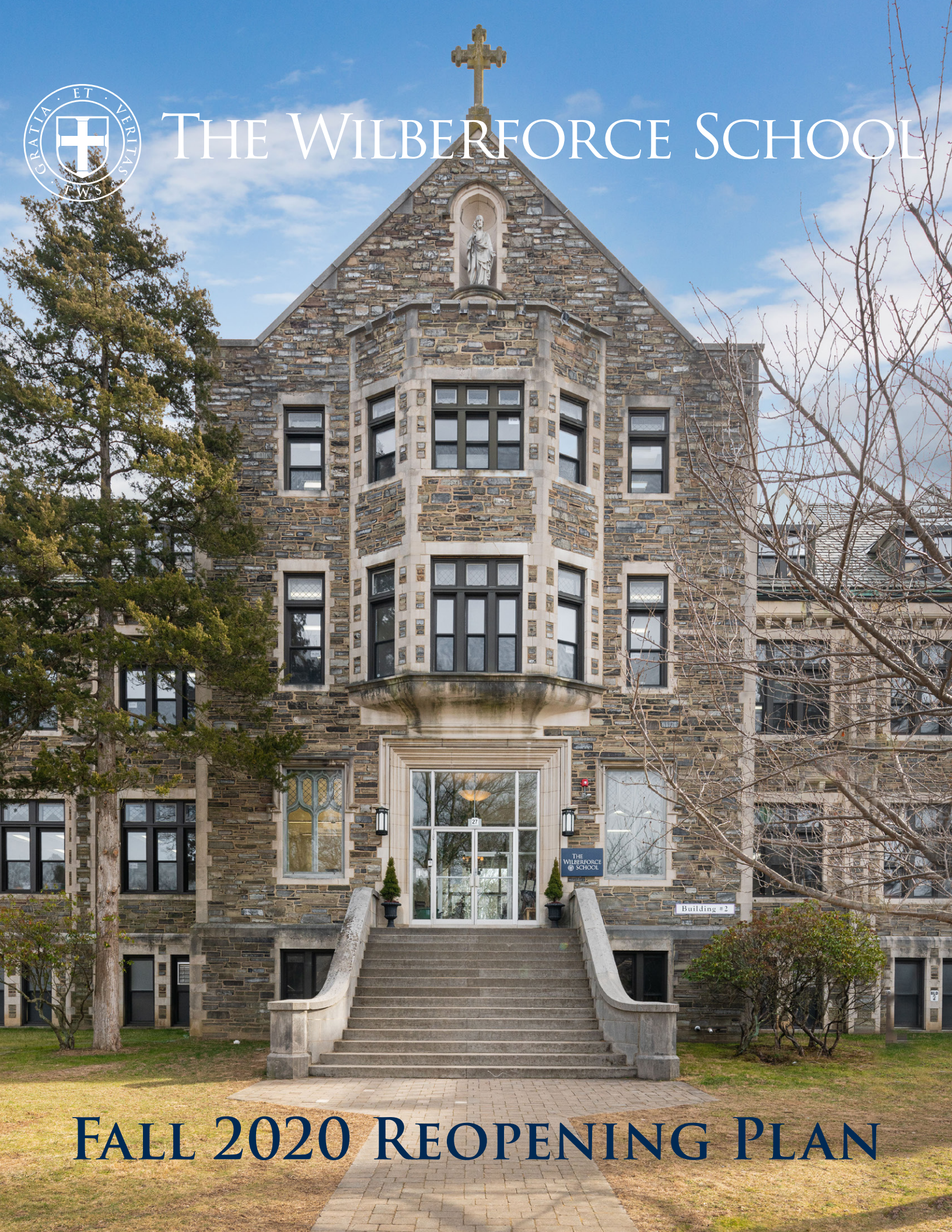




THE WILBERFORCE SCHOOL



FALL 2020 REOPENING PLAN

After months of planning and learning we are excited to share that The Wilberforce School plans to resume on-site learning in September, as scheduled, with new precautions and procedures in place, incorporating NJ Governor Murphy's guidance and the guidance issued by other public health organizations.

Two main principles guided our thoughts and decisions during this time: the health and safety of our community and the ability to deliver our mission, a Wilberforce education. This document outlines how we will resume teaching and learning on campus, while also fulfilling our guiding principles.

Our theme for 2020-2021 is "Ready for Anything." We are thankful to have a faculty that has that mindset, and we are thankful to our parents for partnering with us, through thick and thin. We have also been reminded that Christ is sufficient for us in all circumstances, and He will take care of His people and His school. We will be ready. Thanks for your prayers as we prepare.

*Sincerely in Christ,
Howe Whitman Jr.
Head of School*

**We will be following our published academic calendar.
All orientation events will have a remote option.**

September 2nd Explorer's Welcome & Lower School Orientation

September 3rd Convocation Chapel & MS/US Orientation

September 8th LS Parent Conferences & Class Six Parent Conferences

September 9th First Day of School for all students

Academics: Schedules and Alternatives

Our mission is best delivered when students are on site, in person. Our preferred mode of instruction and our best results come from interactive, face-to-face learning.

Public health agencies agree on this as a goal. The American Academy of Pediatrics said it thus: **"The AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school."**

In addition to these general goals, our classical Christian mission also focuses on spiritual and character formation, mentorship, and community. These objectives of our mission are best achieved with children on campus.

However, this is a unique year, and we know that some children may not be able to be with us on site. We also know our school exists to support parents in fulfilling your God-given task of educating your children. And it is you, the parents, who make the ultimate decision of what is best for your child.

In light of these goals and realities, we have prepared alternatives from which families may choose:

1. On Campus Learning - We are offering on-campus instruction, with some alterations to our weekly schedule, which we describe below. We will provide remote learning for students who are sick or quarantined.

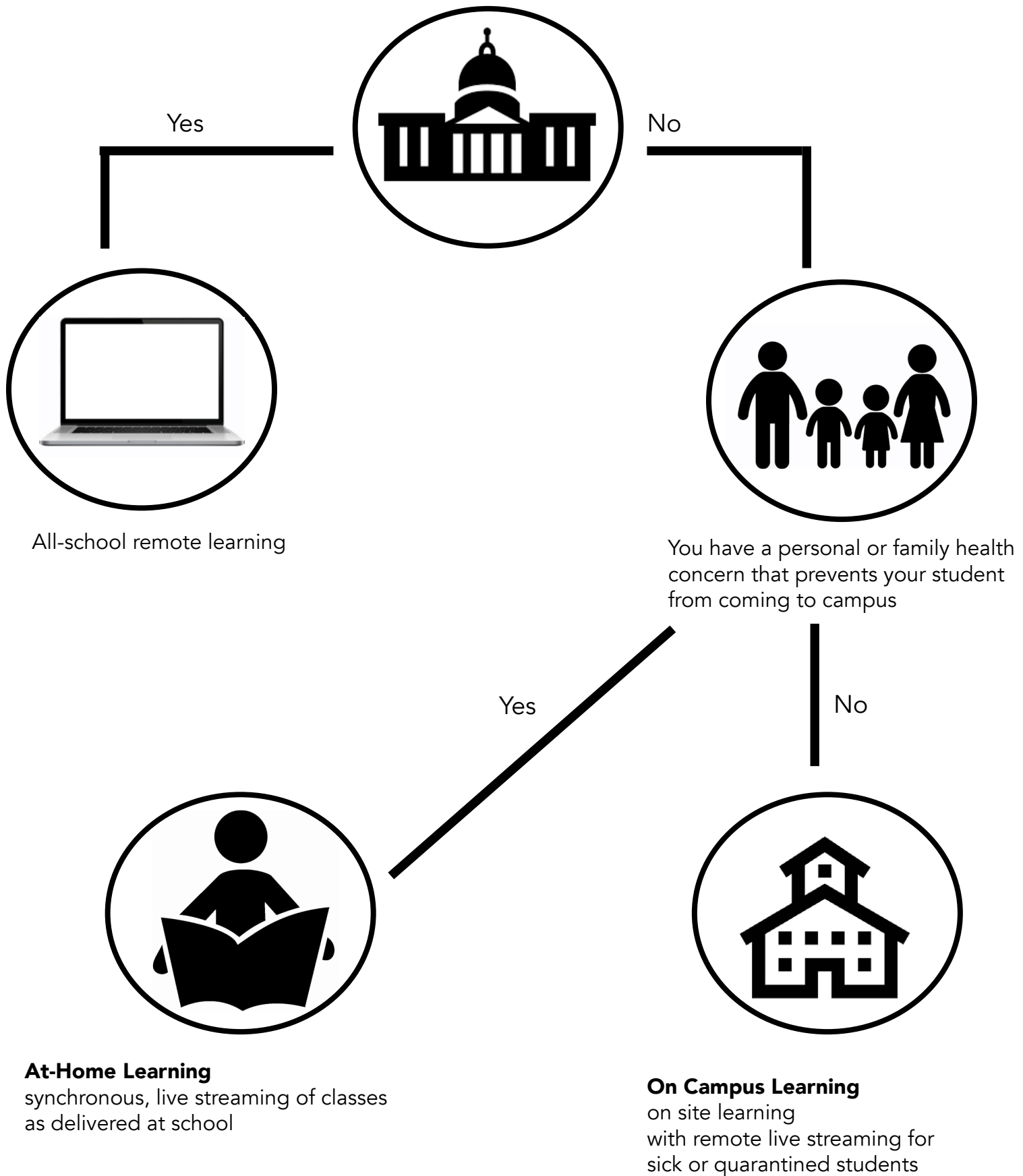
2. At-Home Learning - You may choose to have your child(ren) learn completely from home for a semester or for the whole year. We will support your child through live-streaming of our classes.

If families choose the At-Home option:

- This option will only be offered for the 2020-21 school year and not beyond. Please note that At-Home learning is synchronous, live-streaming of classes as they are delivered on campus. It is interactive from home, students will be able to ask questions in real time, but these are not separate online classes tailored for the online experience.
- At-Home students will be able to play on athletic teams, but may not participate in field trips or other after-school programs. Wilberforce At-Home students who come to campus must follow our screening procedures.
- The choice of At-Home learning is a full trimester/semester commitment. You may rejoin 2nd Trimester (LS) or in the Spring 2021 semester (MS/US), but not before, in order to avoid disruption for teachers and classmates. A student may start on campus, and later opt for At-Home learning, but once they choose the At-Home option, they need to stay with that for the semester.
- There will be no tuition discount for the At-Home option. Please read the section on Tuition for an explanation.
- Families choosing Wilberforce At-Home must notify the Lower School or Middle /Upper School Head no later than **August 7**.

Academics: Schedules and Alternatives

NJ government officials restrict in-person, on campus learning



Lower School Schedule

Classes One and Two				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Classroom Teacher Led Subjects 8:10-12:30				
Lunch & Recess 12:30-1:30				
Art, Music, PE, Nature Walks, Read Alouds, Homework, Extended Recess 1:30-3:00				
Afterschool Care 3:00-6:00				

Classes Three-Five				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Classroom Teacher Led Subjects 8:10-12:30				
Lunch & Recess 12:30-1:20				
Art, Latin, Music, PE, Nature Walks, Read Alouds, Homework 1:30-3:00				
Afterschool Care 3:00-6:00				

- School doors will open at **7:45am**. Students will go directly to class.
- The fall schedule makes afternoons optional for Lower School students.
- Afternoon sessions (12:30-3:00) include Art, Music, PE, Latin, nature walks, read aloud and homework time.
- Bridge (12:30-3:00pm) and Homework Club (3:00-6:00pm) are available.
- Cohorting: Students will remain with their class for the entire school day.
- Chapel will be limited to one class. Each week one class will have "live" chapel; the rest of the classes will follow chapel through Zoom in the classroom.

Middle and Upper School Schedule

	Middle School Sample Schedule									
	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B		
8:10-8:20	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Remote Schedule	
8:20-9:20	Speech	Tech	Tech	Speech	Speech	Tech	Tech	Speech		
9:30-10:30	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature		
10:40-11:40	Bible	Latin	Latin	Bible	Latin	Bible	Bible	Latin		
11:50-12:50	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Office Hours	
1:00-2:00	Science	History	History	Science	Science	History	History	Science		
2:10-3:10	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math		
	Upper School Sample Schedule									
	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B		
8:10-8:20	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Remote Schedule	
8:20-9:20	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Humane Letters		
9:30-10:30	Humane Letters	Humane Letters	Latin	Classical Roots	Latin	Classical Roots	Latin	Classical Roots		
10:40-11:40	Art	Church History	Church History	Art	Art	Church History	Church History	Art		
11:50-12:50	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Office Hours	
1:00-2:00	Science	Math	Science	Math	Science	Math	Science	Math		
2:10-3:10	Math	Science	Math	Science	Math	Science	Math	Science		

- School doors open at **7:45am**.
- Study hall is available from 3:00-6:00pm.
- Having A and B cohorts each day allows us to achieve smaller class sizes and maintain social distancing in the classroom.
- In most cases students will go between two classrooms that are assigned to each grade.
- Lockers will not be in use this fall.
- **Fridays will be taught remotely for Middle and Upper School students.**
(this is a change: both Middle and Upper School students will be remote on Fridays)
- Chapel will rotate with one class live each week, the rest following in their classroom on Zoom.
- Lunch will be held by class, either outdoors or at desks.

Academics

Athletics: We are committed to providing an athletic program to our Middle and Upper School students. We will follow the NJSIAA guidance. Information concerning athletics and fall registration will be sent out from the Athletic Director.

P.E.: P.E. classes will be conducted outside and with physical distancing, as long as weather permits. When inclement weather hinders P.E. from being outdoors, students will have class indoors with activities that meet physical distancing guidelines.

New Technology: We are prepared to support students who choose to learn from home. We have invested in equipment to enable us to better support students who will be home such as:

- Microphones
- Classroom cameras
- Document cameras
- Projectors

Zoom: We will continue to use Zoom to enable remote students to join in live classes.



Google Classroom: Students will use Google Classroom to turn in assignments.



Tuition: We understandably have received questions from parents about tuition. In the event that Wilberforce is forced to return to remote learning again due to a governor executive order, tuition will remain the same. Also, tuition will remain the same for those who choose the At-Home option.

The reason is that remote learning and Covid increase the school's costs to educate. In order to deliver a quality Wilberforce education, we must continue to pay our teachers, cover non-teaching expenses, and invest in technology, tech support, enhanced cleaning, and more.

Upcoming Events:

Throughout the school year we will be evaluating our activities, events, and field trips. Changes to upcoming events include:

- Fall House Retreat (no longer off site and overnight)
- Class Four October Gettysburg Trip (postponed)
- Other events TBD

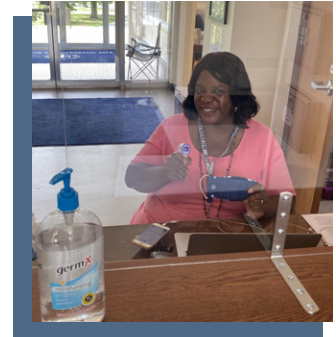
Prevention

Keeping Sick Students at Home:

Keeping sick students at home is the first line of defense and is essential to keeping our community healthy. We rely on families to keep symptomatic children at home. Students who are sick or quarantining will be able to participate in learning from home while absent.

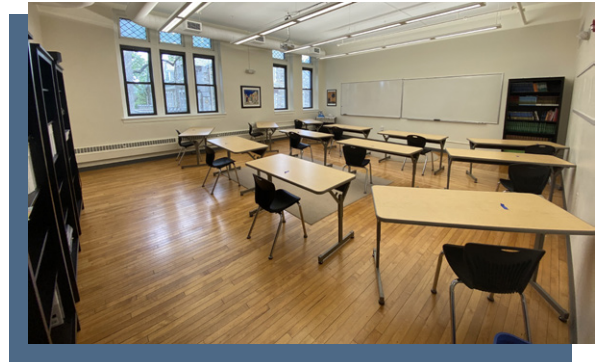
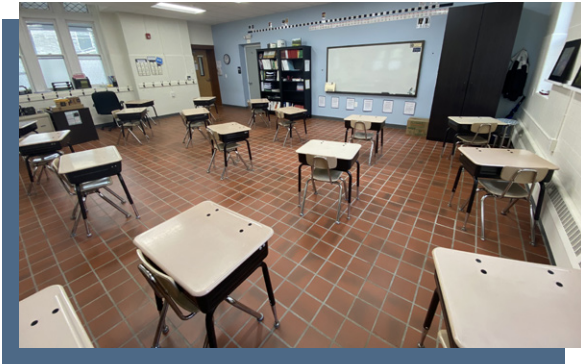
Screening:

We will ask parents to fill out a survey each morning before school, confirming that students are not symptomatic and have not come into contact with someone who is infected. Teachers will also check for symptoms at school and check temperatures in cases when the survey has not been filled out.



Physical Distancing:

We are re-organizing our classrooms to achieve physical distancing between desks. In most cases we can achieve 6 foot distancing; in all cases we have greater than 3 feet, as recommended. To enable distancing, we are using the larger common areas for classroom space.



Face Coverings:

Consistent with guidance from various public health bodies and the latest research, all students, teachers, and visitors will be required to wear face coverings. Students will have breaks from wearing masks, with 6' distancing. This is a change from our previously announced policy. Guidance changes from time to time and we will adjust as needed. The school will provide further guidance before the start of school regarding what kinds of masks will be adequate.

Prevention

Cohorts:

Our grades 6-12 will be broken into A and B cohorts which are on campus each day, but they rotate through their schedule in cohorts so that classes are smaller and can maintain distancing.

Meals:

Students will eat meals outdoors or in their classrooms at their desks, which are distanced.

Outdoor Learning:

Maximizing outdoor time is recommended by health and education authorities, and Wilberforce is blessed with a beautiful campus with ample outdoor learning environments. We plan to have several outdoor tents to accommodate some classes and P.E. Faculty are encouraged to use outdoor spaces for learning when possible. Physical distancing will still be maintained.

Cleaning and Disinfecting:

Staff will follow a protocol of cleaning and disinfecting desks, surfaces, and high touch areas multiple times during the day, and professional cleaners will clean and disinfect at night. We are installing no-touch hand sanitizing stations in every classroom and common area.

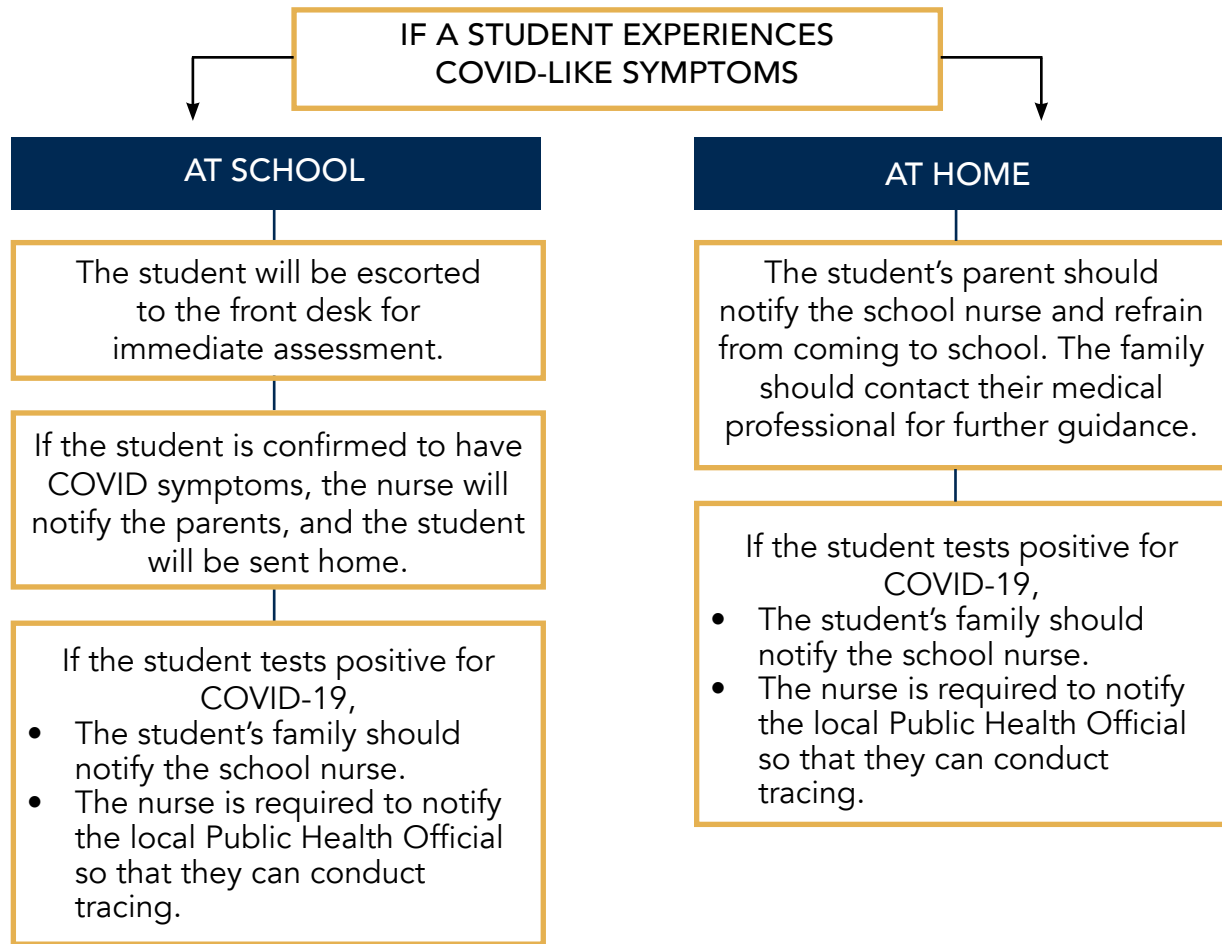
Parents and Visitors on Campus:

School reopening guidelines from health and education authorities recommend limiting parents and visitors on campus. However, parental involvement is a vital part of the Wilberforce experience. All, parents and guests will go through the screening process which includes answering the health questionnaire, having your temperature taken, and wearing a mask when in the building.

Mitigation

Notification:

Reducing the spread of COVID-19 requires the effort and cooperation of all members of the Wilberforce community. Parents should notify the school when your student has a confirmed positive COVID-19 test result. The school will follow the process outlined below. Following health and privacy laws, the school will keep confidential the identity of the individual.



Returning to School Protocol:

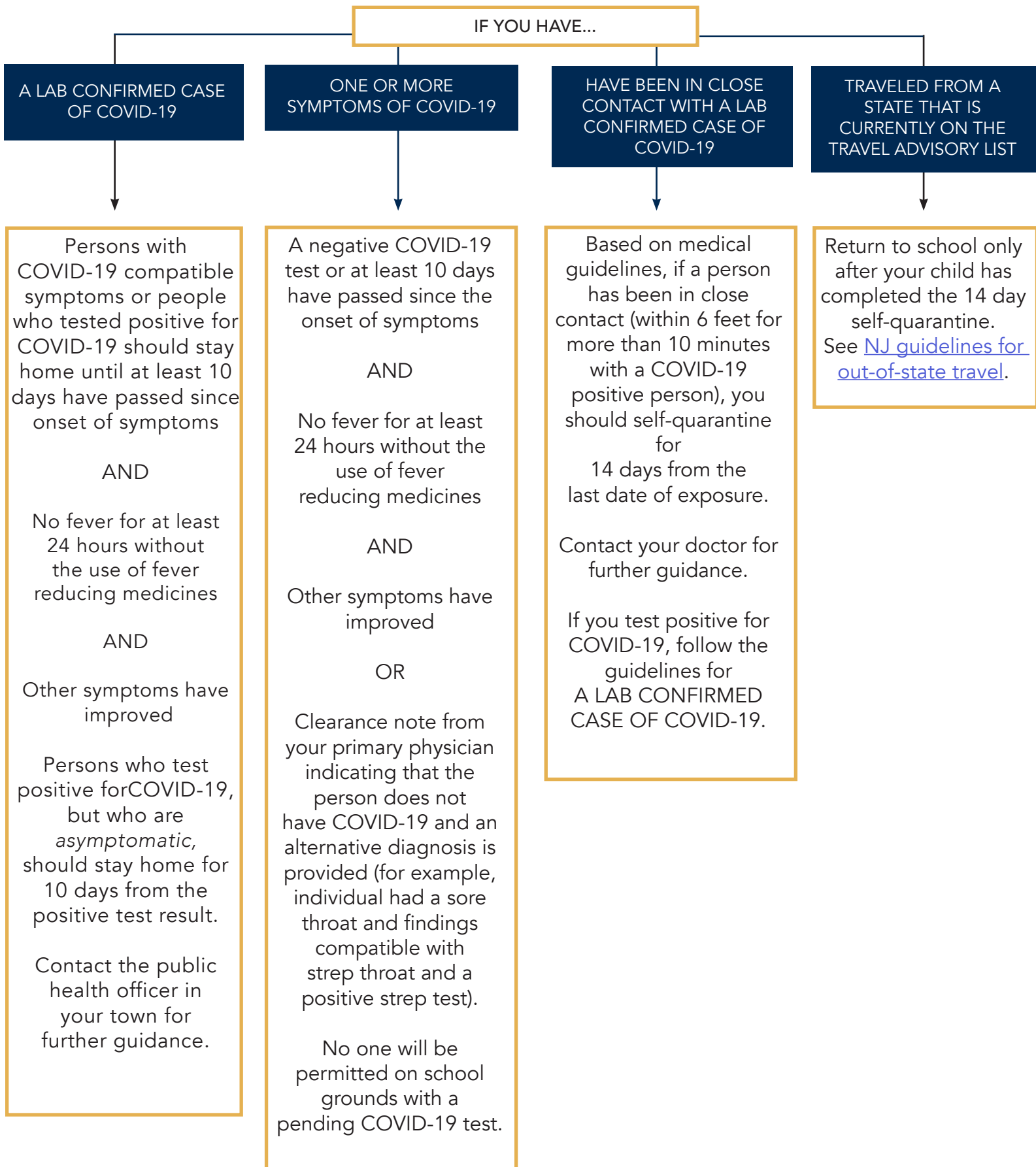
Students with COVID symptoms will be required to obtain clearance from their medical professional before returning to school.


Testing:

If a student is experiencing COVID-like symptoms, families should seek guidance from their medical professional to determine if the students should be tested for COVID-19.

WHEN CAN A STUDENT OR TEACHER RETURN TO SCHOOL?

THE SCHOOL WILL FOLLOW THIS FLOWCHART TO DETERMINE WHEN A STUDENT CAN RETURN TO CAMPUS





Resources:

1. "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education," New Jersey Department of Education June 2020
2. "Considerations for Schools." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
3. "COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for Schools Re-Entry." American Academy of Pediatrics, June 6, 2020
4. "Universal Masking to Prevent SARS-COV-2 Transmission-The Time is Now." Journal of American Medical Association, July 14, 2020
5. Parent and Faculty Feedback

Health Task Force Members:

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The American Academy of Pediatrics states that "COVID-19 policies are intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk." No member of the task force is providing professional medical advice, but interpreting public health guidance to the best of our ability.