



# RE-ENTRY PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

## MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS



August 19, 2020

Dear Village School Families,

Thank you for all your patience and support. We know you are all anxious to hear of our plans for September and we deeply appreciate your kind offers of help throughout this summer. Since school ended in June, we have been working diligently with our teachers and staff to put together a detailed plan for our much anticipated reopening that will ensure the safest possible environment and routines for our students and staff. We have delayed finalizing our specific routines as the recommendations and guidelines from Bergen County, the State of NJ., and the CDC change frequently and have required constant re-evaluation and design changes.

The one thing that will remain constant is the need to come together as a community and support and respect each other as we move through the challenges of this new school year. We are facing challenges that are both novel and profound. This year will test all of us in new and different ways, and how we respond will deeply affect and leave a lasting impression on our students.

Recognizing this, all our decisions are made with attention to two critical priorities; ensuring our students' health and well-being and providing continuity and excellence in their daily school experience. Some of those decisions may be inconvenient or frustrating at times; some may seem to you unnecessary or impractical. Please remember what may seem unnecessary for an individual child may be critical when dealing with a larger group. Our mutual goal is a shared commitment to the protection and safety of our school community. If you have any questions about a decision or policy as we go forward, please call and ask.

As of today, The Village School will return in September in Stage 2 of our previously published reopening document.

Below you will find information that relates to all programs. In the next two weeks, additional information will be provided that will be specific to your child's program level.

We will be scheduling a Town Hall Google Meet to update you on the most current information and any changes on Wednesday, August 26 at 3:00 PM. A link will be provided on that day.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely, Marilyn & Dadmara

# RE-ENTRY PLAN

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### What will the schedule look like when school reopens?

School will be in session for in person learning from Monday - Thursday. Friday will be a virtual school day for all students. We will begin phasing in students in our Middle School and Upper Elementary Programs on Wednesday, September 9th , Lower Elementary on Thursday, September 10th and our Primary and Kindergarten Programs on Monday, September 14th. This will allow us to work through the process of arrival and dismissal in a smooth and organized manner. Specific details regarding your program will be sent later in the month.

*Please note: If you are returning from vacation or have traveled recently you will need to review the State of NJ guidelines for self-quarantine prior to starting school.*



### What about the schedule for remote learning students?

Virtual learning will differ depending on your child's program level. All programs will combine live synchronous learning, asynchronous video lessons, small group lessons as well as scheduled times for individual remote contact with their teachers.



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

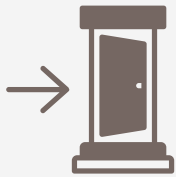


### What will morning arrival look like?



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We will have a staggered arrival for the different program levels, with a temperature check for each child and a brief screening.



Each program level will have a designated entry door and specific route to their classrooms.



Parents will be asked to take their child's temperature and review the school health checklist each morning and make responsible decisions about school attendance for their child before leaving for school. We will provide more details on this process prior to the start of school.



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### How will dismissal take place?

Pick up times will also be staggered by program level.



### What will the classrooms look like?

- Class sizes have been substantially reduced to accommodate social distancing and children will be placed in cohort groups to minimize the possibility of cross exposure.
- Each classroom has been redesigned to provide appropriately spaced seating.
- We have limited the number of students in each cohort to a maximum of 16. Each student will be assigned his/her own desk/table/rug.
- Materials in the classroom will be limited to single use and will be cleaned and disinfected between usage.
- We will be adding smart boards to all classrooms to allow for remote access during class day.
- Specialist classes will be taught virtually for most of the program levels.

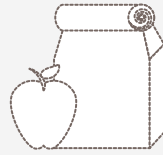


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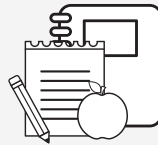
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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Where will students eat their lunch?

All students will eat their lunch or snack at their individually assigned desk. There will be no food service delivery.



### What supplies will my child need for the start of school?

Students will be asked to bring in their own supplies. (A list will be emailed to each family for each program level) Each child will be provided with a school issued Chromebook for use for both in class and virtual use.



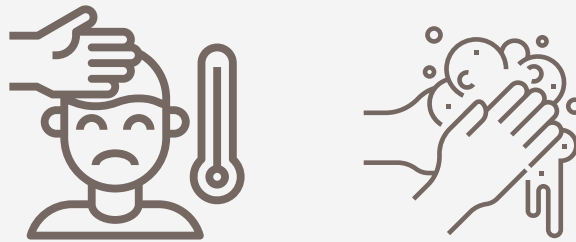
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## Will masks be required?

All students, teachers, and staff are required to wear masks at all times, except for eating. If your child is unable to wear a mask in school they will be required to attend school virtually. As per the most recent guidance from the CDC, face shields are not a recommended as a substitute for face coverings/masks.



## What health and safety measures will be in place when school reopens?

Temperature checks and health screening should occur prior to coming to school daily and will be incorporated into our daily arrival plan. Only staff and students will be allowed to enter school. Students and staff will wash their hands upon entry into the classrooms, before and after snack/lunch/recess, and as frequently as needed throughout the day.



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Hand sanitizer stations are provided throughout the building. Students in Primary/Kindergarten classes will be assisted in using these stations.



Cleaning and disinfecting routines will include frequent cleaning of common areas and high touch surfaces throughout the day. Classroom furniture and materials will be cleaned after use and classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day. Materials that cannot be easily cleaned have been removed



Each program level will have a bathroom designated for its use, and all bathrooms will be single-use only.



Window screens have been made for each classroom, to maximize air flow. We will use our playground and other outdoor areas as frequently as possible. Usage will be staggered so that all cohort groups have equal access.



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### What happens if a student or teacher becomes ill with COVID symptoms?

We will follow the most recent recommendations from the NJDOH, the CDC, and local Health Dept. guidelines. This information is updated frequently. The most recent guidance states the following : ***As provided in CDS guidance, if individuals have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, meaning they are within 6 feet of someone for at least ten minutes, they should self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school. In the case of a positive COVID test, local health departments, working in coordination with school districts, will conduct contact tracing to determine whether or not an individual has been in close contact with a student and advise any affected individuals, via trained contact tracers, to self-quarantine for 14 days. The local health department in coordination with the school will assess the specific circumstances of the individual with the positive test to determine those individuals that have been in close contact and need to self-quarantine – this may or may not include all students in the class.***





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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### How do I prepare my child to return to school?

It is important to make your child aware that their classrooms may look different and that some of the routines have changed since they last were in school, however, their teachers are there to help them and answer any of their questions just like always. It is important to focus on the positive aspect of what we can do as a community and how we will work together to keep our community safe when explaining things like hand washing and mask-wearing to children. In the coming weeks, our teachers will be sharing videos of “What to expect” to help students get a visual picture of this “new normal” and feel more comfortable returning to school. As a parent, please remember your children will feel confident and comfortable returning to school if you model comfort and confidence.

We will be scheduling a Town Hall **Google Meet** to update you on the most current information and any changes on Wednesday, August 26 at 3:00 PM. A link will be provided on that day.



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