



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

From: LILA Head of School
Date: Monday, January 3, 2022 at 8:40 AM
Subject: Important back-to-school message

Dear LILA Community,

We trust this email finds you and your loved ones well despite the ongoing complexity of the times. As we prepare for an **in-person return for all students on Tuesday, January 4**, I wish to provide an update on a few relevant matters.

The team and I have been monitoring the Omicron situation over the break, in consultation with local schools, CDC updates, and in view of updated directives and guidelines from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH). Although the weeks ahead will be characterized by a degree of uncertainty, we believe that LILA is in a position to reopen safely. We believe too that, on balance, in-person learning is better for our students for a range of cognitive and socio-affective reasons.

As already advised, **all students will require a negative PCR test to return to campus on Tuesday**. If your child has already recovered from COVID-19 and is currently asymptomatic, please contact your campus director for advice.

We realize that some members of our community (students and employees alike) will need to isolate because they have, in recent days, either tested positive, have symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. We do therefore anticipate some disruption to the start of term in light of this and kindly ask you for your forbearance.

The LACDPH has just added additional guidelines that we will implement to keep our students and employees safe. These guidelines include:

- All students and employees will be required to wear masks outdoors.
- Employees will be required to wear [surgical masks](#) which will be provided by the School.
- It is now recommended that students wear non-cloth masks with a nose wire.
- It is recommended that eligible employees and students receive a booster.

The above guidelines will be incorporated into our current LILA COVID-19 protocols, which [can be found here](#).

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In addition, **LILA has decided to reinstate mandatory weekly surveillance testing for all students and employees, irrespective of vaccination status.**

In order to keep our community safe, it is imperative that all of us follow these guidelines. Together, we can continue to navigate these trying times in a community-minded way, as we have been doing for almost the last two years.

With very best wishes to all for a safe 2022,

Michael Maniska
Head of School