Frequently Asked Questions

This document is to inform you of the steps the school will take to maintain health and safety, with the understanding that we cannot guarantee that your child being on campus will be free from the risk of contracting the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. We ask that you partner with us in understanding how you and your child can help reduce the risk of transmission by staying current on information about the virus provided by public health officials and experts, following school rules aimed at limiting the spread of the virus, and acknowledging that by sending your child to our campus, there is an unavoidable risk that you and your child may become infected with COVID-19. Below are the frequently asked questions we have received. Our answers follow.

Are there hand sanitizers around the school?
Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school. All classrooms and entry-ways will have dispensers. Additionally, there are 7 sinks on campus to be used for frequent hand washing.

If my child needs to be at home, how will she/he connect to the classrooms:
Webcams will broadcast live (not record) all live classes when possible. Zoom may also be used to bring students into class virtually.

How has the campus been changed to accommodate the needs during Covid-19?
The school has measured out classroom spaces to ensure 6' distance between students as well as the teacher. We are fortunate to have the following spaces:

- Multi-purpose Room in the Schoolhouse
- Field House
- I Studio
- Music Room
- And for small groups working we will use the Davis Room, English Room, and Spanish Room in the Farmhouse and the Math, Art, and Science Rooms in the Schoolhouse.
- In addition, the school is renting tents for additional classroom space as well as camp chairs for outdoor classes.

How has the school outlined the flow of movement in and out of buildings?
The faculty and staff have outlined how students will move through and between buildings. This will include faculty supervision of movement between classes, use of outdoor access as much as possible and one-way direction in narrow hallways. Arrival and dismissal will occur
from classrooms, rather than the multipurpose room to keep groups of students small. All of those details will be explained at the Orientation for each grade level on September 1, 2, and 3.

Has the school added additional bathrooms?
The school is renting Portable Toilets.

How have you addressed air flow in the classrooms?
We have set up the classrooms so that all students are distanced a minimum of 6’ apart and of course they will be wearing masks at all times in class. We are currently putting the following in place to improve air circulation and filtration:
- Hired an HVAC maintenance company to service units. Have replaced filters already and will upkeep systems according to specifications.
- HVAC Ionizer for Schoolhouse, Music room, Davis room, Field House to improve indoor air quality. ([https://www.iwaveair.com/](https://www.iwaveair.com/))
- Box Fans for airing out rooms after use.
- Fixing windows to allow more air flow
- Installing tents to allow for outdoor classes as much as possible.

How will lunch be handled? Since there will be no mask-wearing while eating, are you staggering meals, installing partitions, reconfiguring seating?
Students and faculty will eat outside as much as possible and in their classrooms if the weather does not allow us to be outside. In all cases, social distancing will continue. Students will remain in their grade-level cohorts during lunch and snack break and will be supervised by teachers and staff to ensure that protocols are followed.

While we like the social distancing protocols, we all know it’s about execution. To that end, who will monitor the execution and implementation? Teachers? An appointed administrator?
Teachers, administrators, and staff will be working together to monitor that the protocols are being followed.

Has the school designated a specific area for students who develops flu-like symptoms during the school day?
The school will be using a pop up tent for students exhibiting flu-like symptoms.

Where will students keep their belongings?
Students will not be using cubbies. Each student needs to bring a backpack with her/his name on it.

How will students be screened?
Parents will complete a health screening at home using the Convenient MD Back-To-School application and submit it each day before arrival at Heronfield. Students will receive an
additional temperature check during arrival. See more information in the Letter to Parents July 2020.

Are masks required?
Yes, cloth masks are required during the school day. Opportunities for mask-free time will occur during snack break and lunch.

Is there a travel policy?
Heronfield Academy asks that should a student travel outside of the United States or to an area deemed to be of high-risk by the CDC, that student should self-quarantine for 14 days at home. If a parent/household member has traveled to an area deemed to be of high risk by the CDC, this should also be communicated to our school.

Has a school nurse been hired?
The school is in the process of hiring a trained medical professional such as a nurse's aid to oversee morning screenings and medical issues during the day.

How often is "regular" cleaning occurring?
Teachers and staff will be cleaning high-touch surfaces at a minimum 2-3 times a day, per CDC recommendations. Desks will be cleaned between classes and when classroom spaces are used by different cohorts of students. School buildings will be professionally cleaned and disinfected every evening.