



## Friends School FAQ for Families in Response to COVID-19

(Updated 4/2/2020)

### **When will campus re-open?**

Currently, Friends School is operating under [Governor Polis's current Executive Order ordering all Coloradans to stay at home](#). Faculty and staff are working offsite to bring remote learning to our students. The Head of School along with the leadership team and Community Board will continue to evaluate the re-opening of campus while monitoring guidelines and mandates from the CDC and state and local government agencies. Families, visitors, and students may not be on campus under the stay at home order.

### **Who do I contact if I have a question during remote learning?**

If you have a question *specific to your child*, please reach out to your child's teacher or Middle School advisor. Please direct questions about *remote learning* to the appropriate division director:

- Preschool Division Director - [Jessie Vanden Hogen](#)
- Elementary School Division Director - [Mandy Stepanovsky](#)
- Middle School Division Director - [Shelby Pawlina](#)

### **What is the status for Friends School events and trips?**

Effective immediately, all events and trips hosted by Friends School will be postponed until further notice. Rescheduling of events will be reviewed case by case and will depend on CDC and government guidelines.

### **How will remote learning work for students?**

Your child's teacher will provide you and your child with specific schedules and instructions for remote online learning at their grade level. Review the all-school communication of 3/30/2020 and visit the [remote learning page of our website](#) for general remote learning guidelines, sample schedules, and other resources.

### **Will my child be on a screen all day long?**

No. The amount of screen time will vary by the child's age and grade. Our expert teaching faculty and division directors have designed a Remote Learning Plan that is developmentally-appropriate by each grade. Breaks, off-screen time, wellness, physical activity, and advisory

meetings are all part of the remote learning plan for our students. See your child's class schedule for details.

### **How will my child receive learning support?**

The Friends School Remote Learning Plan includes plans for learning support. Support will vary case by case depending on each child's specific needs. Connect with your child's teacher, advisor or appropriate division director for more information.

### **What is the type and frequency of communication that I can expect to receive from Friends School?**

- Classroom teachers will communicate daily M-Th
- Division Directors will hold weekly remote open office hours and/or be available by appointment.
- Homeroom Teachers will hold remote open office hours for families in grades 6-8 and will hold regular phone calls to their students
- Advisors will meet with students face-to-face using Zoom in grades 6-8
- The Head of School will communicate weekly (or more depending on situation)
- The Happenings will continue to be sent to the community on a weekly basis and will include an update from each division director

### **Will families receive a tuition refund while students are not on campus?**

As we navigate the COVID-19 situation, our faculty and staff are more committed than ever to providing the best platform possible for teaching and learning. Remote learning requires an all-hands-on-deck approach with our technology director, faculty, administrative and support staff all putting in extraordinary hours to ensure our students have the optimal learning environment at home. Teaching and learning will continue and therefore business operations will continue as usual during this time. Please contact our Finance Director, [Liz Eckstein](#) to receive information so that we can work with you through these challenging and unprecedented times.

### **What if my child (or parent) needs technology help during distance learning?**

Our teachers are a great support in this area and will do all they can to answer your questions and provide guidance. Keep in mind that Cloud services are being impacted by high demand and their services are having occasional outages; including Google, Zoom, and Schoology. **If you are experiencing any issues with these services, click the link(s) below to determine if this is a known issue, and therefore we may need to wait for the company to fix the issue.** If there aren't any known issues, then it could be something specific to your environment; your computer or internet router may need to be restarted, or your internet provider is having issues.

- Google - <https://www.google.com/appsstatus#hl=en&v=status>
- Zoom - <https://status.zoom.us>

- Schoology - <https://status.schoology.com>
- [Wifi troubleshooting steps](#)

### **My child left an item at school. How can I retrieve it?**

Families may not come to campus during a Level 5 Pandemic Response. Please email [Dacia Horn](#) to schedule curbside pickup if the item(s) needed are crucial to your child's remote learning plan.

### **Where can I share photos of my child during remote learning and see photos of other friends?**

We invite you to put photos or videos of sweet moments from home and family activities into our collective Google Photo albums (please post only photos you are comfortable sharing with our community. Please do not reuse photos of another family):

- [Preschool Photo Album](#)
- [Elementary Photo Album](#)
- [Middle School Photo Album](#)

### **Do you have tips for talking to my child about COVID-19?**

We know this is a stressful time for you and your family. We all have lots of questions and your child will too. We have the following resources to be very helpful as a guide for how to share information about the Coronavirus with your child. Please use it if it is helpful to you.

- [Preschool-age children](#)
- [Children ages Kindergarten and up](#)
- [All ages](#)

### **How can I support my child with remote learning?**

Friends School understands that a shift to a remote learning approach will require our students and families to make adjustments. A continued *partnership* with parents and guardians can play a vital part of ensuring the success of the plan. Division Directors, learning support staff and teachers are all available to support and guide students (and parents/guardians/caregivers) should they need help. Please see the [Remote Learning Plan Handbook](#) for some guidelines for parents/guardians/caregivers to help students achieve success with remote learning. In addition to continued learning, it is equally important to tend to the social and emotional needs of your child by embracing this time at home with your family!

### **Ways to Stay Connected with Friends Remotely:**

- Have a Facetime/Google Hangout/Zoom/Meet chat
- Write letters to friends and send via snail mail
- Have them share projects they have done
- Give a friend a tour of your home and your yard
- Do a video daily journal for family and friends out of town