suspected case of COVID-19, which will be determined by the presence of any one of the symptoms, that child or adult will be moved into the Health Office area designated for isolation for care and awaiting departure from school. For students, parents/guardians will immediately be notified and expected to pick up their child within 30 minutes of notification. Any member of the faculty and staff or the parents/guardians of any students with symptoms of COVID-19 are then to contact their healthcare provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is indicated. The Day School will immediately deploy cleaning and disinfecting procedures for any areas and materials with which the student or the member of the faculty and staff has been in contact.

If presenting with COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell), that student or adult may not return to school until meeting the appropriate criteria below:

1. If the individual receives a negative test **AND** the individual meets the [standard criteria for returning to school after an illness](#).
2. If the individual does not receive a COVID-19 test, the individual must:
 - a. Submit documentation from a healthcare provider of an alternate diagnosis and meet the standard criteria to return after illness; **OR**
 - b. Meet symptom-based criteria to return:
 - At least 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved
 - At least 10 days from when symptoms first appeared, whichever is later.
3. Students or faculty and staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19-like symptoms may not be excluded from entering the school building on the basis of those specific symptoms, if a healthcare provider has provided written or verbal documentation that those specific symptoms are not due to COVID-19.

CLOSE CONTACT WITH A PERSON WHO IS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

A close contact is any individual who has been within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes within 48 hours of a positive test or the development of symptoms. If any student or member of the faculty and staff has been in close contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19, that individual must not return to school until having completed the quarantine period of 14 days from the last date of contact with the COVID-19-positive individual or as instructed by DC Health without becoming symptomatic or being diagnosed with COVID-19. A negative COVID-19 test during this period would not shorten the quarantine period of 14 days.

AWAITING A COVID-19 TEST RESULT

The parents/guardians of any student—and any member of the faculty and staff—being tested or evaluated for COVID-19 must alert the Health Office. Any student or member of the faculty and staff must not return to school while awaiting COVID-19 test results. If any student or member of the faculty and staff has been in close contact with a person who is awaiting a COVID-19 test result, that individual must not return to school until the close contact receives the results of the test. If the close contact tests positive, those in direct contact with that individual should seek guidance from their healthcare providers or DC Health, will be contacted by contact-tracers from their jurisdiction, and must quarantine for 14 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19-positive individual or as instructed by DC Health.

If a student or member of the faculty and staff is instructed to quarantine, the individual may return according to these criteria:

1. 14 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19-positive individual, or as instructed by DC Health
2. If the close contact is a household member from whom the student or member of the faculty and staff can isolate, that individual may return to school after a quarantine of 14 days from the last close contact.
3. If the close contact is a household member from whom the student or member of the faculty and staff cannot isolate, the individual may return to school after a quarantine of 14 days from the end of the COVID-19-positive individual's infectious period (defined by 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved **AND** at least 10 days from when symptoms first appeared, whichever is later).
4. A negative COVID-19 test during this period would not shorten the quarantine period of at least 14 days.

CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT

A student or a member of the faculty and staff who tests positive for COVID-19 must consult a healthcare provider and then may not return to school until:

For Symptomatic and Positive Test:

1. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved **AND**
2. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, whichever is later.

For Asymptomatic and Positive Test: An individual who did not show symptoms of COVID-19 but did test positive must consult a healthcare provider and must stay at home until at least 10 days have passed since the positive test for COVID-19, assuming that the individual did not develop symptoms since the positive test.

In either case, close contacts (including all members of the household) must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with the COVID-19-positive individual.

In the event a student or member of the faculty and staff is confirmed to have COVID-19, the Day School will notify DC Health as directed by OSSE. DC Health will, in turn, instruct St. Patrick's on appropriate dismissal and other safety protocols, including specific individuals or groups that may need to quarantine. While close contacts will only be instructed to quarantine if the sick individual is confirmed to have COVID-19, it will be essential that all students and faculty and staff closely monitor for symptoms at all times and stay home and seek medical attention if those symptoms develop.

COMMUNICATION TO DAY SCHOOL FAMILIES AND FACULTY AND STAFF

The Day School has appointed a COVID-19 point-of-contact, as directed by OSSE: Middle School health educator and school nurse Judy Barr, MSN/Ed. The COVID-19 point-of-contact is responsible for ensuring the appropriate steps are followed in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 and acting as the point-of-contact for families and faculty and staff to notify if a child or member of the faculty and staff tests positive for COVID-19.

The Day School will communicate in ways that protect the privacy of individuals and alert families and faculty and staff to a COVID-19 case. Those protocols will include:

- notifying families of students and faculty and staff in close contact with the individual, including the requirement to quarantine for 14 days;
- notifying the entire school that there has been a COVID-19 positive case, that those having been in close contact have been told to quarantine, and that appropriate steps will be taken to clean and disinfect the corresponding areas;
- educating the community to the signs and symptoms of COVID-19;
- referring members of the community to the Guidance for Contacts of a Person Confirmed to Have COVID-19; and
- informing members of the community about options for COVID-19 testing in the District of Columbia.

DC Health will instruct the Day School on dismissals and other safety precautions in the event a known COVID-19 individual came into close contact with others at school.

CLEARANCE BY HEALTH OFFICE

If any student or member of the faculty and staff has been absent from school for any health reason, that individual must be cleared by the Health Office before returning to St. Patrick's.

FACILITIES

A number of facilities upgrades have been implemented based on CDC guidelines as they relate to the areas shown in the figure below.



AIR QUALITY

We have made significant upgrades to our air-handling systems and to our protocols to improve the quality of the air flowing into the facilities. The fresh air is filtered before it is distributed to the various HVAC vents. The recently added devices purify and disinfect the air further to create a safer indoor environment for all building occupants.

Those devices include UV light systems that filter and purify fresh and recirculated air before it is delivered to occupied spaces. We have also installed MERV 9-12 filters on all HVAC systems, including MERV-12 filters on most of the units. (Although we have had some concerns about the impact of MERV-13 filters on the airflow within our system, we continue to study the possibility of moving to MERV-13 filters.) While quarterly changes of the filters is standard, we will change the filters monthly until such time as the health and safety situation allows. Likewise, we have initiated the process of running the air-handling units continuously, with outside dampers open, rather than not running them at night or on weekends, to further purify indoor air.

Portable air purifiers, air scrubbers, and a disinfectant fogger machine are in place for sanitizing the air where there are suspected cases of COVID-19.

The information above, of course, refers to interior spaces. Given the desirability of exterior spaces during the coronavirus pandemic, we have installed three tents in three different locations to promote outdoor instruction and other activities. Those tents will be installed on the grassy area near the diagonal parking spaces along upper Whitehaven Parkway, and on the Foxhall Campus. During the summer, we have also installed the St. Patrick's Garden & Outdoor Learning Space on the Foxhall Campus, which will provide an exciting new outdoor space for use across the grade levels. Students in cohort groups will also have scheduled access to our three playgrounds across each day and week, with regular wipe-downs of the play equipment in those locations.

TOUCHLESS FAUCETS

All bathrooms have been equipped with touchless faucets to ensure that faculty and staff and students can minimize their contact with bathroom surfaces. Not only do these faucets reduce the number of surfaces touched during the day, they also limit the waste of water, which is core to our environmental sustainability goals. In addition, all water fountains in common areas will be limited to water bottle refill only. We will be installing inline water coolers for each classroom to limit the movement of students into common areas during the day.

SANITIZATION

Our operational strategy to prevent the spread of COVID-19 has been to ensure our cleaning protocols follow [CDC guidelines](#). These guidelines encourage institutions to consider the important differences between cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting and recommend the best chemicals to use and how to apply them. We know we need different protocols for different circumstances. For example, if we have an individual who tests positive for COVID-19, either a student or a teacher, that particular classroom will need to be closed for a certain period of time for disinfection. We will continue to use the CDC guidelines, along with other occupational and environmental recommendations, to learn and implement the safest and most current practices in school facilities. Likewise, we will seek guidance from DC Health with respect to sanitization when an individual tests positive for COVID-19.

SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASES

We are planning for separate and distinct protocols for any adult or child who tests positive for COVID-19. The office or classroom in which that individual works or studies will need to be closed for a certain period of time for disinfection. For suspected cases, we will implement CDC guidelines, along





with other occupational and environmental recommendations, including immediately closing off and sanitizing the affected area. We will also seek guidance from DC Health with respect to sanitization. Portable air purifiers and scrubbers are available for deployment in these situations.

In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case in a student or a member of the faculty and staff, the Day School will follow all steps outlined by DC Health as well as the cleaning, disinfection, and sanitization guidance from the CDC, including:

- If seven days or fewer have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, the Day School will
 1. Close off areas used by the individual who is sick.
 2. Open outside doors and windows, as possible, to increase air circulation in those areas.
 3. Wait up to 24 hours, or as long as possible, before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle.
 4. Clean and disinfect all areas used by the individual who is sick, including classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas.
- If more than seven days have passed since the individual who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary, and routine cleaning and disinfection should continue.

LEARNING MODELS

St. Patrick's has established three possible approaches to opening this fall. We have prepared for any of these three approaches and expect it is possible that we will employ each of them at different points of the year. Any decision to move from one model to another will be driven by a holistic approach to indicators of the course of the coronavirus pandemic in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, applicable directives emanating from the Office of the Mayor, and the recommendations of DC Health.

OTHER POSSIBLE SCENARIOS FOR REMAINDER OF SCHOOL YEAR		
	ONSITE WITH MODIFICATIONS	REMOTE LEARNING ONLY
CAMPUS STATUS 	All buildings are open with all available spaces designated as classrooms to allow for smaller student cohorts.	All buildings are closed.
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT 	All grades on campus with smaller student cohorts.	St. Patrick's Anywhere: Our Continuous Learning Plan only.
TEACHER COMMUNICATION 	In-person and real-time.	Remote via synchronous and asynchronous instruction.
FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS 	Combination of in-person feedback and digital feedback in multiple forms. Ongoing real-time and asynchronously.	Almost entirely digital feedback in multiple forms.
SCHEDULING 	Highly structured and driven by master schedule. Sometimes influenced by shared facilities.	Mostly flexible, influenced by student age and maturity.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NURSERY SCHOOL STUDENT

When on-campus instruction is possible, Nursery School students whose parents select onsite instruction will be on campus four days a week. While Friday has traditionally been a half-day for Nursery School students, it will become a full day, and Wednesday will be a day of remote learning for all students to match up with Wednesdays of virtual learning in the Lower School and Middle School. Each Nursery (three-year-olds) and PK (four-year-olds) class will be split into two cohorts, which will be led by the original classroom teaching teams with the support of a third assistant teacher. The cohorts will be assigned to two locations in close proximity to one another. Special-subject classes will be taught remotely by the special-subject teachers. The school day will start with an 8:30 am arrival. Nursery students will end their day at 11:45 am, with their dismissal carpool to begin at that time. Nursery students who will be part of the full-day program (Lunch Bunch) will be dismissed between 2:10 and 2:30 pm. All PK students will be dismissed between 2:10 and 2:30 pm.

Families will have the option of having their children participate in a fully remote program, which will include synchronous classes with students and a teacher at least twice a day and asynchronous activities that students will accomplish when they are not in live sessions with teachers and peers.

SAMPLE PK SCHOOL SCHEDULE

TIME	ON-CAMPUS	REMOTE
08:20 - 08:50 AM	Arrival and Outdoor Play	Play
08:50 - 09:30 AM	Morning Meeting / Interdisciplinary Activity with Cohort	Morning Meeting / Interdisciplinary Activity with Cohort
09:30 - 10:00 AM	Music	Music
10:00 - 10:20 AM	Choice Time	Asynchronous Choice Time
10:20 - 10:50 AM	Story and Snack	Story and Snack.
10:50 - 11:20 AM	Choice Time/Small Group Work	Choice Time/Small Group Work
Noon - 12:45 PM	Lunch	Lunch
12:45 - 01:30 PM	Story Time/Rest.	Story Time/Rest
01:30 - 2:10 PM	Project/Outdoor Play	Office Hours
02:10 PM	Dismissal	Play

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LOWER SCHOOL STUDENT

When on-campus learning is possible, Lower School students (Kindergarten-Grade 5) will have the option of being on campus four days a week or participating in a fully-remote program. Wednesdays will be that fifth day, one of remote learning for all students that matches the schedule for Nursery School and Middle School students.

Each cohort will be led by a teacher acting as an academic and social-emotional coach to guide students through their learning experiences each day. All special-subject classes will be taught virtually by special-subject teachers, even to those students who are participating on campus. In Grade 5, where the academic instruction is departmentalized, students will receive instruction in each of the core academic areas from the dedicated teacher of those subject areas. That instruction will occur via streaming, with teachers engaging students in a virtual classroom setting.

In Grades 1 to 5, students will end their time on campus between 1:30 and 2:00 and participate in some asynchronous lessons after the physical school day ends.

SAMPLE GRADE 4 SCHOOL SCHEDULE

TIME	ON-CAMPUS	REMOTE
07:50 - 08:10 AM	Arrival	
08:10 - 08:40 AM	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
08:40 - 09:30 AM	Art	Art
09:30 - 10:30 AM	Interdisciplinary Activity with Cohort	Interdisciplinary Activity with Cohort
10:30 - 11:00 AM	Recess	Recess
11:00 - 11:50 AM	Science	Science
11:50 AM - 01:00 PM	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess
01:00 - 01:30 PM	Small-Group Work with Half of Group OR Asynchronous Work	Small-Group Work with Half of Group OR Asynchronous Work
01:30 - 2:10 PM	Dismissal	Office Hours
After 02:10 PM	Home Asynchronous Work and Homework	Home Asynchronous Work and Homework

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT

Students in the Middle School will have the option of being on campus two days a week or participating in a fully-remote program. For those on campus, students will have a hybrid program in which they come to campus two days a week and will continue learning at home three days a week, meaning classes meet Monday to Friday. Students will remain in cohorts organized by grade level—whole grades will be on campus at the same time. Our hope is that this approach allows greater consistency in the student experience and also that friends who are not in cohorts can see each other in distanced moments, such as on the field. Grade 6 students will be on campus Monday and Tuesday, and Grades 7 and 8 students will be on campus Thursday and Friday. Students who opt for the remote-only program will be able to participate in classes via Zoom or asynchronously at all times.

In order for instruction to proceed in all subject areas, students will experience much of it via technology, with teachers creating engaging online and Zoom lessons for students to complete. The classroom teacher dedicated to each cohort will guide students through the instruction, serving in a learning-coach capacity.

When onsite, the day is punctuated by several breaks, times when we imagine students going outdoors and using the spaces around us, such as adjacent parkland. In addition to the health benefits of being outdoors, we believe there will be social benefits as well, giving classes time to be together in non-academic moments, appropriately distanced.

SAMPLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

TIME	ON-CAMPUS	REMOTE
08:10 - 08:40 AM	Advisory	Advisory
08:40 - 09:30 AM	Period 1 Class: Spanish	Period 1 Class: Spanish
09:30 - 09:45 AM	Break	Break
09:45 - 10:35 AM	Period 2 Class: Asynchronous Science	Period 2 Class: Asynchronous Science
10:35 - 10:50 AM	Break	Break
10:50 - 11:40 AM	Pod Time/Study Hall	Pod Time/Study Hall
11:40 AM - 12:05 PM	Office Hours	Lunch
12:05 - 12:50 PM	Lunch and Recess	Lunch and Recess
12:50 - 01:40 PM	Period 4 Class: Service Learning	Period 4 Class: Service Learning
01:40 - 02:30 PM	Period 5 Class: Synchronous PE	Period 5 Class: Synchronous PE
02:30 PM	End of Academic Day	End of Academic Day
02:45 PM	Tutorial: Home Asynchronous Work and Homework	Tutorial: Home Asynchronous Work and Homework

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

The Education Technology (EdTech) Working Group was formed in March 2020 as the Day School moved to our Remote Learning Plan. Recognizing that our prevailing learning environment, in pre-pandemic times, thrived on in-person instruction, the working group was tasked with evaluating Remote Learning Plan survey results from both the parent and faculty perspective. An inventory of all software and hardware teaching tools in use as part of our Remote Learning Plan revealed the need for streamlined and efficient content delivery across all grade levels tailored to the age of the student. We are preparing a companion document to share with you St. Patrick's Anywhere, Our Continuous Learning Plan.

The EdTech Working Group's research and collaboration revealed that EdTech tools provide a digital foundation for engaging students in a hybrid learning environment; provide a bridge between how students work on campus and how they work at home; provide for instructional individualization, which will be critical given our recognition that students will progress at different rates as they alternate between the various modes of a hybrid environment; and enable students to collaborate with teachers and other students in a synchronous and asynchronous manner.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PRODUCT EVALUATION

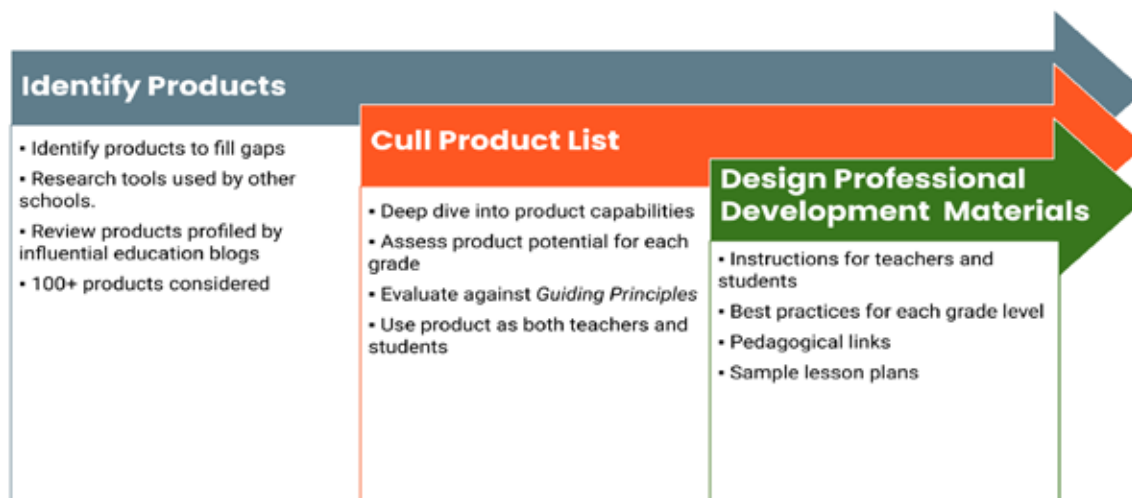
The guiding principles on which this working group relied fell into three categories as shown in the figure below, with ease of use, creativity, and personalization important to each category. Relying on survey data, we worked to address the feedback as well as common themes.



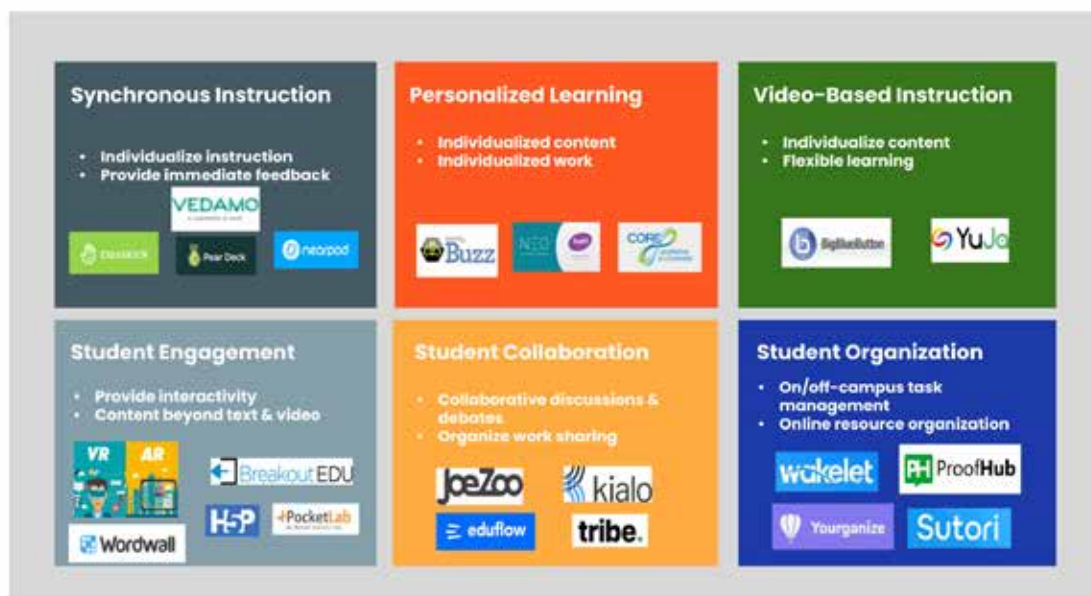
At the center of all of the work that we do at St. Patrick's are our students and our determination to engage them deeply in their learning as we promote their cognitive, academic, social-emotional, moral, and physical growth. The EdTech plan that emerged centers around these elements, followed by consideration of the capabilities and age-appropriateness of identified tools. Regardless of the pedagogy used, the software needed to be adaptable to accommodate more than one teaching method and invite collaboration between student and teacher. We sought out tools that encouraged social interaction among students within their pods.

OUR PROCESS

The working group conducted a comprehensive EdTech market evaluation to identify highly engaging products and provide a significant improvement of workflows when compared to the original Remote Learning Plan deployed in the spring of 2020, while adhering to the EdTech Guiding Principles.



The EdTech tool market review produced a set of products that have the potential to significantly improve the remote-learning environment. Teams of teachers evaluated products for capabilities and suitability for each grade level, with members assuming the roles of both teachers and students to analyze the products for appropriateness. These teams then identified the most important tools for purchase and constructed professional development to help onboard fellow teachers and students.



Student days in a hybrid learning environment were imagined using a design-thinking technique called journey-mapping, which enabled us to identify what a student's day would look like and the product categories best suited to support them. After identifying relevant product categories, specific products were identified with the greatest potential.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & ATHLETICS

All students in the Lower School and Middle School will have physical education twice each week, while students in Nursery School will have physical education once each week. Students will remain in their cohort groups and join one or two other cohorts with each discreet cohort maintaining separate play areas and physical distancing. PE will occur outside whenever possible and, when weather prohibits outside activity, PE teachers will stream directions for non-strenuous activities into cohort classrooms, including activities such as yoga or nutrition education.

We are continuing to explore possibilities for students in Grades 5 to 8 to participate in on-campus, outdoor athletic clinics.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES/ AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

We will not offer After-School Activities/After-School Clubs onsite upon our return to school, although certain activities such as music and yoga lessons may be offered virtually. It is our expectation that other activities typically offered as part of this program will not resume for the remainder of the school year.

EXTENDED DAY

Extended Day has and will always be an integral part of the offerings provided to parents. We recognize the importance of this essential element, but we will not offer this program when school starts in September. We will revisit this decision periodically, with our priority to have our health and safety protocols during the regular school day firmly in place and then, in turn, to ensure that we can offer the Extended Day program in the safest possible manner.

Once we do determine that we can safely offer this program, there will be safety protocols in place that match the protocols during the regular school day. Students in Extended Day will continue to use the same spaces they use during the school day. In anticipation of the start of Extended Day, students whose parents indicated their intention to register for Extended Day have been grouped in the same cohorts so that they can remain in the same instructional spaces they occupied during the regular day.

In addition to all of these protocols, cohorts will be limited to no more than 11 students each, and we will keep each grade level separate. At first, we envision a 5:00 PM, rather than 6:00 PM, closing time for all students enrolled in this program. Parents will have the option to register their children for the total number of days that they will be on-campus. Registration protocols will enable us to maintain the integrity of our Extended Day program cohorts by keeping attendance consistent. All billing will occur in arrears. Refunds will be offered only for days that the Day School calls for closure.

LUNCH PROGRAM

Students will eat lunch with their assigned cohorts and in their cohort classroom or outdoors. During the summer, we interviewed several lunch vendors as part of an RFP process. The Day School moved in this direction so that we can assure our community that the vendor in place uses the most stringent precautions in food handling, preparation, and delivery during the coronavirus pandemic. Ultimately, the Day School chose to remain with the current lunch vendor, Ridgewells. This program was

redesigned to meet all food safety standards and each student will have a choice of three menu options daily. Each meal will be individually packaged and delivered directly to both campuses. For those students who will not be on campus, we will offer prorated refunds.

CONCLUSION

COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread by person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and District health agencies recommend social distancing and other measures to mitigate the risk of contracting the virus. St. Patrick's has planned reasonable preventive protocols, policies, and procedures designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on the Day School's campus for the 2020-2021 school year, which will be updated in response to new information. Despite the protocols and procedures in place to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 on campus, there are inherent risks associated with returning to campus. Those who return to campus acknowledge and voluntarily assume these risks.