2020-2021
Guide to Reopening
and Returning
to Campus Safely
Returning to Campus Safely

Our Mission
Southampton Academy challenges and encourages each student to learn and grow through academic experiences that combine innovation and tradition with moral and spiritual values in a supportive family environment.

Introduction
Southampton Academy will provide in-person instruction during Phase III and beyond on our campus beginning August 19th. We will also make accommodations to provide virtual learning options for students and families with significant health risks. Such requests should be made through the headmaster’s office.

As we approach the reopening of SA and welcoming students, faculty, and staff back to our campus, the health and well-being of our SA family is at the forefront of our reopening guidelines. Our administrative reopening plan is guided by federal, state, and public health regulations to ensure best practices in safety and health. We will continue to monitor all health and safety regulations and will recommend changes and/or adjustments to our procedures and guidelines as needed.
Safety Protocols

Returning to SA this fall will require new practices to ensure the safety and health of our students, faculty, and staff. SA is implementing many changes to support physical distancing and best practices to open safely.

SA will be guided by the CDC’s recommendations for schools, and our safety measures will include physical distancing, enhanced health and hygiene procedures, cleaning and disinfecting measures as well as other mitigation strategies. These precautions include, but are not limited to:

- Daily health screenings of students, faculty, and staff
- Providing remote learning accommodations for students and families who have significant health risks
- The use of face coverings by students, faculty, and staff in common areas and when physical distancing cannot be maintained

Faculty and staff will receive professional development and safety procedures training prior to students returning to campus.

To support physical distancing, SA is making adaptations to our campus.
Our Commitment to All Learners

SA understands the on-campus experience is the most suitable approach for the majority of our students; however, we also recognize that some students may not be able to return to campus for reasons related to the virus. In those circumstances, SA will offer remote learning opportunities. To support all of our students, SA will utilize technology to extend the reach of the classroom beyond the physical space on campus to our students at home.

Arrival and Dismissal/Transportation

SA is currently evaluating procedures for arrival and dismissal times as well as transportation services. More information will be provided prior to the start of school. Unfortunately, aftercare will not be available when school reopens.
**Athletics**

Our goal is to resume athletics and extracurricular activities as soon as safely possible. Our ability to do so is determined by government orders and the guidelines provided by the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA).

Please continue to follow school communications for updates on competition schedules.

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**School Lunch**

As we start the school year, students may be eating in their classrooms or another designated space. The cafeteria staff is prepared to provide students with nutritious lunches and implement social distancing protocols in the delivery of meals to our students.

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**Visitors & Volunteers**

In order to maintain a healthy environment and minimize risk, we will begin the school year by strictly limiting access to campus buildings to students, faculty, and staff. Visitors will be considered by appointment only. While we understand that some members of the community may be disappointed, it is important to note that we will not resume on campus or in classroom volunteer opportunities at the start of the school year.

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**Recess**

All lower school classes will have daily recess at assigned playgrounds or designated locations. Daily times will be assigned to ensure only one class is in a common space at any given time. There will be cleaning procedures in place between use of the common spaces.
Encouraging a Healthy Campus Environment

SA is committed to implementing physical distancing practices on our campus to promote a healthy campus environment. This effort must be supported by everyone in the SA community, including parents, students, faculty, and staff. With everyone’s support and understanding, we have a greater opportunity to minimize risk and maintain a healthy environment for all.

Health and Wellness Partnership

It is imperative that all families commit to supporting SA’s health, wellness, and safety protocols and agree to keep students home when they are not feeling well, have COVID-like symptoms, or if they have potentially been exposed to COVID-19.

Daily Temperature Checks

Daily temperature checks may be performed each day. If a student has a temperature of 100.4°F or higher, he or she will be sent home. Please continue to monitor communications for additional information and updates regarding student health checks and monitoring.
Requirements for Face Coverings

Students, faculty, and staff should use face coverings as an important way to slow or stop the spread of the virus and protect each other when physical distancing cannot be maintained and as is medically and developmentally appropriate. Face coverings are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Face coverings should be worn by faculty and staff in times when physical distancing cannot be maintained. During meetings or gatherings, arrival and dismissal, in narrow hallways, or other settings where physical distancing may not be easy to maintain, a face covering would be prudent to wear. There will be students on campus who will wear face coverings for longer periods of time, including students who are directed to do so by their health care providers.

Important Reminders for All Students:
- Bring a face covering to school every day.
- You will be asked to wear your face covering when physical distancing is not possible.
- You may choose (or need) to wear a mask all day.

Note: Per CDC guidance, face coverings should NOT be worn by anyone who has trouble breathing.
Physical Distancing Measures

Physical distancing and other measures will remain important prevention strategies. Additional operational requirements will include gathering limits and other mitigation strategies. Physical distancing should be maintained to the greatest extent possible in all buildings. Other precautions will include, but are not limited to:

- Limiting mixing of classes/groups of students
- Closing or staggering the use of communal spaces and staggering outdoor activities/recess, with a priority on physical distancing and limiting the mixing of classrooms
When Your Student Feels Sick

Additional space will be created in our health clinic to accommodate physical distancing for students with various ailments and symptoms. Our medical staff will work closely with the division administrators to manage and monitor the number of students in the health clinic at all times. Students who are running a fever, coughing, or experiencing shortness of breath will not be allowed to return to class. They will remain in the designated space until they are picked up by a parent or guardian.
Performing at-home health screenings and knowing when to keep students home from school is a very important part of keeping our SA family healthy. To help, we have outlined key protocols to help families determine when students should stay home. If at any point students are feeling well enough, they may participate in remote learning until returning to campus.

1. Stay home.
2. Call your doctor.
3. Inform SA.

- Call the nurse the day before returning to school.

- Is a member of the household positive for COVID-19, awaiting test results or experiencing COVID-like symptoms? If yes...

- Is the student unwell with COVID-like symptoms? If yes...

- Does the student have a fever of 100.4° F or higher? If yes...

- Has the student been fever-free without medication for 72 hours? If yes...

- 1. Stay home.
- 2. Call your doctor.
- 3. Inform SA.
- 4. Rest and recover.

- Call the nurse the day before returning to school.
What You Can Do to Help This Summer

Teaching Healthy Hygiene Practices:
- Encourage frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.
- Practice coughing and sneezing into elbows.
- Add daily temperature checks into the morning routine.

Maintaining Preventative Health Practices:
- Continue regular doctor visits and well-child appointments.
- Keep immunizations and physicals current.
- Encourage physical activity and time outside.

Keeping Children Emotionally Safe:
- Ask how they are feeling and give them space to share and ask questions.
- Continue reassuring them that the adults in their lives are there to support their well-being, both physically and emotionally.
- Reach out for help. Our administrative team is available throughout the summer and school year to provide support.

Teaching and Encouraging Our Health Protocols:
- Visually show and practice keeping six feet apart.
- Practice wearing a face covering.
Preparing for Potential Closure

Unfortunately, there may be circumstances beyond our control, and additional outbreaks of COVID-19 could possibly impact on-campus learning in the future. In the event that SA is notified by government officials or the health department of the need to close our campus, instructions will continue virtually.

Our Commitment

If we are required to limit or restrict access to our campus or parts of our campus (for example, just one division), SA may transition to virtual learning.

During any period of temporary virtual learning, we remain committed to:

- Delivering an excellent educational experience based on our mission
- Providing our students with a high-quality, student-centered learning experience
- Communicating clearly and consistently with our SA families
We are excited to see you!

We have really missed having our students, faculty, and staff on our campus and are looking forward to the start of the 2020-2021 academic year! Please be sure to monitor school communications for further updates and information. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 757-653-2512, or email:

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