St. Luke’s is Ready to Welcome You Back

With summer speeding by, St. Luke’s has been busy preparing a safe and happy return to school for our students. Families can enter the new year confident that St. Luke’s will deliver on our promise of an exceptional education whether their children are on campus, learning from home, or doing a combination of the two.

SLSReady is our preliminary plan to reopen school safely, while offering families choice, flexibility and consistency.

This reopening plan overview is effective as of July 28, 2020 and is subject to change.
In this SLSReady overview you will find:

Mission & Guiding Principles

St. Luke’s Social Contract
(4 Essential Behaviors)

SLSReady Scenarios: Three Models

An Exceptional Education—On Campus & Online
(Growing Online Expertise)

SLSReady Weekly Schedules

Health & Safety: Maintaining a Safe Environment

Health Monitoring: Students, Faculty, and Staff

School Policies for a Safe Reopening

Co-Curriculars—After School Sports & Activities

Important August Dates
**St. Luke’s Mission:**
An exceptional education that inspires a deep love of learning, a strong moral compass, the commitment to serve, and the confidence to lead.

**SLSReady Guiding Principles:**
St. Luke’s reopening plan will fulfill the School’s mission by executing against four guiding principles. In short, we will be:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Exceptional</th>
<th>Equitable</th>
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<tr>
<td>in academic and co-curricular programs</td>
<td>in doing everything we can to give all students and staff equal access to the St. Luke’s experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connected</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
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<td>in community and personal relationships</td>
<td>in mitigating risk and maximizing safety for students, staff and families</td>
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St. Luke’s Social Contract:

“We are all in this together.”

In April, former Director of the Food and Drug Administration Dr. David Kessler wrote—profoundly and presciently—that “our behavior will control our fate.” Since then, he has been proven correct. In Connecticut, where citizens’ behavior has largely adhered to State and public health guidance about masks, hygiene and social distancing, infection rates and other markers have dropped to a point where we can return to school as long as we continue to practice those proven, effective procedures. It’s been said over and over again since March, but in a very real sense we are indeed “all in this together.”

To continue protecting ourselves and each other while going to school, we call on everyone to uphold an implicit social contract. A social contract is an agreement among people to cooperate for social benefits, in effect to give up certain freedoms so that everyone can flourish. You might say, for example, “I don’t like wearing a mask, but I will wear one so I don’t put others at risk and in order to help keep the risk of infection low at St. Luke’s.” This is the way civil societies have always come together for the common good. We wear masks to protect others. We follow the public health guidance on travel, social gatherings, and hygiene for the same reason. We don’t put others at risk. Instead, we remember that we live not in isolation but in community.

In the case of school, especially our school that so values every person and our collective whole, we are members of a particular community. To thrive, which means keeping our students in school while making it exceptional and safe for everyone, we turn to each other in trust and mutual respect.

With that in mind, and knowing that at St. Luke’s we already share a commitment to an Honor Code built upon the four pillars of Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Kindness, we now re-commit to those pillars through the following specific behaviors and the elements of this reopening plan:

1. Daily symptom screening before coming to campus (specifics on page 12)
2. While on campus, wearing a mask, washing hands regularly, and physically distancing
3. Being responsible in these same ways when not on campus, always following local and state public health guidance
4. St. Luke’s requires that all members of the community avoid traveling to states listed on Connecticut’s Travel Advisory List within 14 days of returning to campus, and to follow precisely Connecticut quarantine guidelines after returning from those listed states. To return to school on August 24th after visiting one of those states, for example, a student will need to have begun quarantine by August 9th. A negative test will not be a substitute for this quarantine period.

We are not creating a formal contract to be signed, but rather ask of all of us an implicit social contract, a shared commitment to keep each other safe and the School strong. Such a contract feels perfectly St. Luke’sian, and we know we can count on everyone to uphold it.
Guided by local and state health officials and our own Task Forces, St. Luke’s has been planning for possible scenarios for a safe and engaging return to school for many months.

As of July 28, 2020, St. Luke’s is proceeding with **Scenario 1: On the Hilltop.** This means our Hilltop campus will be open to all students, with classes taking place in person and also available online.

Should the health environment shift, St. Luke’s is prepared to shift as well. Depending on conditions, we are ready to move between the scenarios below. Moving from Level 1 to 2 or 3 would be the result of increased COVID-19 risk, State order, and/or local public health guidance.
SLSReady: An Exceptional Education in Every Scenario
As of 7/28, St. Luke’s is proceeding with Scenario #1.

**Scenario 1: On the Hilltop**
(On Campus + Synchronous)
- Campus is open to all students
- Students have synchronous access to classes from home
- Middle School Activities & Sports take place between 3:10-3:55pm*
- Upper School Sports take place between 4:00-5:55pm*

**Health and Safety** protocols will be followed.

*Students need to have been on campus during the academic day to participate in on-campus Sports & Activities that same day.

**Scenario 2: Hilltop & Home**
(Hybrid + Synchronous)
- Campus is open to all 5th & 6th grade students
- Middle School (grades 7 & 8) and Upper School students alternate coming to campus every other week to reduce population density and allow greater physical distancing
- During their off-campus week, students participate in St. Luke’s Distance Learning Plan
- During on-campus weeks, Middle School Sports & Activities take place between 3:10-4:10pm
- During on-campus weeks, Upper School Sports & Activities take place between 3:15-5:15pm
- During off-campus weeks, division and activity leaders will provide information about remote co-curricular activities

**Scenario 3: St. Luke’s at Home**
(All Classes Online)
- Campus is closed due to increased COVID-19 risk, State order, and/or local public health guidance
- All students participate in St. Luke’s Distance Learning Plan
- Division and activity leaders will provide information about remote co-curricular activities

**SOME HELPFUL DEFINITIONS RELATED TO ONLINE LEARNING:**

**Synchronous:** The class is taking place on campus and online simultaneously.

**Hybrid:** The classes alternate between on-campus and online.

**Distance Learning Plan:** Campus is closed and all classes take place online.

**A Note About Cohorting**
You may have read about schools using “cohorting” as a means of getting all students on campus. Cohorting means grouping students into sections that follow the same schedule with the same teachers. It’s a way to break large groups into smaller groups to minimize how many people interact. It’s worth noting that many schools’ “smaller” cohorts are larger than an entire grade at St. Luke’s. In some public schools, cohorts may be the size of the entire St. Luke’s Middle or Upper School.

St. Luke’s will embrace this methodology as much as possible in the Middle School, where students already cohort for the most part. We see cohorting as a poor solution for grades 9-12, where grades overlap extensively to give students curricular choices and proper academic placement. Limiting student choice would undermine our standards for an exceptional education, and would also remove key teachers and advisors from entire grade levels. That’s simply not acceptable to us.
In our new world, a best-in-class education means pivoting smoothly between in-person and online learning, and a mix of the two. Though we much prefer in-person experiences, having top-shelf online teaching and learning skills is a St. Luke’s advantage. Our students are engaged in meaningful learning no matter the conditions, and no matter what other schools do.

**Choice & Flexibility:**

St. Luke’s classes have been equipped with new videoconferencing technology to ensure that students learning from home can participate in their classes with peers who are on campus.

While campus is open, students will always have the choice to work from home, participating in their classes synchronously (in real time). Students do not need to commit ahead of time to being in classes on campus or online—decisions can be made day by day. We believe this flexibility is critical for families who have different needs and comfort levels, and whose needs and comfort levels might change. The goal is for students to have the best possible experience, no matter what feels “best” to a family at any time.

**Growing Online Expertise**

Over the course of several weeks this summer, the entire St. Luke’s faculty committed to enhancing online curriculum and teaching skills through the One Schoolhouse “Designing, Building, & Teaching for Hybrid Learning” training. As Head of Upper School Liz Perry said to the faculty:

“A great online program focuses on the student’s experience of our courses. This means each teacher doing everything we can to make the student experience intuitive (so it’s easy to navigate), connected (so it fosters a sense of belonging), and engaging (so students feel motivated to learn). Every SLS teacher knows how to do that under ordinary conditions; this course and these expectations ensure we all know how to do it under extraordinary conditions.”

**Well-Equipped for Agility...And the Future**

St. Luke’s Information Technology Team supports and partners with faculty to ensure we have the right tools to serve teaching and learning on campus and online. They researched, tested and equipped St. Luke’s learning spaces with the best cameras, microphones and distance learning tools available. In addition to the extensive time and expertise the IT team has invested in bringing these tools to the School, this also represents a significant financial investment by St. Luke’s. But it’s an investment we willingly make to provide equitable access to an exceptional St. Luke’s education. The videoconferencing capability will allow students who are not on campus—for whatever reason—to Zoom into classrooms in real time and participate along with peers. It will also afford the same opportunity—to Zoom into class and teach remotely—to a teacher who is not able to come to campus.
The elegance of the SLSReady Schedules lies in their simplicity, consistency, and agility. These schedules provide a foundation for an exceptional academic experience and remain in effect whether we’re fully on campus, online, or doing a bit of both.

In developing these schedules, we took into account feedback from students, parents, and teachers about the strengths and limitations of this past spring’s distance learning schedule, specifically the need to create a schedule that creates a consistent experience for students and will work in any scenario.

Additionally, the team that built the schedules (led by Director of Studies Jim Yavenditti) worked to ensure that non-class times don’t become too dense or prevent safe distancing. These times include lunch, passing time between classes, and breaks.

Watch and listen as Jim Yavenditti walks families through the schedules.

Watch the 7/23 Drop In about the schedules.

Combined with extensive faculty training, these schedules deliver consistency while enabling students to thrive no matter what guidelines we have to follow to preserve the health and safety of the St. Luke’s community. Best of all—it’s easy to follow and remember.

**Note:** The *first period of the day will always begin at 9:00 am*. This maximizes schedule consistency for students. It also means a staggered drop-off (to reduce driveway traffic) will not be “built in” to the schedule. Faculty and staff will be on campus by 7:45 am every day, and—as always—students can come to school early if they’d like and if that makes it easier for parents.
Health & Safety: Maintaining a Healthy Environment

It Takes A Village

Every member of the St. Luke’s Community can help prevent the spread of COVID-19—within the school community and in the broader community. Your support and adherence to safety protocols - and to the St. Luke’s Social Contract - will help determine whether our students and teachers stay safe and our campus remains open.

“The main mode of COVID-19 spread is from person to person, primarily via droplet transmission. For this reason, strategies for infection prevention should center around this form of spread, including physical distancing, face coverings, and hand hygiene.”

American Academy of Pediatrics

Physical Distancing

St. Luke’s is following the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) which offers this definition:

“Physical distancing, sometimes referred to as social distancing, is simply the act of keeping people separated with the goal of limiting spread of contagion between individuals. It is fundamental to lowering the risk of spread of SARS-CoV-2, as the primary mode of transmission is through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity.”

In its guidance for schools, the AAP also states: “Evidence suggests that spacing as close as 3 feet may approach the benefits of 6 feet of space, particularly if students are wearing face coverings and are asymptomatic.” This guidance is also supported by healthychildren.org as well as the findings of a “systematic review and meta-analysis” in The Lancet that “support(s) physical distancing of 1 m or more,” especially in combination with mask wearing.

Physical Distancing on St. Luke’s Campus

Minimum of 3 feet between students

6 feet between students and adults

6 feet between adults
HEALTH & SAFETY: MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

**Face Coverings & Hygiene:**

All students, faculty and staff will be required to wear face coverings (masks) at all times while indoors. Masks will not usually be required outside and during athletic activities (see more in Athletics).

Masks will be issued to every student and employee before in-person classes commence. Students may opt to bring their own mask from home. All masks must fully cover the mouth and nose area and have loops that fit around the ears in order to provide a snug fit. **Masks with openings, valves or gaps will not be permitted. Bandanas and gaiters are also not permitted.**

We’ll share videos demonstrating effective use of masks. Please have your children “practice” wearing their own masks at home for increasing periods of time in the weeks leading up to August 24th. One suggestion is to start by having them wear a mask when they are doing something they enjoy, such as watching TV or playing a video game. The goal is for them to gain comfort with this critical prevention tool. **(Here are more ideas).**

Hand sanitizers are available at entrances to all buildings, classrooms and dining halls.

St. Luke’s is installing eight portable handwashing stations under the front portico and on the Alumni Plaza for use before entering and after exiting the building.

Disposable wipes or similar acceptable cleaners are available in all bathrooms, classrooms and other shared facilities (e.g., copy machines).

Signage has been installed to remind students, faculty and staff to wear masks, wash hands frequently, and maintain safe physical distance.

**Facilities Cleaning and Disinfection**

St. Luke’s facilities partner Sodexo has prepared for a safe and healthy campus for everyone. Sodexo enhanced its already significant health and safety protocols with additional training to ensure strict adherence to safety guidelines. Our daily facility care includes use of Diversey lab-tested surface cleaning throughout the campus—**the same system Sodexo uses at Stamford Hospital.**

**HVAC: Air Handling System**

With the assistance of New England Energy Controls and based on advice from the Health Task Force, St. Luke’s has conducted a comprehensive review and balancing of its entire air handling system following the State of Connecticut’s guidelines. All filters have been replaced, and Merv-13 filters have been installed where possible. Further, all dampers have been opened to allow for increased air flow, mechanicals have been cleaned and disinfected, and all exhaust fans will be reset to run at all times. Windows and classroom doors will also stay open as much as possible.
Classrooms & Shared Spaces:

Maintaining proper distance between students at all times is a priority. We have carefully reviewed every classroom and learning space and either created new seating arrangements that provide physical distancing or installed protective barriers.

Spaces formerly used for non-academic functions have been repurposed to allow for additional classroom space.

Hallways have been divided—with arrows—to direct and separate foot traffic.

Furniture has been spaced out, and in some cases removed, in order to allow more room for physical distancing.

Plastic partitions have been installed in the Fireplace Commons, Dining Commons, breakout spaces, and library tables to allow for safe gathering with physical barriers.

Hallways, office spaces and bathrooms are cleaned in accordance with Connecticut’s guidelines for businesses.

Bathroom access will not be limited. Disposable paper towels will replace electric hand dryers. All soap dispensers will have antibacterial soap and signage will be installed with hand washing instructions and requirements.

Garbage cans will have all lids removed and will be emptied regularly.

As much as possible, windows and doors in classrooms will be kept open.

Dining Program

We’ve reimagined our dining options to balance safety with the need to eat and socialize. There will be a limited breakfast available to purchase. Lunch will be pre-ordered by students, packaged and picked up in a pre-assigned location. We encourage everyone to enjoy their lunch outdoors whenever possible. The Dining Commons and the Middle School Gym will provide indoor seating with tables and dividers. Eating with a mask on would be tricky (!) but students will be asked to put their masks back on as soon as they are finished eating.

The School’s food service provider - FLIK - will adhere to strict safety guidelines. All meals and cutlery will be prepackaged in disposable containers and disinfectant wipes will be available. The additional dining space - with clear table-top dividers - in the Middle School Gym assures safe distancing and protection when masks are removed for eating. Students and teachers will be asked to dispose of all garbage in school-provided garbage bags. Dining areas will be cleaned before and after each meal shift.

While seniors will not be able to leave campus during lunch (or leave and come back during free periods), they will have a special outdoor space on the Alumni Plaza where they can eat lunch or relax between classes. In addition, the cafe has been set up with dividers on tables and only seniors will be permitted to eat lunch there.

Music Programs

St. Luke’s is committed to maintaining our full music program during this crisis. The CT State guidelines for physical distancing for wind instruments and singers require 12 feet of distance among participants. St. Luke’s band and choir classes will meet in much larger spaces than usual, and in some cases in smaller groups than usual, to ensure appropriate distance. Singers will wear masks. Band and Choir concerts will be presented either via video or as livestreamed events without an audience. We are fortunate to have dynamic and creative music teachers who are dedicated to making this a positive artistic experience for all students.
Health Monitoring: Students, Faculty, and Staff

Self Check and Reporting

As part of the St. Luke’s Social Contract, all employees and students will conduct a daily self check for symptoms of COVID-19 before coming to campus.

Prior to leaving for school EACH morning, every student, teacher, and staff member will be required to log in to SchoolPass and complete a health inventory, which will be submitted electronically for each individual. (SchoolPass information will be sent to families in August).

Parents - note that this health inventory will ask you to take the temperature of your child, and attest to no fever or other COVID-19 symptoms (see below).

This graphic does not include all possible symptoms. Go the CDC’s Symptoms of Coronavirus for the most up-to-date information.

If any of these symptoms are present, individuals should remain at home and consult a doctor. Individuals who do not complete and submit the daily health screening or who have not passed the screening will be sent home. Symptoms can range from mild to severe illness, and appear 2–14 days after you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.
Individuals Testing Positive

In either of the following cases:

Student or employee has a confirmed case of COVID-19;

Someone living in the same household as the student/employee has a confirmed case of COVID-19,

**these actions will follow:**

1. Please inform the school at coronavirus@stlukesct.org as soon as possible.

2. The student/employee will self-quarantine at home for 10 days from the date symptoms first appeared. Additionally, the person needs to be symptom-free for 48-hours, without medication, before returning to campus. Please be sure to follow the federal guidelines on self-isolation or self-quarantine in this situation.

3. In the case of a positive infection, the School will work closely with the New Canaan Health Department to conduct contact tracing. Senior COVID-19 Coordinator Julia Gabriele, School Nurse Irene Maier, Assistant Athletic Director Anna Knechtel, and Athletic Trainer Nicole Guido have been certified in contact tracing by ASTHO (the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials).

4. Per CDC guidelines, household members of a COVID-19 positive individual will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from the last known contact with the infected person. Individuals who have had close contact with the household member will not be asked to quarantine unless that household member tests positive for COVID-19. The CDC defines a close contact as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

5. An entire grade level or division may be asked to quarantine for 14 days.

6. **Names of any/all individuals testing positive or being asked to quarantine will not be made public without permission from the individual.**

7. An email communication may be sent to the broader community to raise awareness and reinforce the need to adhere to guidelines.

8. Daily absence reporting to the health office must be completed for each day the student will not come to campus.

**See the CDC Graphic: Quarantine vs. Isolation**

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Isolation Spaces for Safety

Should someone become symptomatic while on campus, St. Luke’s has a 144 sq. ft. isolation space located near the front entrance. This private space is in addition to our existing health office and will help us ensure we can safely separate anyone who is ill from the rest of the population.

If isolation is needed, a parent or guardian will need to pick up the student for immediate quarantine. Before pickup occurs, the school nurse will provide care and monitoring in either the School Health Office or the new isolation area.
School Policies for a Safe Reopening

**Backpacks**

Students will be required to carry their backpacks during the school day this year. They will not have access to lockers due to the need to stay physically distant while minimizing transitions and passing time. Students must have their backpacks with them at all times and may not leave them unattended (e.g., in the Café to “hold” a spot, etc.). Any bags left around the school unattended will be confiscated and become a reportable infraction.

**Cell Phones**

Students may carry their cell phones with them, but phones must remain in backpacks throughout the day. They will not have access to lockers due to the need to stay physically distant while minimizing transitions and passing time. All students may check their phones before or after class while seated in a classroom. Upper School students are also allowed to use their phones during free periods while in a classroom (note: Middle School students do not have free periods).

No students may use cell phones in public spaces like commons, Café, library, gyms, etc.

**Dress Code**

The dress code will be the same whether a student is on campus or at home.

The Upper School dress code will resemble the spring dress code for the entire year. Students may wear a properly-fitting traditional polo style shirt year round. This dress code is simple and makes sense whether students are on campus or at home. We assume many families will have their children attend Upper School classes from home, and this shift to a year-round spring dress code allows flexibility for students while maintaining age-appropriate standards.

Middle School Dress Code

The Middle School functional dress code will ensure that students can remain comfortable throughout the school day this year. Functional dress code is athletic and leisure wear that students wear to P.E. and after school activities. We’ve made this decision to allow Middle School students the ability to easily transition from academics to P.E. classes, outside free-play, and co-curricular activities without the use of locker rooms/lockers and by avoiding potential contact with other students and unintentional crowded areas.

**School Supplies & Books**

The most important thing for families to know about School Supplies is that every student is required to have: 1) headphones with a microphone, and 2) a printer at home.

Most students already have headphones and new ones are not needed. Ideally, headphones should have a built in microphone and a regular headphone jack; here is one example. The built-in mic allows multiple people to use Zoom without feedback.

We recognize that having a printer at home will be a change for some families. A printer at home allows teachers to design screen-free assignments, especially in the event of distance learning. Of course, there will be times the printer runs out of ink or just doesn’t cooperate, and teachers will always provide workarounds for students in these situations. Any kind of printer is acceptable as long as the student can connect to it from their school laptop or someone else at home can print things for them.

Note that Middle School students will have all other school supplies bundled with their textbooks this year and provided to them during the week of August 24. Upper School students will shop for their own school supplies based on a list that will be shared by Mr. Yavenditti after student schedules are published (this is the normal procedure from past years). Upper School families will order books from our new online book vendor EdTech. Details on that procedure are coming shortly from Mr. Brusko.
**Travel**

St. Luke’s requires that all members of the community avoid traveling to states listed on Connecticut’s Travel Advisory List within 14 days of returning to campus, or follow precisely Connecticut quarantine guidelines (detailed on the Travel Advisory List page) after returning from those listed states. **To return to school on August 24th after visiting one of those states, for example, a student will need to have begun quarantine by August 9th.** A negative test will not be a substitute for this quarantine period.

For everyone’s protection, we have suspended school-related travel for the first semester. This includes field trips and travel for professional development.

We also ask that students, faculty and staff avoid personal travel away from the local area during the first semester except under exceptional circumstances (e.g., a sick family member). Again, this expectation is based on our need to work together for the safety of the entire community. Please remember that, depending on the nature and location of any travel and the status of the pandemic, there could be quarantine requirements either upon arrival at the destination or upon return.

**Transportation**

When traveling to and from campus, drop-off and pickup procedures remain as in previous years. The first period of the day for Upper School and Middle School is 9:00 am. We will encourage families to stagger morning drop off times to reduce traffic congestion.

Seniors may drive to campus but may not leave campus during the day including lunch and free periods.

Those students traveling by B&B Transportation and/or New York buses will follow the safety and distancing procedures implemented by both providers, following guidelines set forth by the State of Connecticut. Masks will be required while traveling to and from school on any bus.

Families can take comfort knowing that everyone in the building has completed the health screening prior to arrival and that people do not leave and come back during the day.

**Visitors & Parents**

Access to campus for visitors will be strictly limited and granted only by special request.

While our ordinary St. Luke’s culture welcomes and encourages parents to come to campus, under current conditions parents are permitted on campus only in a vehicle to drop off or pick up students. Parents may not enter the building except by special arrangement.

Parent conferences/meetings and all Admissions and College Counseling activities will take place remotely or after school hours.

Visitors and parents will be asked to attest to being symptom free and having no known COVID-19 exposures in the 72 hours prior to their arrival to campus.

Any visitor to campus must wear a mask at all times.
Co-Curriculars—After School Sports & Activities

Co-curriculars offer important and rewarding experiences for students and are central to St. Luke’s community-building. We know firsthand that students engaged in the co-curricular program have greater levels of personal and leadership growth, empathy development, and social connectedness. We are committed to providing the most robust co-curricular experiences possible in each of the three SLSReady Scenarios.

SLSReady Scenarios: Co-Curriculars

**Scenario 1: Hilltop**
- Activities & MS Sports 3:10-3:55pm
  - Bus departs at 4:10pm
- US Sports 4:00-5:55pm
  - Bus departs at 6:10pm

**Scenario 2: Hilltop & Home**
Students participate in on-campus co-curriculars only on days they attend academic courses in person
- MS Activities & MS Sports 3:10-4:10pm (alternating weeks)
  - Bus departs at 4:15pm
- US Activities & US Sports 3:15-5:15pm (alternating weeks)
  - Bus departs at 5:30pm
- Remote co-curricular activity connections vary by division and activity during at-home week

**Scenario 3: St. Luke’s at Home**
- No in-person co-curricular activities
- Zoom and asynchronous activity connections vary by division and activity
**Participation Policy**

If families elect not to send their student to campus for the academic day when campus is open, students will not be permitted to participate in on campus co-curricular activities. **As a result of this policy, we are removing the requirement to participate in co-curricular activities in the fall and spring seasons (winter was already optional) during this time of COVID disruption.**

Until further notice, students will have the choice of joining a co-curricular activity or opting out. If you need to make a change to a co-curricular activity, please communicate that change to the appropriate divisional Dean's office.

Once the activity begins for each season, please plan for full participation and avoid opting out of certain aspects of the activity (e.g., performance in a show or interscholastic contest). This full commitment allows activity leaders to ensure a robust experience for all participants.

**Clubs:**

All clubs will continue with either in-person or online activities in accordance with the academic schedule. All meetings will be supervised by the advisor and, when meeting in person, use physical distancing protocols.

**Athletics:**

**Interscholastic Sports**

The St. Luke’s athletic interscholastic experience will be informed by local and state guidelines, along with the guidance and seasonal impacts as outlined by the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) and the Fairchester Athletic Association (FAA).

Regardless of our ability to carry out interscholastic competitions, a full set of seasonal sports offerings with engaged coaches and committed students will create opportunities for growth and community-building throughout the school year.

Current seasonal plans will adhere to the regular planned St. Luke’s seasonal schedule:

- Upper School Fall Preseason will begin on Monday, 8/17. A practice schedule will be released separately.
- Middle School Fall Season will begin on Tuesday, 9/8.

Interscholastic play will be determined as we progress through each season, with priority given to varsity teams. If interscholastic play is not possible, intrasquad contests will be used to create competitive and personal growth opportunities for students.
If we move to Scenario 2: Hilltop & Home, in-person practices and team activities will occur during a division’s alternating on-campus week. This supports the core goal of Hilltop & Home to reduce campus density and allow greater physical distancing.

When we are off campus in Scenarios 2 & 3, the following can be expected as opportunities for students to engage in athletics:

**Upper School**
- Coaches lead online Zoom to fit the needs of their teams
- Coaches share weekly skill/fitness plans
- Athletic department will work to invite current/former college athletes to participate in team Zoom sessions
- Drop-in online fitness and yoga sessions will be available

**Middle School**
- Coaches share weekly skill/fitness plans
- Coaches offer Zoom sessions at least every other week

**Weight Room/Yoga** - Both will be offered either in-person or online. All health guideline protocols as outlined by the State of CT will be followed. Remote options will be offered if we move to Scenario 2 or 3.

**Additional Safety Precautions**
- Face masks will be worn by all coaches and staff at all times
- Student-athletes will wear face masks to and from the team activity location and when not engaged in strenuous activities (as per CT youth sports guidelines)
- Student-athletes and coaches will physically distance when not engaged in active play (on team benches, sidelines and during breaks)
- Teams will not huddle
- Locker room access will be restricted. No Middle School use of locker rooms will be allowed. Only select Upper School teams will be allowed locker room access (based on equipment and practice location)
ADDITIONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS CONT

- Temporary changing tents will be placed at each facility for use by Upper School students. Strict guidelines on use of those changing facilities will be shared with respective teams

- Student-athletes will bring their own individual water bottles (no cups or team bottles)
  - We will outfit our team water coolers with touchless dispensers at each practice location

- Shared equipment will be limited to the furthest extent possible (exceptions being game/practice balls, etc.), with any shared equipment being disinfected after each team session
  - No shared pinnies or sport specific safety gear (ie. helmets, masks, pads)

**Spectator Restrictions** - We will follow all guidelines related to indoor and outdoor gatherings for events scheduled during the academic year.

**Resources**

- NFHS Guidelines
- CT Youth Sports & Facility Guidelines
- CDC Guidelines

**Debate:**

**Practices** - Middle School and Upper School will conduct practice sessions either on-campus or online according to the academic schedule. Practice sessions will follow physical distancing guidelines.

**Competitions**

- CDA *(Connecticut Debate Association)* and NSDA *(National Speech and Debate Association)* tournaments are scheduled to be online this year.

- DANEIS *(Debating Association of New England Independent Schools)* tournaments will also most likely be online.
**Theater:**

Current seasonal plans will adhere to the standard St. Luke’s schedule. Upper School Fall auditions will begin as planned on August 31, with Middle School rehearsals beginning on September 8 (there are no MS auditions). We plan to produce theater that will minimize the risk to students, our audiences, and our faculty.

**Additional Safety Precautions**

- Masks will be worn at all times, until guidance on theatrical productions changes.
- Scripts will be digital, with no shared papers.
- Costumes & make-up will not be shared. Costumes will be issued at the onset of rehearsal, and kept by students for the duration of the production.
- Temporary changing locations will be identified, with specific protocols for use to be shared with each production by season.
- All microphones and shared tech equipment will be disinfected after each session.

**Rehearsals**

Rehearsals will take place either on campus and/or online in accordance with the Scenario in effect at the time.

**Performances**

Live theatrical performances will remain a central part of St. Luke’s Theater, as long as they can be produced safely and in a way that our audiences can enjoy them with minimal risk and concern. To this end, based on current plans for the 2020-2021 academic year, all audiences will be remote. Until large groups are able to congregate indoors, all performances will be online. In the interest of continuing the live communal experience as best we can, we plan to release our productions as either videos or live online events. SLS Theater will continue to innovate and track all trends in theater, offering the most robust experience for our student thespians.

**Resources**

- EdTA Recommendations for Reopening School Theatre Programs
- CT Arts Alliance COVID-19 Operating Guidelines for the Arts & Culture Industry
- Event Safety Alliance Reopening Guide
- NFHS Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities
- Arts Education Is Essential Unified Statement
- Education and Social Emotional Learning Outcomes - Consortium UChicago
Important August Dates

August 3: **Class of 2020 Virtual Commencement Ceremony**
St. Luke’s Commencement 2020 will take place at 7:00 pm. A link to join will be shared with families. Help us celebrate the Class of 2020 and enjoy remarks from Head of School Mark Davis, *Caduceus* yearbook dedicatee Camille Demarco-Havens, Valedictorian Chris Walsh, and Salutatorian Amelie Warneryd. Due to state gathering restrictions, Commencement will be a virtual ceremony. See our graduates and families at St. Luke’s Hilltop Celebration.

August 6: **SLSGathers Community Webinar - Reopening Plan 7:00 pm**
Welcome Back: A discussion of the St. Luke’s Reopening Plan with Head of School Mark Davis, Associate Head of School and Chief Financial Officer Julia Gabriele, Head of Middle School Amber Berry, Head of Upper School Liz Perry, and Director of Athletics Mike West. Your questions are welcome.

August 10-14: **New Faculty and Staff Meetings**

August 11: **Drop In Zoom Call—For New to St. Luke’s Families 7:00 pm**
New families are invited to join Head of School Mark Davis, Head of Upper School Liz Perry and Head of Middle School Amber Berry to discuss any outstanding questions and enjoy a chance to connect with your new community.

August 13: **SLSGathers Community Webinar—Health & Safety 7:00 pm**
Join Head of School Mark Davis, Associate Head of School and Chief Financial Officer Julia Gabriele, St. Luke’s School Nurse Irene Maier (RN, BSN), St. Luke’s Director of Counseling Services Kari Olsen (M.Ed in Counseling & Development), and special guest Dr. Asha Shah, Associate Hospital Epidemiologist and Associate Director of Infectious Diseases at Stamford Hospital.

August 17: **Upper School Fall Preseason Begins**
Practice schedules will be released at a later date.

August 17-21: **Full Faculty and Staff Meetings**

August 24-28: **Orientation for ALL Students**
All students return to the Hilltop for a week of special programming: meet your teachers, participate in community-building activities, gather with your advisory group, and learn the new procedures required to navigate the campus. Additional information and schedule will follow. Families electing not to send their children to campus will receive instructions about how students can participate remotely in key pieces of the week.

August 31: **Upper School Theater Fall Auditions**
Auditions for Upper School begin this week.

August 31: **All Classes Begin**
“At a time such as this, there is no better place to be than St. Luke’s. Despite the uncertainties we see in the world around us, families can continue to expect exceptional things from our school.”

*Head of School Mark Davis*