

2020-2021

ALEXANDRIA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL'S
REOPENING PLAN

REUNITED
PART I





COUNTRY DAY REUNITED: PART I

Our reopening plan, *Reunited*, will consist of two parts. Part I, the current document, consists of an opening overview and details Country Day's educational plan and many of the safety protocols and procedures. Part II is more specific, providing a walk-through of the school day for your student, and will be released in the next two weeks. For example, Part II will explain morning drop-off locations, afternoon carpool instructions, etc. In combination, these two documents should serve as an ongoing resource and provide clarity as questions arise. Part I and Part II of the *Reunited* Plan will be "living" documents and will be updated as phases advance, we learn more, experience more, and find better ways of serving and safeguarding our community.



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health

Additionally, we are pleased to share that through our recent partnership with Children's Hospital New Orleans, we are receiving consultative guidance from a team of COVID-19 Medical Experts, involving pediatric infectious disease specialists and physicians dedicated to school wellness initiatives just for kids. Country Day and Children's Hospital New Orleans will be working

together throughout the reopening process and into the fall to keep your children as safe as possible by staying informed on the latest COVID-19 precautionary guidelines, medical protocols, and best practices for implementation. Through this partnership, our staff will also have access to consistent guidance training opportunities, a nursing hotline, and supportive resources to offer parents. We are optimistic in our ability to successfully navigate this unprecedented time with a partner that solely focuses on keeping kids and those who care for them as safe as possible.

We encourage parents to [click here](#) to explore informational resources on COVID-19 that have been developed just to support parents.



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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

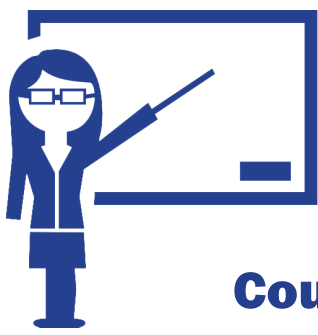
COVID-19 safety recommendations and guidelines are constantly evolving, and sometimes different agencies vary in their suggested measures and responses. Synthesizing the massive amounts of information has been time-consuming, but the effort has produced a *Country Day Reunited* Plan that is realistic, comprehensive, and makes every effort to ensure our community has a thorough understanding of our efforts.

Our plan has been guided by the following principles and objectives:

- Prioritize the health and safety of our community.
- Comply with government orders.
- Follow guidelines from CDC, LDH, AAP, ISAS, NAIS, along with our health partners at CHNOLA.
- Fulfill our mission of providing a challenging learning culture where all students can become creative, innovative, future leaders.
- Prioritize on-campus learning as health and safety conditions allow while offering remote and virtual learning to families as necessary.
- Ensure Country Day's financial strength and stability.



“A commentary published in the journal, *Pediatrics* the official peer-reviewed journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, concludes that children infrequently transmit Covid-19 to each other or to adults.”



EDUCATIONAL FORMAT

Country Day plans to offer on-campus instruction starting August 13.

For those students who cannot return to in-person learning, whether by choice or because of prolonged illness, we will offer a Remote and Virtual Learning option in those classrooms to assist in the continuation of learning. However, Country Day will prioritize in-person learning since it is not possible for teachers to teach to an in-person classroom and deploy a full virtual plan.

- Students on campus will be in “family cohorts,” similar to grade-level homerooms. A family cohort is a smaller subdivision of the grade that will not merge with the other family cohort in that grade level during PE, lunch, and recess. Students will stay in their assigned room, and their teachers will rotate to them for each subject, except in limited cases such as cocurricular offerings.
- Average family cohort size is 16 students, which is less than the maximum group size under Phase 2 Health and Safety Standards for reopening schools.
- If an entire family cohort has to be quarantined, or if there is a required mandate that makes schoolwide on-site learning unreasonable, classrooms will shift to a full and robust virtual plan that will include synchronous and asynchronous instruction.





HEALTH AND SAFETY

To protect our students, faculty, and the entire Country Day community, everyone needs to be committed to following the recommended health and safety guidelines.

Country Day is instituting safety protocols and procedures, but they will be in vain if they are not maintained outside of school. Whether at school or home, please follow these safeguards:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an approved mask and wash reusable masks after wear.
- Limit interactions with people outside your immediate family. When in public, wear a mask and maintain an appropriate distance (close contact is defined as within 6 feet for 10-15 minutes or more).
- Prioritize high-touch surfaces and areas when cleaning and sanitizing.
- Watch for common COVID-19 symptoms or an unusual change in health in members of your house-



HOME HEALTH SCREENINGS

Screen your child(ren) every day before school. A student should not attend school if they have a fever or answer “yes” to any of the following:

- Have you experienced any of the following symptoms within the last 48 hours: cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell/taste, muscle pain, chills, sore throat, gastrointestinal symptoms, fever of 100° Fahrenheit or higher?
- Have you experienced ANY known exposure to COVID-19 in the last 14 days or been within six feet of anyone who was ill?



SCHOOL HEALTH SCREENINGS

- Until deemed unnecessary, we will conduct daily health checks (e.g. temperature and/or symptom checking) of staff and children. We will screen for fevers of more than 100° Fahrenheit.
- We will check the temperatures of campus visitors, vendors, and contractors to ensure a safe school environment.
- Any health checks will be conducted as safely and respectfully as feasible.

HEALTH AND SAFETY



MASKS AND FACE COVERINGS

Country Day will follow the most restrictive mask policy in place for our state or parish.

- Students (grades 3-8), as well as all employees, will be required to wear a face mask at school every day. Students in grades PK3-2nd grade are encouraged to wear masks or shields, especially during carpool and transitions during the day, if they are capable of doing so without additional assistance.
- Students should bring two disposable or washable cloth face masks to school daily.
- If students do not comply with the face mask requirements, for the safety and security of our community, they will be asked to follow the remote learning option.
- Face coverings should be regularly cleaned.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.
- Everyone on our campus is required to always wear face coverings except during lunch and when outside practicing social distancing.
- Country Day will have face coverings available in case persons entering campus forget to bring their face coverings.
- If you carpool with another family, encourage students to wear masks during transit as well.

Please note that face shields, bandanas, or neck gaiters may not be used as substitutes for masks, but may be worn in addition to a mask or at times when a face covering is not possible.



The following types of face masks are acceptable:

- **Washable cloth face masks**
- **Disposable surgical or medical masks**
- **Neoprene masks with a replaceable paper filter**
- **PreK-2 students may wear a shield for protection if they are not capable of wearing a mask**

HEALTH AND SAFETY



STUDENT ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

If a student starts feeling ill at school:

- The student will be assessed by the classroom teacher. The teacher will contact the Division Head who will retrieve and isolate the student in the designated Sick Area.
- A parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the student as soon as possible, no later than one hour after notification. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, the emergency contact will be called.
- Parents must provide a doctor's note that clarifies when a student can return to school.

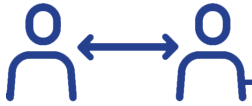


EXPOSURE TO COVID-19



- Students, faculty, and employees may not come to school if they feel sick, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Families should contact the school immediately if their child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19, and/or has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus.
- We require all students or employees that have been exposed, or are highly likely to have been exposed, to COVID-19 to quarantine for 14 days.
- Students and employees who test positive for COVID-19 should home-isolate for 14 days and may not return to campus until they have received clearance from a healthcare provider.
- In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, we will notify local health officials, staff, and cohort families immediately of any confirmed case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by applicable laws.

HEALTH AND SAFETY



SOCIAL DISTANCING AND SCHOOL SPACES

- Seating and desks will be spaced at least 3 to 6 feet apart with students facing the same directions when feasible.
- If used, close communal-use spaces, such as the cafeteria, will have staggered use by family cohorts and be cleaned and disinfected between use.
- We will provide employees with instruction on social distancing in spaces like copy or supply rooms, teachers' lounges, and communal workspaces.
- We encourage employees and students to bring refillable water bottles as water fountains will not be accessible.
- Students will not be allowed to congregate during transition times. Pathways will be predetermined and scheduled to allow for maximum distancing.
- Country Day will schedule staggered times for students to access lockers.
- We will limit the maximum number of persons in the restroom at the same time, and restrooms will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.



HEALTH AND SAFETY



SCHOOL EVENTS AND EXTRACURRICULARS

- We will pursue virtual group events, gatherings, or meetings, when possible, and promote social distancing of at least six feet between people if events are held. This includes Open House, Parent Nights, Pumpkin Shine, Book Fair, Parent Club Meetings, etc. We will limit the group size to the extent possible.
- To the extent possible, we will pursue virtual activities and events in lieu of field trips, assemblies, special performances, and school-wide parent meetings.
- We will pursue options to convene sporting events and participation in sports activities in ways that minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to players, families, coaches, and communities.
- If athletics are permitted and do not compromise our safety protocols, the number of spectators will be limited or the school may live stream the activity for all to watch from a distance.
- If performing arts are permitted and do not compromise our safety protocols, we will require social distancing for rehearsals. This might require more rehearsals with fewer students.
- For performances, we may reduce seating by staggering seating in the theater, etc.
- Playground equipment will be used in rotations to allow time between family cohort usage.



HEALTH AND SAFETY



PERSONAL HYGIENE AND CLEANING

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- We will teach and reinforce handwashing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
- If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
- We will encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Masks that become soiled will be sealed in a bag and returned home for washing.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- We will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g. recess equipment, door handles, sink handles, etc.) within the school at least daily or between uses as much as possible.
- We will limit the use of shared objects (e.g., physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) when possible or clean between uses.
- We will ensure the safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children.

HAND SANITIZER STATIONS

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer dispenser stations have been installed at building entrances and other high traffic areas throughout the campus. Although hand sanitizer can help prevent the spread of the virus, practicing the CDC's proper handwashing technique is considered to be more effective.





VISITOR POLICY

- We are limiting any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations- especially with individuals who are not from Alexandria.
- Country Day may allow parents and volunteers to assist at school, recognizing that they must be treated the same way as any other person entering campus. All screening processes and school policies must be applied to all persons entering the campus.



- In addition, all persons are required to maintain social distancing, wear a facial covering, and wear other protective equipment if they are working with food or assisting in other ways (such as taking a temperature). Country Day may also choose not to allow others back onto the campus to avoid the risk of other potential exposures to COVID-19 by the community and to avoid the necessity of training, supervising, and managing third parties.
- Vendors may require additional access, in which case Country Day will attempt to schedule vendor visits at times when the fewest numbers of students and staff are present (e.g. before and after school).
- Convenience visits, such as allowing parents to have lunch with their child, will not be permitted until it is determined safe. Food may not be delivered onto campus until further notice.
- All visitors to campus are required to wear a facial covering when inside any building. Only when outside and socially distancing is a mask not required.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will morning health screenings take place?

During morning drop off, vehicles will undergo a verbal screening by an employee upon arrival on campus.

A temperature check of the enrolled student(s) will take place through the car window. If the temperature reads above 100° Fahrenheit or higher, the student will be not allowed onto campus. A masked and gloved Country Day teacher will open the car door and student(s) will then proceed to the nearest hand sanitation station and report to their classroom.

What will happen when a positive test for COVID-19 happens at Country Day?

In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, we will notify local health officials, staff, and cohort families immediately of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by applicable laws. Country Day will then follow the guidance of the local health officials and our partners at CHNOLA.

What will happen if my child cannot attend in-person learning? Will there be an option for my child to participate in the learning remotely?

Yes. To the best of our ability, we will provide resources to have your child virtually join the daily in-person teaching.

Will the school conduct contact tracing in the event of a positive test?

We will be able to contact trace to some extent. Students will be in family cohorts and assigned seats, so we will know the students who have been in close proximity because of seating arrangements.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If one of my children tests positive, will my other children be allowed to come to school?

No, if one member of the household tests positive or has been exposed, all members of the household should quarantine for 14 days.

What if my child has a fever and no other COVID-19 symptoms?

We understand that children will have other illnesses that are not COVID-19. At this time, being abundantly cautious is necessary. Students must visit their primary care physician to diagnose the issue and provide documentation for the student to return to school.

Will you require masks on campus for everyone?

All Country Day employees will always be required to have a face covering on their person while on campus. If the individual is outside and properly socially distancing, then the face covering does not need to be worn. If the individual is in their classroom or office with the door closed and alone, then a mask is not required.

All children in grades 3-8 will be required to have a mask on their person while on campus. If they are inside, they are required to wear masks. If students are outside and properly socially distancing, then a mask is not required. A mask is not required while eating lunch if the student is properly socially distancing or in their family cohort. Shields may be used in place of a mask in situations where masks are not required.

Students in grades PK3-2nd grade are encouraged to wear masks, especially during transitions (drop off, pick up, etc.) if they are capable and have practiced doing so without additional assistance.