



# 2020-2021 Returning Safely to Campus

Re-opening Plan for Omni Montessori School's  
Blakeney Campus and Waxhaw Campus





**Omni Montessori School Mission: *Empowering children in a community faithful to the teachings of Maria Montessori.***

Omni Montessori School is committed to delivering our mission through an experience deeply rooted in [on-campus education](#).

If government guidelines allow, Omni Montessori School will hold its first day on campus on [Tuesday, August 18, 2020](#). Omni Montessori School is an independent school, and therefore is not required to follow the same schedule as public schools.

*[Please look for a phase-in schedule for each program level in the coming weeks.](#)*





## Guiding Principles for Re-opening Omni Montessori School

- Protect the health and safety of students and employees.
- Be compliant with government mandates.
- Utilize guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS).
- Establish effective use of spaces and places to support physical distancing.
- Provide students with some familiarity of school routines for learning.
- Set clear expectations for everyone.



## Returning to campus is going to look and feel different for everyone.

Omni Montessori School is implementing many changes to support physical distancing and the best practices for schools to reopen safely.

To support physical distancing, Omni Montessori School is making adaptations to campus which include (and are not limited to) establishing directional traffic patterns into, out of and throughout all campus buildings; spacing individual workspaces in classrooms; restricting occupancy in meeting spaces. In addition, based on current enrollment, we are adding one Primary classroom (for new students only) and one Lower Elementary classroom to enhance physical distancing.

*We will provide more details about the procedures at parent orientation events in July and August. Students will be given lessons regarding new procedures during the phase in days at the beginning of school.*



## Anticipated Changes on Omni Montessori School Campuses, page 1 of 2

- **Face Coverings**

We view the use of cloth face coverings as an important way that we, as a community, can slow/stop the spread of the virus and protect each other. Students will be required to bring a cloth face covering to school every day. Use of the covering will be determined based on physical distancing.

- **Lunches and Snacks**

As we start our school year, students will be eating in their classrooms or outside. Each student will bring a lunch and water bottle for their use only.

- **Encore!**

In order to minimize mixing students across classrooms, our elementary after-school care, enrichment and sports programs will not be open for the 2020-2021 school year.

- **Volunteering and Visitors**

In order to minimize risk and maintain a healthy environment for our students and teachers, we will begin the school year by strictly limiting access to campus buildings to students, teachers and essential personnel. While we understand that some members of our community may be disappointed, it is important to note that we will not resume on-campus or in-classroom volunteer opportunities right away.





## Anticipated Changes on Omni Montessori School Campuses, page 2 of 2

- **Health Screenings**

We are investigating ways to conduct daily health surveys which would include validating student and employee temperatures. Please continue to monitor communications for additional information.

- **Transportation**

There will be a staggered schedule for drop-off and pick-up. We are investigating the safest way to transport students to and from the Waxhaw campus.

- **Cleaning Processes**

Enhanced sanitizing and cleaning processes are being implemented at each campus.

- **Travel**

Any student or employee returning to Charlotte from a destination under travel restrictions, or whose household member has returned from such a destination, will be asked to stay home for 14 days prior to returning to Omni Montessori School.



## Prepared for Interruptions

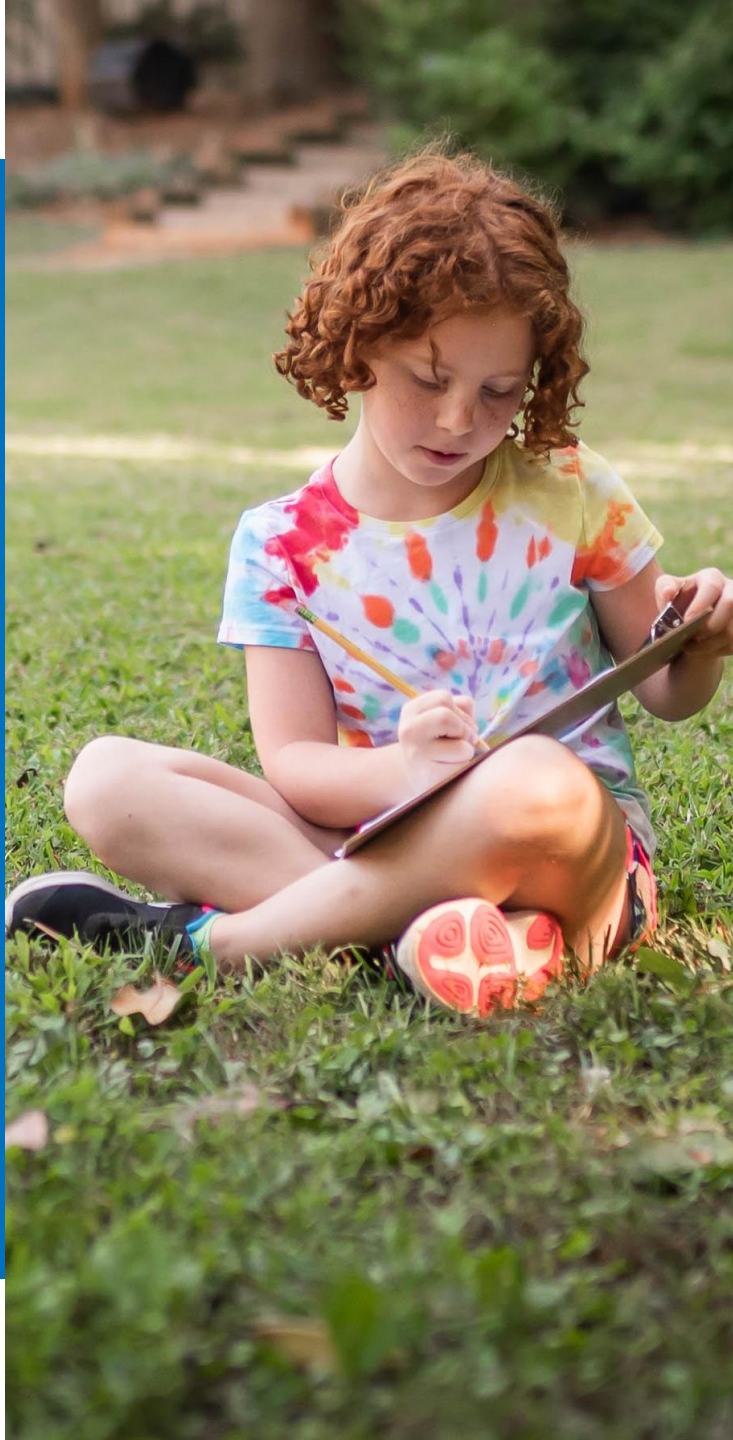
Even putting forth our best efforts, there remain circumstances beyond our control. We anticipate, based on CDC predictions, possible outbreaks of COVID-19 which could possibly impact on-campus programming in the future. In the event we are notified by government officials or the health department of the need to close campus, school will continue remotely. In addition, we are asking all families and employees to be flexible regarding the school calendar.

## Our Commitment

In the event that we are required to limit or restrict access to campus, or parts of campus (for example, to restrict access for just one program level), Omni Montessori School will transition to remote learning.

We recognize the needs of young children include the requirement of supervision and care in addition to their learning. In the event campus operations must be modified, we will prioritize continuing to offer on-campus instruction for our youngest students, if possible.





## **Omni Montessori School's Learning at Home**

Omni Montessori School provides a place-based education with teaching and learning experiences on campus. While we understand the on-campus experience is the most suitable approach for the majority of our students, we also recognize that some families may not be able to have their children return to campus for reasons related to the virus. We are currently exploring how to use technology and staff to extend the reach of the classroom beyond the physical space on campus by program level. More details will be provided as decisions are finalized.

## **Community Support**

Omni Montessori School guides worked hard to deliver academic continuity this spring, and they continue to invest in professional development this summer. Likewise, we plan to offer parent education opportunities to help our community build a strong partnership between guide/teacher, parent and student regardless of where learning takes place.





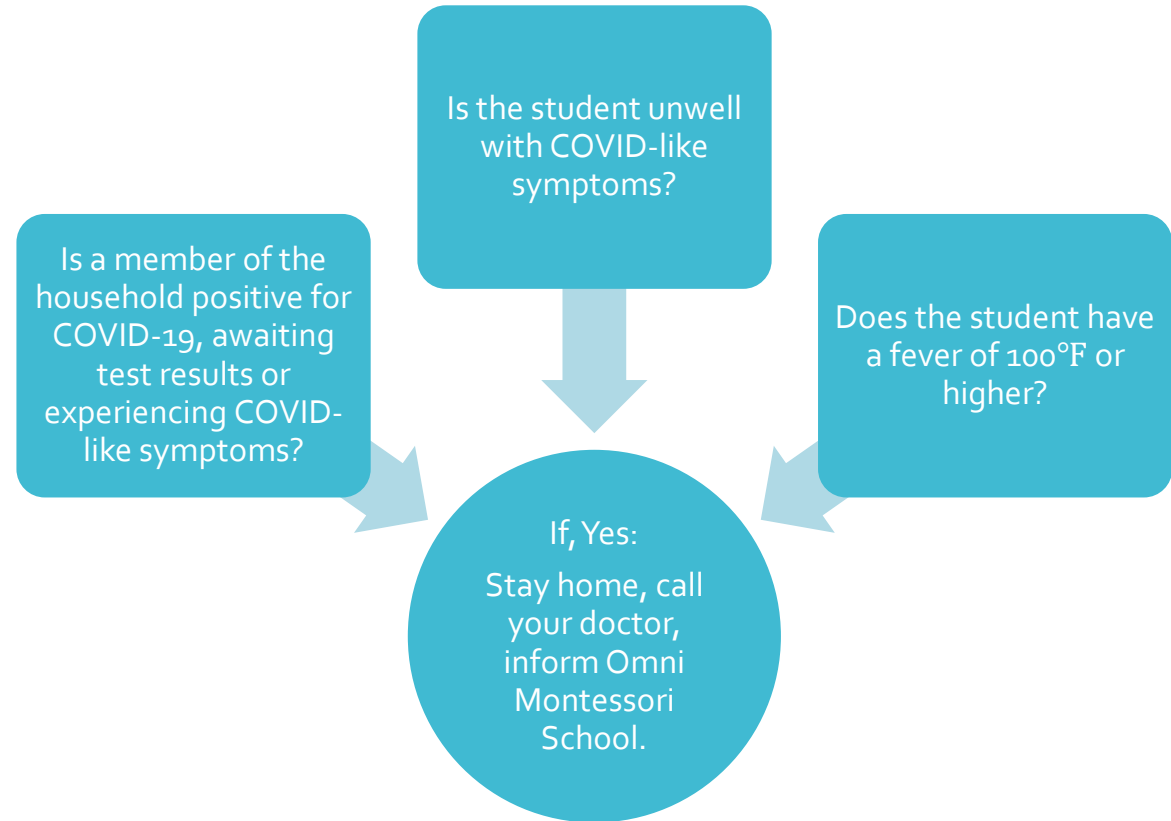
## How You Can Help Now

Creating and maintaining a healthy campus environment is essential and is going to require everyone's support and participation.

- Encourage frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.
- Practice coughing and sneezing into elbows.
- Add daily temperature checks to the morning routine.
- Visually show and practice keeping six feet apart.
- Practice wearing a cloth face covering.
- Encourage lots of physical activity and time outside.
- Ask how others are feeling and give them space to share and ask questions.

## Deciding When to Stay Home

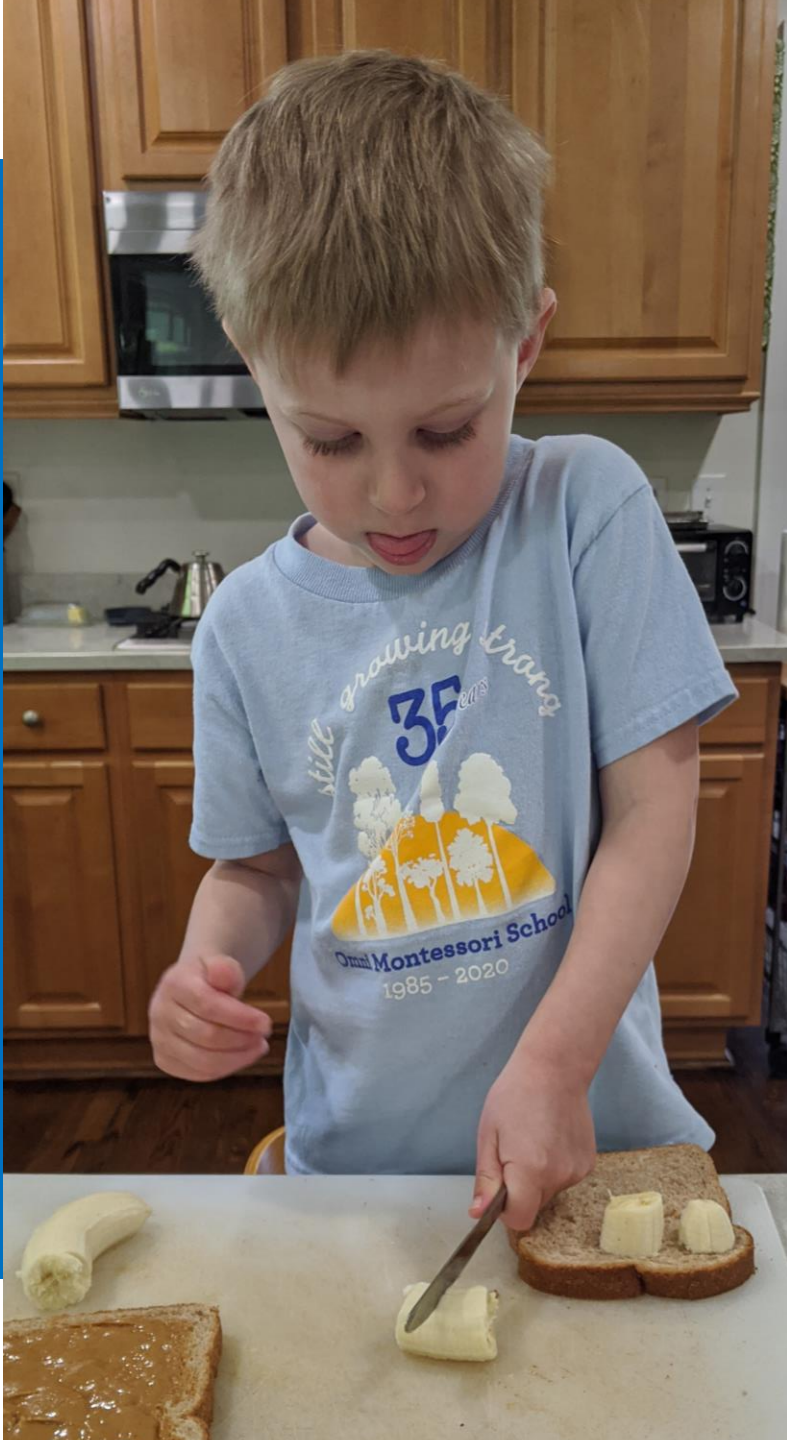
Parents agreeing and knowing when to keep children home from school is a very important part of keeping our campus healthy.



Students who have been unwell may return to school when they meet the NCDHHS guidelines for returning to school.







## COVID-19 Task Forces

Our community's health and safety is of the utmost importance. The Board of Trustees and the Leadership Team are working together to provide learning continuity for your child(ren), and to provide a strong and safe community for your entire family.

### BOT Task Force

Shelly Hemler, Chair

Veronica Rodriguez

Andy Shaw

Chad Ewing

Anamore Valdiosera

Khara Pride

Juan Carlos Milan

### Administrative Team

Cindy Curry

Lori Lauman

Amy Losasso

Lynn Nielsen

Crystal Jordan

Portia Williams

Tony Losasso

Connie Pendergast



## We Can't Wait to See You!

We've really missed having everyone on campus and are looking forward to the start of the new school year!

Please be sure to monitor school communications for updates and additional information.

If you have any questions, please contact us:

[cindy.curry@omni-montessori.org](mailto:cindy.curry@omni-montessori.org)

*Thank you to Ravenscroft and Gulliver Preparatory School  
for sharing their 2020-2021 re-opening plans with us.*