



**International
School**
Los Angeles
**Lycée
International**

From: LILA Head of School
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 11:35 AM
Subject: Arrangements for back-to-school 2020-2021

Dear LILA Community,

As promised in my note on Friday, July 17, [which can be found here](#), I am pleased to provide additional information about the 2020-2021 school year at LILA. As indicated in that communication, we now have greater clarity regarding our back-to-school options.

Campuses
Burbank
Los Feliz
Orange County
Pasadena
West Valley

Scenario 1: We can welcome our students back in person

Campus capacity:

The team has been working hard and we have managed to optimize campus capacity while respecting the principles of physical distancing, as follows:

	Occupancy with Physical Distancing	Student Attendance
Burbank	100%	Every student could be welcomed back on campus, subject to certain agreed protocols.
ELC	100%	
Los Feliz	100%	
Orange County	100%	
Pasadena	100%	
West Valley	100%	

Campus operations:

- Physical distancing (6 feet) will apply
- Additional wash basins and hand sanitizing for students, faculty and staff
- Face coverings will be required for **EVERYONE** on campus, students, faculty and staff (this is not negotiable)
- Symptom checks on or pre-arrival, e.g., temperature, respiratory
- Deep cleaning and ongoing disinfection of campuses according to CDC guidelines

A comprehensive set of campus-specific protocols regarding the above, together with circulation requirements and information pertaining to the management of a COVID-19 event, will be forthcoming.

Some general assumptions about reopening on ALL campuses:

- Large community events such as assemblies and adult gatherings cannot be accommodated
- There will be NO field trips for the 2020 calendar year (this may well extend into 2021)
- Burbank athletics will be informed by CIF and recreational league decisions (pending)
- Limited extended Day Care and Study Hall will be maintained in elementary
- After-school activities will be cancelled except for secondary clubs which will be virtual
- A suspension of our bus service between campuses in the short-term
- Some faculty may not be able to come to campus for health reasons so some lessons may continue to be delivered by remote e-Learning, even though some students will be on campus.

Scenario 2: Return to school in remote e-Learning mode (per the Governor's County reopening requirements)

As indicated in my last communication, our preschool and pre-Kindergarten classes operate as licensed child care facilities so we anticipate that these will remain open even if our K-12 students are not allowed back on campus. We will **NOT** therefore be offering a remote e-Learning option for these two grades.

Remote e-Learning 2.0 for Kindergarten – 5th grade classes

We have reflected extensively on the experience of e-Learning for our students and faculty, and have heard your considerable and astute feedback about what you would like to see improved. Here is an overview of what we plan to do differently:

- Provide full daily student e-Learning timetables for all Kindergarten – 5th grade classes
- Provide opportunities for students to access the full suite of subjects across the curriculum
- Ensure greater harmonization of the curriculum and homework within the same grade level, across classes and campuses
- Provide explicit opportunities for students' social-emotional learning, including conversations about their current experience of COVID-19, Black Lives Matter, and "the new world."

The elementary academic team will shortly provide a more granular amplification of the above.

Remote e-Learning 2.0 for middle school and high school classes

The national and international experience of remote e-Learning for students in the secondary grades has been, on balance, a successful one, thanks to secondary students' greater autonomy generally and as learners. Certainly, that

has been the case for our middle and high school students at Burbank and Orange County. With this said, we do plan some refinements in these grades too. These will be communicated to you separately by the relevant campuses.

For those who do not want to send their children to school or cannot do so:

We understand that there are a number of families who either do not wish to, or cannot for health reasons, send their children back to school. For those of you who fall into these categories, a full-year remote option will be available, from Kindergarten through 12th grade, as follows:

- Remote e-Learning when the school is in that mode for all students;
- Remote parallel learning when students are coming to school

What is the difference between remote e-Learning and remote parallel learning?

Remote e-Learning takes place when the entire class is online; remote parallel learning is when some students are in class with the teacher while others are watching from home, as in a TED Talk.

This option will ensure remote continuity of learning for all students from Kindergarten – 12th grade for the entire school year. The full tuition rate will apply for those who wish to avail themselves of this alternative. We will conduct a survey soon to see who would like this option.

A word about tuition:

The health-related requirements associated with bringing students back to our campuses safely, coupled with offering multiple modes of educational delivery for families with differing needs, make 2020-2021 a more resource-intensive year than ever before. While recognizing this, the Board of Trustees has frozen 2020-2021 tuition at the 2019-2020 rates for all grades, as announced in March, and has worked to support as many of our families as possible through additional emergency financial assistance.

The forecast for the 2020-2021 school year: ZIG-ZAG

Understandably, we are all exhausted and terribly keen to see society return to normal. After three months of remote e-Learning at the end of 2019-2020, followed by a less-than-relaxing summer, we are all optimistic and hopeful about an in-person return to school.

In terms of contingency planning, it would nonetheless be remiss of me not to signal that we may well have a year of zig-zagging, where we have to pivot, at short notice, between Scenario 1 and Scenario 2, depending on health requirements.

In providing this comprehensive overview, I am sure there will be myriad questions. If you are a new family in Los Angeles, please reach out to [Juliette Lange](#), our Admissions Director; if you are a new family in Orange County, please

reach out to [Sarah Blek](#), OC's Admissions Manager. If you are a returning family, please reach out to your campus director with any questions.

In conclusion, we are here to support our community through this season of discombobulation. The LILA community is a resourceful and resilient one – while 2020-2021 is sure to be uncertain in many ways, our steadfast commitment to you will not waver, whatever the circumstances.

With warm regards,

Michael Maniska
Head of School