
Reopening **Rock Point School**

A COVID Guide for Students & Families





ROCK POINT SCHOOL

COVID Coordinating Team:

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Introduction

As a small school that fosters community and teaches students to care for both themselves and others, Rock Point School is well positioned to reopen in the fall while mitigating the risk of COVID-19 infection.

At this moment, our size serves us especially well: we can keep an eye out for one another, and can monitor every student, teacher, and staff member on an ongoing basis.

To prepare this plan, we have drawn on the guidelines prepared by the Vermont Agency of Education and by the Vermont Independent School Association for boarding schools.

Throughout the summer, we also consulted and collaborated with the Vermont Department of Health; the Vermont Department of Commerce and Community Development; the City of Burlington; the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont; state, regional, and national independent school associations and other residential programs; other schools and colleges; and relevant professionals and businesses.

Two Core Objectives:

1.

To mitigate the risk of COVID-19 infection in the school, in our families, and in our community through sound risk-reduction strategies, programmatic changes, education and training, and a culture of care for self and others.

2.

To continue to fulfill our mission: Rock Point School provides a close-knit, supportive educational community, where high school and postgraduate students who have experienced challenges can become successful academically, build self-confidence, and develop skills for their future. Rock Point School offers academic, cultural, recreational, and spiritual opportunities that support intellectual growth and help students become their best selves.

Guiding Principles for Mitigating Risk

Our guiding principles align with best health practices, as well as with what have always been Rock Point School's core community values:

Care for self & care
for others

Drawing on one
another's strengths
to safeguard and
build our
community.

Responsibility &
accountability

Six Keys to Mitigating Risk

Testing

Use testing to establish and maintain a safer school community. This will include testing all students and staff before the school year begins and on an as-needed basis thereafter and in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health.

Hygiene

Sanitizing or washing hands upon entering the building or common spaces and frequently throughout the day. Cleaning and sanitizing common spaces on a regular schedule throughout the day, with additional sanitizing of high-touch areas.

Screening

Completing a daily wellness check to take temperature and review possible symptoms before entering the building or common areas for all students and staff. Screening any essential visitors before they enter the building.

Masks

Wearing surgical or cloth face coverings when in common spaces or near others.

Limited Contact

No visitors will be allowed in the school building other than essential workers. School activities off campus will limit contact with the wider community.

Physical Distancing

Keep six feet distance from others..

Community Commitment

Our success will draw on a committed partnership of staff, students, and students' families. Rock Point School has always thrived because of this partnership. This year, the stakes are high, and we depend fully on one another to do our parts. We will ask all members of the community to sign an agreement to honor the risk-reduction strategies and help one another to make them work. We can meet our objectives by taking individual responsibility to care for both ourselves and others, holding ourselves and others accountable to the agreement, and by offering support to one another. This agreement will be available on Monday, August 3rd.

We have to be realistic: this year will be challenging. The virus, which is invisible and widespread, creates a great deal of uncertainty. What we *can* control is how we respond. We will use the best public health advice to take care of ourselves and those around us, as we create a vibrant community together, making the most of the opportunities we have.

How We'll Make It Work

Education

Through education on the nature of viruses, we will learn why we need to follow particular measures to take care of ourselves and others. This understanding will motivate and inform effective action.

Follow Through

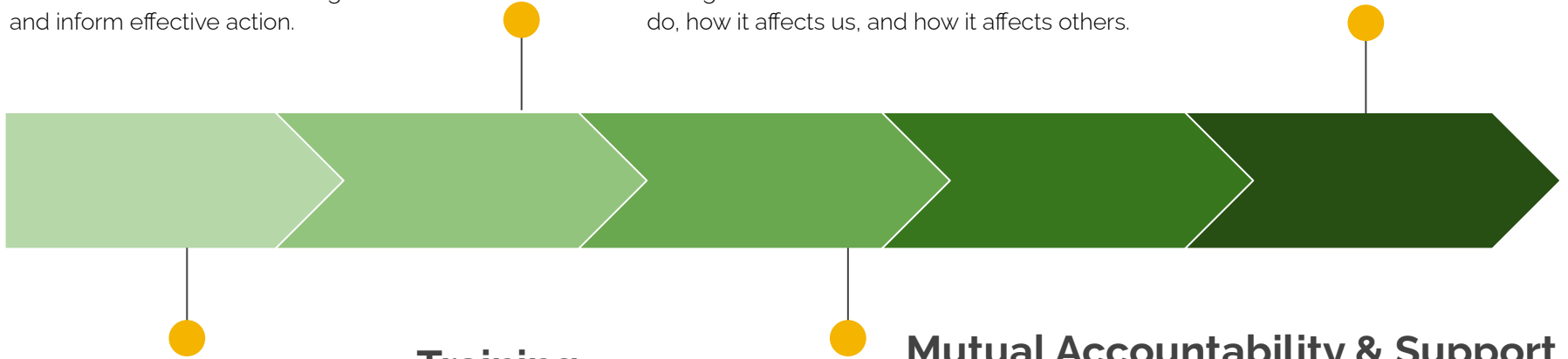
Once we know what to do, we will practice the protocols, make them part of our routines, break some old habits, and build new ones. It's crucial to do more than go through the motions. We need to be mindful of what we do, how it affects us, and how it affects others.

Training

We all need training to know what to do and how to do it most effectively.

Mutual Accountability & Support

Everyone in the community is on the same team. We will help one another. Making new habits is hard, especially habits that go against our grain as social beings. In order to make new habits stick, we need to hold ourselves and others accountable. We all have to be willing to give and accept feedback. And remember to keep it kind!



Our Strengths

Community



Location



Health & Wellness



Size



Our Strengths: Community & Location



Community

Rock Point has long been a place where students develop commitment to community and learn about the ways in which individual actions affect a larger group. We have always emphasized community and taught students how to contribute positively to the greater good. **Taking responsibility for ourselves as we weather this pandemic will involve the same staff modeling, explicit conversations, close supervision, and student culture that have always been central to daily life at our school.**



Our Location

Vermont responded quickly to COVID-19, and our state's leadership has steadily made cautious decisions, allowing the number of cases to remain one of the lowest in the nation. **We are confident that our state will continue to re-open slowly, enforce cautionary measures, and follow the lead of scientists and up-to-date data in all decisions related to the pandemic.**

Since our large property is situated on Lake Champlain, and equipped with athletic fields, outdoor classrooms, trails, a garden, and more, **we can provide ample safe programming and activities for our students right on our campus.** This allows us to engage our students in active, healthy fun right on the private property of the Episcopal Diocese, which is in the school's front and back yards and all available to the school. In normal times, it is a quiet property, and access to the property is restricted this year nearly exclusively to the residents and the community garden.

Our Strengths: Health & Wellness and Size



Emphasis on Health & Wellness

We have always emphasized health and wellness. From taking part in daily physical activities, to committing to sobriety at Rock Point, to check-ins about nutrition and medication, students are used to trusting staff members to help them care for themselves.

Our staff and our students are used to having conversations about wellness with each other, and have a base of trust and support that will allow the conversations to happen naturally. These conversations will continue throughout the year, as students are given reminders about hygiene and are screened to be sure they remain healthy.



Our Size

Of course, one of the main strengths of Rock Point School is our small size. We have always known that to be true, but it is even truer now. In our large building, there is ample space to spread out classes, eat meals, and be safely distanced at all times.

Because of the small number of students, we can monitor hygiene easily, and give reminders and strategies to promote safety. We are able to screen each student every day, and there is ample staff attention so that if a student is not feeling well, it will not go unnoticed. Generally, students feel seen and supported at Rock Point School, which will allow them safety as well as comfort as they join us during this uncertain time.

Family Preparation Before School Opens

Including an **Overview**, **Important Steps**, and details about **Arriving to RPS via Car** or **Public Transportation**

Family Preparation: An Overview

In order to start the school year as safely as possible, **students and families need to take a series of active steps before they arrive.** The transition to school, and into the dormitory, is critical in order to maximize everyone's health at the beginning of the school year. The steps to a successful transition are described below.

Once students are settled and known to be virus-free, the school will be able to treat all boarding students as a single household cohort. This will give boarding students opportunities to be closer together in the dining hall, classrooms, and lounges and to relax—and even not wear masks—especially in the evening and on weekends when they are **only** with other boarding students.

Plans for boarding students need to include quarantining and testing for the student and anyone traveling with the student to the school. You will most likely need your and your child's doctors' offices to make referrals in order to get a test for everyone in the household. **You will need to plan sufficient time to get your test results, and remain quarantined while you wait for the results and prior to traveling to the school. We recognize that these are strict and difficult demands, but the pay-off makes them worth doing.**

Family Preparation: Important Steps

In order to do this effectively, here are important steps.

1. **Complete any medical appointments** for the student before quarantine starts.
2. **Each student and their parents--including both returning students and new students--participate in family orientation via Zoom**, by appointment, between Monday, August 24th, and Thursday, August 27th. This orientation will include the student's advisor and a member of the administrative team. The school will contact families to set up these meetings.
3. **Review Opening Plan.** Students and parents sign and submit Community Commitment and Waiver. This document will be available on Monday, August 3rd.
4. **Families make a preparation and travel plan in consultation with Dean of School Ryan Weiland or Head of School CJ Spirito by August 28th.**
5. **Quarantine and test, at home or in Vermont.**

Family Preparation: Traveling Directly By Car to RPS

You must follow all rules for quarantine and testing before you drive to campus. You will consult with Dean of School Ryan Weiland about your plans and questions. Ryan will be in touch with you to formalize a written plan for your travel within the next two weeks.

- 1. Quarantine at home for eight days, take the COVID test, and stay in quarantine until you leave for Rock Point School.** Time your test as close to coming to school as possible, while allowing enough time for the test results to come back. Note that the turnaround time varies by state and region. You must bring a copy of your test results with you.
- 2. Please, bring cloth face coverings and/or a supply of surgical masks for personal use.** The school will have a supply, but each student should also bring a personal supply.
- 3. Stay in quarantine until your departure for school.** A test is only a snapshot of a particular moment, and is only as good as what we do after we take the test.
- 4. When you are on the road:**
 - Travel directly from home to school.
 - Bring any meals you will need to eat with you when you leave home.
 - If you must take a rest stop, limit your time indoors to less than 10 minutes, wear a mask, and sanitize your hands immediately after leaving the building.
- 5. If you are unable to arrive at school on time, make a plan to arrive when you can.** While you are quarantining, you will be able to join your classes remotely.

Family Preparation: Taking Any Form of Public Transportation

You must plan to come to Vermont with an adult and quarantine here. You will consult with Head of School C.J. Spirito about your plans and questions. C.J. will be in touch with you to formalize a written plan for your travel within the next two weeks.

- 1. Plan to arrive at least eleven days prior to the opening day of school and quarantine in Vermont. Quarantine for eight days, take the COVID test, and stay in quarantine until you come to the school.** Expect that it will take a few days to get the result. You must bring a copy of your test results with you.
2. Should families decide to quarantine in Vermont prior to school starting on September 13th, we have put together some [airbnb](#) ideas for either being in the city or on the lake.
- 3. Please, bring cloth face coverings and/or a supply of surgical masks for personal use.** The school will have a supply, but each student should also bring a personal supply.
- 4. If you are unable to arrive in Vermont early enough, make a plan to arrive when you can.** While you are quarantining in Vermont, you will be able to join your classes remotely. (Make sure you'll have internet access!)

A Timeline for Families



August 17

COVID Care Questionnaire DUE

By this date, you will have completed the questionnaire shared with you by the school, so that we can begin contingency planning for you, in the case of a COVID-positive case at the school.

August 24-27

Family Orientation

Participate in family orientation via Zoom with the student's advisor and a member of the administrative team.

August 28

Final Travel Plan & Contingency Plan DUE

By now, you will have finalized your Travel Plan, and your Contingency Plan, with either Ryan or C.J.

Aug 31 - Sept 11

Quarantine & Testing

Quarantine at home or in VT for eight days and then get a COVID test (set up ahead of time). Allow enough time for test results to come back. Note that the turnaround time varies by state and region, so you may need to adjust the above dates. When you receive your results, please scan them and send to School Nurse David Boggs at dboggs@rockpoint.org

September 8

Testing for Day Students

Day students do not need to quarantine but should get a COVID test (which you will likely need to set up ahead of time). Allow enough time for test results to come back. When you receive your results, please scan them and send to School Nurse David Boggs

September 13

Travel & Arrival (School Begins)

Drive directly from home to school. Plan to arrive between 12:00 and 2:00 pm. Day students plan to arrive between 2:30 and 3:00.

Arrival: Sunday, September 13

Opening day will be different this year.

The first difference is the timing: Arrival times run from 12:00 to 2:00 in order to build in travel time. The second is that parents and families may not enter the building. This minimizes risk and follows the Vermont Agency of Education guidelines.

Bagged lunches will be provided.

(We ask families not to stop downtown to pick up food until they're on their way home.)

We'll hold opening day events and meetings

outdoors—under a tent if the weather necessitates—and maintain physical distancing.

- **12:00-2:00** Students & Families arrive
- **12:00-2:00** Lunch (bagged lunches) & room set up (students)
- **1:00-2:00** Various options for parents and families
- **3:00** Convocation (under the tent)
- **3:30** Parent meeting
- **3:30** Student meeting
- **4:30** Families say their goodbyes outdoors
- **5:00** Families depart by 5:00
- **5:30** Household Dinner

Living & Learning at RPS

Information on the **Building & Facilities**, **Access** to the building, **Cleaning & Sanitizing** plans, the **Kitchen & Dining Hall**, **Offices**, and **Ventilation**.

Living & Learning: Access to the Building

Only staff and students may enter the building. Anyone who enters the building must pass a screening, sanitize their hands as soon as they enter the building, wear a mask, and practice physical distancing.

- **Staff**

All staff—administrators, staff, teachers, and residential educators—must take their temperature and complete the screening survey on-line and sign off on it before coming to the school. Like students, staff must sanitize their hands as soon as they enter the building and regularly throughout the day, wear a mask, and practice physical distancing

- **Day Students**

Before bringing their child to school each day, parents should take their child's temperature and complete the screening survey on-line and sign off on it. Like staff, day students must sanitize their hands as soon as they enter the building and regularly throughout the day, wear a mask, and practice physical distancing.

- **Boarding Students**

Boarding students must sanitize their hands as soon as they enter common spaces and regularly throughout the school day, wear a mask, and practice physical distancing around others who are not part of the household.

- **Essential Contractors**

With proper screening and precautions, contractors may enter the building by appointment for a limited and specified time.

Living & Learning: **Cleaning & Sanitizing**

The building's cleanliness will be carefully and regularly maintained, using the CDC and VT Agency of Education guidelines as minimum standards.

Work Crews: Small staff-supervised work crews have always been part of our program. For years, students have cleaned and sanitized the kitchen and dining hall after each meal and common areas twice a day. Work crews will continue to do their jobs on this schedule.

Additional Steps: First, staff will sanitize after the student work crew finishes; second, high-touch areas will be cleaned and sanitized more frequently; third, teachers and staff will routinely clean and sanitize spaces between classes and meetings; and, fourth, staff will complete a third cleaning and sanitizing of common spaces (in addition to the kitchen and dining hall) on weekdays.

Living & Learning: Kitchen, Dining Hall, Offices, & Ventilation

Kitchen & Dining Hall: The kitchen and dining hall will be used and arranged quite differently. The Director of Food Services and the School Nurse are working in consultation with other local residential programs with kitchens and the VT Department of Health to plan the safest way to serve food. The final plan will be vetted by the COVID Team.

There is now a seating plan for the dining hall. Boarding students will sit together, with 1-2 staff members seated at a separate and physically distant table. Day students will sit in that staff area, at a 6-foot distance from the boarding students, the staff, and one another.

Other staff have a separate dining area, which allows for physical distancing. We will use plexiglass barriers to mitigate risk further.

Offices: Unless there is ample space for 6-foot-plus distancing, staff will not meet students or others in their offices. Meetings will take place in open areas in the building. Staff will clean and sanitize spaces after meetings.

Ventilation: Mountain Air, the company that services the HVAC system in the building, has inspected the system and reported that the building is well ventilated and needs no further updates.

Living & Learning at RPS

Information on the **Household Cohort**, **Students' Rooms**, **Screening** procedures, **Classrooms**, the **Academic Environment**, **Activities**, **Therapy**, and aspects of **Community Life**

Living & Learning: The Household Cohort

All students living on campus will form a single household cohort (called “household” in the rest of this document).

There will be guidelines in place for vacations and transitioning back to campus, when the household is establishing itself as a unit.

Public schools are treating individual classes—one teacher’s fourth-grade class, for example—as cohorts. Rock Point is small enough to scale this idea to include all students living on campus in a single cohort. What’s more, our students are not moving back and forth from family and other social settings to school, and this reduces risk. Boarding students will have more freedom to relax with one another—and go mask-free—when others, who are not part of their household, are not present.

Other members of the Rock Point community are not considered part of this household and must always practice risk mitigation strategies when they enter the building and interact with boarding students and one another. This includes wearing masks and being appropriately physically distanced.

Boarding students must also wear masks when anyone who is not part of the household is present and practice physical distancing. They will need to carry their masks at all times in case someone outside their cohort comes into the room, including Residential Educators.

Living & Learning: Students' Rooms & Screening

Rooms: All boarding students will start the year with single dorm rooms. If the option for doubling up in dorm rooms is something that seems safe, healthy, and beneficial to students down the line, we will keep families fully informed as we discuss making changes to this policy.

The Residential Educators are not part of the household and will observe hygiene, mask, and physical distance protocols.

- To maintain the physical household boundary, Residential Educators may knock on the door and stand in the doorway.
- Staff can only enter a student's room with a mask and gloves on and require the student to wear a mask, as well, and stay for less than fifteen minutes.
- If a student needs more time with a staff member, the staff member will take responsibility to move to another area and maintain physical distancing.

Screening & Testing for Boarding Students: Teachers, administrators, and the nurse will conduct screenings of boarding students each morning before they enter public spaces. This process mirrors the daily process of self-screening completed by all staff and day students before they enter the building.

- The school will conduct tests periodically and as needed.
- Parents/guardians must sign a permission slip for testing for any student under 18 years old.

Living & Learning: Classrooms, Remote Learning, Study Hall, Activities, & Therapy

Classrooms: Classrooms will be rearranged and moved to larger spaces that allow for 6-foot distancing and/or more ventilation. Everyone will wear masks. Students in the household will sit together as usual, while teachers and day students will be positioned at an appropriate distance from the household and from one another. The school will use portable plexiglass screens in spaces as needed. Teachers will clean and sanitize classrooms between classes.

Remote Learning: We are using remote learning alongside classroom learning. Some students have enrolled as remote learners, and our classes will fully integrate them using the Zoom platform. We will also have the flexibility to keep teaching students if they have to quarantine or isolate.

Study hall: We will run study halls as usual. The household members can sit close to one another. Day students and staff supervisors must maintain the proper distance.

Field Trips & Activities: Activities and field trips will continue, but they will take place outdoors and in settings so that the household stays together and at safe distances from others outside the household. Residential Educators will supervise and take proper precautions. Rock Point School buses can be used, with proper distance between staff and the household. Many activities will take advantage of the Rock Point property. Day students can participate if they follow physical distancing guidelines. The school will be in touch with families about possibilities.

Therapy & Appointments: These appointments will be remote unless there's an emergency.

Living & Learning: **Community Life**

Students and staff build community together in a range of ways: in classrooms, on work crews, in activities, on field trips, and in day-to-day interactions. We also build community and support students as they build their leadership skills through regular community meetings and reflections and through special events. As much as possible, we will keep to Rock Point School traditions of thoughtful gatherings and creative play.

Community Meetings: Community meetings and Reflections will continue, outside when possible, and with proper distancing

Events & Community Service: Special events, such as the Thanksgiving celebration, will take place with proper distancing. Regrettably, we can include no guests. Some events, such as the Ooky Spooky Race, can't take place at this time. This is also true of in-person community service, such as volunteering at COTS.

Study hall: We will run study halls as usual. The household members can sit close to one another. Day students and staff supervisors must maintain the proper distance.

Admissions: In the past, students have taken an active part in showing prospective students around the school. Unfortunately, there can be no admissions tours or student and family visits.

Therapy & Appointments: These appointments will be remote unless there's an emergency.

“What if...?”

Contingency Plans & Potential Scenarios

What Ifs: Our Approach to Contingency Planning

We have planned for contingencies. This includes finding spaces for quarantine and isolation and establishing protocols for all members of the community. As described in more detail below, we will work with the Vermont Department of Health. They have been instrumental so far in supporting our planning, and we expect to continue this vital collaboration.

In the case of possible exposure or a confirmed case of COVID our objectives are:

- To take care of individuals
- To reduce risk for the rest of the community through appropriate quarantine and isolation
- To follow directives from the Vermont Department of Health
- To communicate and work with families, students, and staff as part of our risk-reduction strategy

We also intend to plan with families, and are fortunate to be small enough to do so. **We will share a questionnaire with families, which will be provided on August 3rd, along with a more detailed plan for opening. Please complete this questionnaire by August 17th.** This questionnaire will serve as the starting point to your making a contingency plan in consultation with Dean of School Ryan Weiland.

Each family will develop a plan with the school about what they would do if their child has contact, has symptoms, or tests positive.

If necessary, and in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, the school will test everyone and/or shift our approach to the boarding students' household. When necessary, all students in the household will practice risk-reduction strategies. As a reminder, all staff and day students are already practicing risk-reduction strategies.

What Ifs: Quarantine Vs. Isolation

The terms *quarantine* and *isolation* can cause confusion and are commonly used interchangeably. Who is supposed to be in quarantine, and who is supposed to be in isolation? Our use of the terms is in keeping with the Vermont Department of Health's descriptions.

- **Quarantine**

Those who have no symptoms but have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 should quarantine. We are additionally using quarantine, in conjunction with testing, for students who have had no known contact with someone with COVID-19 as a means to create the safest large household for dormitory students as possible.

- **Isolation**

Those who are sick with COVID-19 or have tested positive should be isolated.

- **Spaces for Quarantine:**

We have designated the Rock Point Conference Center as our quarantine site, and students will live there with staff supervision, unless a family member comes. A family member may stay with their child at the Conference Center during quarantine. The Conference Center, which is located on the property, has multiple rooms and single bathrooms.

- **Spaces for Isolation:**

We have designated a set of rooms in the north wing of the second floor of the building for isolation. There are rooms available, and one bathroom. These rooms will be partitioned off from the rest of the second floor.

- **Self-observation:**

We are all responsible for self-observation. Rock Point School will facilitate this through a daily online screening survey. All members of the community--students and staff alike--will be required to complete this survey and take their temperature before entering the building or entering common spaces.

What ifs: What if a student has close contact with someone with COVID?

If a student has close contact with someone who has COVID, we will notify the student's family immediately, consult with them, and get the student tested. Until we get results, the student will be quarantined.

We will consult with the Vermont Department of Health. If they think it is prudent, the household will go on "pause." All boarding students will observe precautions: mask, maintain distance, eat separately, etc. No boarding students will be allowed to enter another student's room. Classes will continue with all students observing proper distancing; alternatively, it is an option to conduct classes remotely.

If the student is a boarder, they will move immediately to one of the rooms at the Rock Point Conference Center, which is located on the property. The Conference Center has multiple rooms and single bathrooms. We are designating the Conference Center as our quarantine site, and students will live there with staff supervision, unless their parents come (see below).

If the student lives locally or within driving distance, parents may come to pick them up and take them home if they are able. A family member may also stay with them at the Conference Center during quarantine.

While in quarantine, students will participate in classes remotely if they are able. If the student is at Rock Point Conference Center and no family member is there, staff will deliver food, tend to their needs, and look after them. Once the student tests negative, they'll move back to their room, and staff will closely monitor their health.

What ifs: What if a student has symptoms of COVID?

If a student has COVID symptoms, we will notify the student's family immediately, consult with them, and get the student tested. Until we get results, the student will be isolated.

We will consult with the Vermont Department of Health. If they think it is prudent, the household will go on "pause." All boarding students will observe precautions: mask, maintain distance, eat separately, etc. No boarding students will be allowed to enter another student's room. Classes will continue with all students observing proper distancing; alternatively, it is an option to conduct classes remotely.

If the student is a boarder, they will move to one of the rooms in the north section of the second floor of the building that has been designated for isolation and closed off from other spaces. There are 5-8 rooms available, and one bathroom.

If another student, one who has tested positive, is present in that area, we will not isolate the student with suspected COVID in this section. Instead, we will isolate them at the Rock Point Conference Center until we receive test results.

If the student lives locally or within driving distance, families may come pick them up and take them home if they are able. Families should consult and plan with the Dean of School Ryan Weiland or Head of School C.J. Spirito.

While in isolation, students will participate in classes remotely if they are able. If the student is on campus, staff will deliver food, tend to their needs, and look after them.

Once the student tests negative, they'll move back to their room, and staff will closely monitor their health.

What ifs: What if a student tests positive for COVID?

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the school will keep the student isolated and notify the student's parents immediately to consult about the next steps.

The school will notify the Vermont Department of Health as mandated and follow their directives. If there is more than one case at the school, the Department of Health will work with Rock Point to address and mitigate the situation.

The school will notify all parents that a student has tested positive and inform them of the school's next steps, but will not identify the student for privacy reasons.

If directed by the Vermont Department of Health, the school will test all students and staff. The household will go on "pause." All boarding students will observe precautions: mask, maintain distance, eat separately, etc. No boarding students will be allowed to enter another student's room. Classes will continue with all students observing proper distancing; alternatively, it is an option to conduct classes remotely. We will go on "un-pause" and resume normal household practices with clearance from the Vermont Department of Health.

The student can move back to their dorm room after getting a negative COVID test, and approval from the Vermont Department of Health, with whom we would be in close touch during a situation like this. Once a student is cleared to move back to their room, staff will continue to monitor their health.

What ifs: What if a student leaves campus and puts others at risk?

If a student partakes in a risky, even reckless, behavior that breaks our COVID rules (which will be made abundantly clear to students on a continuing basis), that behavior will be the basis for suspension from school. If the behavior is repeated, that student will be re-evaluated. Re-evaluation is a process which involves the student, family, and school to determine if the student will remain at Rock Point School.

Our focus is on prevention, and we intend these consequences to encourage students to approach our rules and our safety as a community with maturity and seriousness.



What Ifs: Staff Approach

What if a staff member has known contact with a person with COVID, experiences symptoms, or tests positive for COVID?

If a staff member has a known close contact with someone with COVID, they will stay home, notify the school, and quarantine. After eight days, they will get a test, and return only after getting a negative test result.

If a staff member experiences symptoms, they will stay home, notify the school, isolate, and call their primary care physician. They will return to work only after recovering fully and getting a negative test result.

If a staff member tests positive, they will stay home, notify the school, and isolate.

Rock Point will notify families and keep them updated, but will not identify the staff member for privacy reasons.

The school will always notify and consult with the Vermont Department of Health to assess contact and the possible need for testing and to determine the best next steps. This may include having the household go on “pause.”

Note:

→ Residential educators will treat their apartments as their homes.

→ All staff will be expected to be mindful of risk and the safest possible behavior away from school.

Looking Ahead

Rock Point School will communicate regularly with you throughout the school year.

There is a lot of information here. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email. Dean of School Ryan Weiland and Head of School C.J. Spirito are available and happy to talk with you.

Ryan: 802-863-1104 x123; 802-233-9274; rweiland@rockpoint.org
C.J.: 802-863-1104, x126; 802-578-9846; cspirito@rockpoint.org

Early in the year, Head of School C.J. Spirito will communicate with you on a weekly basis. Allowing for a day on each side, expect updates on:

- September 18th**
- September 25th**
- October 2**

After that, communications will be sent out twice a month and as needed.