



BFS REOPENING ROADMAP, PART 3

**AFTER THE 8 WEEK PHASE:
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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1 **INTRODUCTION**

LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Families,

First and foremost, I want to acknowledge the level of patience that you have exhibited over these first two months of the school year and well before that as we entered in one of the most unprecedented moments in the history of education and the world at large.

This August, you learned of our Reopening Map, Part 2, which allowed for our Family Center through Lower School students to come back live (with some families opting for remote learning) and our middle school and upper school students navigating their academic program virtually with some intermittent opportunities for social experiences on campus and in varied locations throughout the city. At that time, you learned that we would have an 8-week period of assessment to determine next steps.

Now that we have had six comprehensive weeks of school, we are ready to communicate our next steps. Embedded in this document are the details that pertain to your child's divisional plans. Included also are our BFS Community Covenant and Health and Safety Manual. Please review all documents carefully.

Should you have any questions, please direct them to the Glen and Nitya.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

In peace,
Crissy



LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

As we prepare to welcome Middle School students back to our campuses, we do so with gratitude—for our partnership with you, for our resilient students, as well as for our excellent teachers who have approached their craft with flexibility and patience. We also do so with excitement, as we really can't wait to see your children for in-person learning again!

We have been assiduously preparing for what a safe, in-person experience will look like, and we have information to share with you so that you can support your children in their preparation for on-campus learning in this extremely different environment. We know and understand that you will likely have some additional questions pertaining to details that we are still in the process of finalizing. An additional communication with further information will be shared by next week to allow time for your family's planning. As always, you are encouraged to reach out with any questions.

While we recognize that this is not a return to “normal” school for your children, we are very much looking forward to having them back to our two campuses. We know that there is a myriad of valid feelings and fears as we continue to navigate these unprecedented times together. While we cannot predict everything or ensure that all will be perfectly executed, we are deeply focused on ensuring the healthiest and safest environment for your children and will spare no detail in our planning and execution. We are also committed to learning with you along the way, creating many moments of joy for your children, as well as supporting each of our families to the best of our capabilities. Above all, we will keep your child's physical safety as our utmost priority as you entrust us, once again, with their care.

Glen Pinder, *Head of Middle School*



The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular seal of Brooklyn Friends School. The seal contains the text "BROOKLYN FRIENDS SCHOOL" at the top and "ESTABLISHED 1867" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a shield with a book and a star.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW

IN-PERSON & REMOTE CHOICE

We are happy to announce that the transition back to campus will begin on Monday, November 9, 2020 for 5th and 6th grade and Tuesday, November 10, 2020 for 7th and 8th grade. All Middle School families who wish to keep their child(ren) learning remotely instead of participating in in-person learning are being given that option. You can indicate your preference on [this form](#) (this form will also allow you to address questions about technology as referenced on page 14 of this document). **Choosing this option is a commitment that will remain in effect through Winter Break.** All families will be given the opportunity to re-adjust their desire for in-person learning in January.

IMPORTANT FACILITIES & SCHEDULE UPDATES

Both Pearl and Lawrence Street locations are now home to the Middle School. **5th graders will be in-person five days per week. 6th graders will be on an in-person schedule four days per week, with a remote day each Wednesday. 7th and 8th graders will be on a hybrid schedule with a remote day each Wednesday.** Please note that every Friday will continue to be a half day with early dismissal. Details for each grade are outlined below.

Middle School Asynchronous Learning Days: October 30, November 2, and November 6

On these three days, students will participate in asynchronous learning activities provided by their teachers while faculty turn their attention to preparing for on-campus instruction. Assignments will be posted to Google Classroom prior to 8am each day, and the assignments will be due by the end of the day. Teachers will be readying their rooms and transitioning to what is known as a HyFlex Instructional model.

Arrival and dismissal times may need adjusting as we acclimate to our return.



7TH GRADE

- 7th grade will attend in a hybrid model alternating one week of in-person learning at **116 Lawrence Street** followed by one week of remote learning from home. This will alternate between Week A & Week B, and **Wednesdays will be a remote day.**
 - **Week A 7th Grade In-Person Pods:** 7A, 7B, & 7D (Week A begins on 11/10/20)
 - **Week B 7th Grade In-Person Pods:** 7C & 7E (Week B begins on 11/16/20)
- 7th grade should arrive at 116 Lawrence Street by 8:15 am and will be dismissed at 2:55 pm.
- Please note that every Friday will continue to be a half day with early dismissal. 7th grade dismisses from 116 Lawrence Street on Fridays at 12:45 pm.

8TH GRADE

- 8th grade will attend in a hybrid model alternating one week of in-person learning at **116 Lawrence Street** followed by one week of remote learning from home. This will alternate between Week A & Week B, and **Wednesdays will be a remote day.**
 - **Week A 8th Grade In-Person Pods:** 8A, 8C, & 8E (Week A begins on 11/10/20)
 - **Week B 8th Grade In-Person Pods:** 8B, 8D, & 8F (Week B begins on 11/16/20)
- 8th grade should arrive at 116 Lawrence Street by 8:15 am and will be dismissed at 2:55 pm.
- Please note that every Friday will continue to be a half day with early dismissal. 8th grade dismisses from 116 Lawrence Street on Fridays at 12:45 pm.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

As students become acclimated to our new arrival and dismissal procedures, we are asking that if an adult is present for drop-off or pick-up, only one adult stands next to the student in the mornings upon arrival. Any other adults present are being asked to stay at either end of the block of Pearl and Lawrence Streets. No adults other than school colleagues will be permitted to gather in front of the buildings.

At this time, we cannot hold scooters or bikes securely at either location, and we ask that your child not bring them in the morning. There are, however, public bike racks at the corner of Fulton and Pearl, Willoughby between Pearl and Jay, and Willoughby between Jay and Lawrence.

Our arrival and dismissal times and procedures are **essential**, as children in the Preschool and Lower School are also arriving and departing each day from the same space at 375 Pearl Street. In order to keep our community healthy and safe, and our youngest students from feeling overwhelmed, middle school parents and/or students must be on time.

CLOSED COHORTS (ADVISORY GROUPS)

As shared in our Middle School reopening plans, Brooklyn Friends is committed to the guidelines shared by the Department of Health, which allow for no more than 13 individuals to remain together throughout the school day and week. This means that we are modifying our traditional approach to Middle School, which normally allows for cross-cohort mixing with different teachers. Students can expect that, while observing all safety requirements, they will remain with their advisory pods for the entirety of the school day, with one teacher always in the room and joined by some of their subject-matter teachers via Zoom into their classroom.

Please note that your child's schedule will largely stay the same. They will not switch teachers, classes, pods, or blocks. Remote Learning was set up with a smooth transition to in-person learning in mind, so the schedule works pretty seamlessly regardless of whether we are on-campus or remote. **We will be extending each class period, however, to allow for more instructional time.** This slight change in class periods will affect all grade levels as well as the hybrid schedule for 7th and 8th graders. Those learning from home for the week will also have extended class periods, so that we're all able to remain a community. Advisors will be previewing these changes as we approach our return to campus and will offer several reminders.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS BY GRADE LEVEL & OUTDOOR ATTIRE

A priority of our continued planning for the return to campuses is to ensure sufficient outdoor social gatherings by grade level on Mondays–Thursdays. We hope to utilize afternoon and after school hours to get students outside and safely having fun with students in other pods as much as possible with weather permitting. We will also be incorporating movement breaks, stretch breaks, and fun activities into the pod and classroom spaces. Given that this arrangement is different from what Middle School typically looks like for our children, we are prioritizing their wellbeing in all ways possible as they endeavor to learn in a more restrictive environment than they’ve ever experienced.

We, of course, welcome students who have selected to stay remote at all outdoor activities, should they wish to participate. Please stay tuned for more information to come on dates, times, and locations for social gatherings. As a general rule, please always ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. In addition to social activities, your child may be waiting outside each morning for health screenings and check-ins for up to 15 minutes. Packing an umbrella that can fit in their backpack, ensuring a warm jacket, etc. will all be central to their experience of school this year.



PEAC PROGRAM FOR 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS

The PEAC Program offerings for 7th and 8th grade students will continue as planned with virtual options from 8–8:30 am for those students on Remote Week A or B. We will also continue hosting 2:30–4 pm in-person options at Brooklyn Bridge Park (weather permitting) and 4–4:30 pm virtual options. For continued information, please refer to [Panthers Central](#) or contact David Gardella at dgardella@brooklynfriends.org.

SUPPLIES FOR LEARNING

It will be necessary for students to bring to school some of the supplies they've been using from home for the first eight weeks. Specific requirements will be communicated at a later date, but at this time, we need to know what technology device your child will need or be using at school. Students will **still need** a laptop at school each day. Please complete [this short form](#) to indicate whether your child:

- Has a school-issued device at home that will come back and forth to school
- Has a personal device at home that will come back and forth to school
- Needs a school-issued device to be at school and stay at school

Please note that if you filled out the form about remote learning on page 7 and answered this question, there is no need to fill out the form again.

FAMILY-TEACHER CONFERENCES

As we continuously examine our first semester in the Middle School, please note that Family-Teacher Conferences have been rescheduled for Thursday, December 3rd and Friday, December 4th. Conferences will be held virtually over Zoom. Details pertaining to structure and timing will be shared in advance. Please note that this is a date change from our originally communicated Fall Conferences dates of November 5th and 6th.

The background features a large, faint, circular seal of Brooklyn Friends School. The seal contains the text "BROOKLYN FRIENDS SCHOOL" at the top and "ESTABLISHED 1867" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a shield with a star and a cross.

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A SAFE LEARNING **COMMUNITY**

HEALTH & WELLNESS



- Only students and colleagues will be permitted in any school building.
- Masks will be required at all times on school premises by students and colleagues.
- Students must wear masks. Students may remove their masks during meals, while outside, and during defined mask breaks, as long as they are maintaining a safe physical distance of 6 feet. Please send in two additional labeled masks for your child to keep in their locker at school, placed in a plastic ziplock bag labeled with your child's name. This is in case a mask needs to be replaced during the school day. All Middle Schoolers were provided with a Brooklyn Friends mask during Student Orientation days, but we welcome personal masks from home as well as long as they fit properly over the mouth and nose.
- All students and colleagues will have temperature checks upon entering any building.
- Hand sanitizer must be used upon entering any building and/or classroom.
- Please note that a nurse is available at both locations should a child not be feeling well.
- All families will receive a daily alert from the health screening application, Ruvna which must be completed before the student arrives at school.
- All other protocols outlined in our [Health & Safety Manual](#) and [Community Covenant](#) will continue to be upheld by all colleagues and families.

CLEANING PROTOCOLS

- All bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized multiple times each day.
- Hallways and frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected multiple times each day.
- At the end of the day, every room that has been occupied will be first cleaned then disinfected with an electrostatic sprayer and disinfectant fogger.
- All common spaces, if utilized by any group, will be fully cleaned and sanitized before being occupied by another group.
- High touch surfaces
 - Light switches
 - Stair rails
 - Elevator buttons
 - Chair handles and backs
 - Toilets and urinals
 - Paper towel and toilet tissue dispensers
 - Sink faucets and handles
 - Table tops
 - Door handles



DAILY PROCEDURES FOR **ALL STUDENTS**



- All students must have their health data entered into Ruvna prior to entering school each day.
- All students will have their temperature taken upon arrival at the school entrance. If temperature is 100 degrees or higher, the nurse will conduct a tympanic scan for temperature.
- If the second scan is also 100 degrees or higher, the nurse will call the child's parents with instructions that the child needs to go home immediately and seek medical attention and follow BFS protocol to return to school.
- If a student becomes ill during the day, they should tell their teacher immediately and report to the Health Office for assessment.
- Please note that a nurse is available at both locations should a child not be feeling well. Students will go to the Health Office (ground floor at Pearl or 1st floor at Lawrence) immediately for evaluation if visibly coughing or sneezing or voicing a feeling of being unwell.
- All students exhibiting an elevated temperature or COVID symptoms will be sent home.

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Fever above 100°F.
- Respiratory symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing) not a previously diagnosed condition (ie. allergies)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Rash
- Contagious Illness

RETURNING TO SCHOOL

- All students with a confirmed COVID diagnosis will be required to have a negative COVID test and clearance note from a doctor before returning to school buildings.
- As per the CDC, a person must be fever free for 3 days with no fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms, must have no symptoms in the last 10 days and report general feelings of wellness.

EXPOSED INDIVIDUALS

- All students and colleagues who are exposed to COVID must complete quarantine as recommended by the CDC (currently 10 days) and receive a negative test result before returning to school buildings.

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- # CHAIN OF TRANSMISSION

The diagram shows a branching tree structure representing a population. A red line connects a parent node to a child node, with the text "Infection Avoided" written in red next to it. The rest of the tree is grey, indicating that infection is not avoided in those branches. The tree structure is as follows:

- Root node (grey)
 - Left child (red)
 - Left child (red)
 - Left child (red)
 - Right child (red)
 - Right child (red)
 - Left child (red)
 - Right child (red)
 - Right child (grey)
 - Left child (grey)
 - Left child (grey)
 - Right child (grey)
 - Right child (grey)
 - Left child (grey)
 - Right child (grey)

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