

September 21, 2020

Dear Webb Families,

We hope that this letter finds you all safe and healthy. We are so proud of the Webb community—especially our students—for their resiliency and creativity during these challenging times. From orientation to convocation to the first weeks of school, we have all proudly carried on the Webb mission and enjoyed many of our start-of-year traditions. We write today to provide an update on our school plans for the remainder of the fall term.

Given the ongoing prevalence of COVID-19 in the Southern California region, as well as the latest updates from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on its timeline for opening schools in Los Angeles County, we have made the difficult decision to remain online through December 18, 2020. We know that this news is disappointing—indeed, we were hopeful we would have students back on campus as soon as late October. All of us miss the vibrancy of our in-person classrooms and campus community.

We do anticipate welcoming boarding and day students back to campus in early January for the final weeks of the fall semester and to launch our spring term. In addition, if possible, we hope to provide safe and closely monitored on-campus athletic practices in preparation for the modified CIF fall sports season during the three weeks between Thanksgiving and Winter Break. These practices will allow students who can commute to campus to begin some conditioning and training for the season ahead. We also hope to be able to offer students who can access campus some limited in-person opportunities during that time such as advisory meet-ups and library access. Please stay tuned.

Of course, all our plans for reopening remain subject to L.A. county regulations and overall safety considerations as monitored by our Medical Advisory Board. Also, just as a reminder, when we do open for in-person instruction, students and families **may still choose** to be online per our hybrid model. The decision of whether or not to attend in person will be entirely up to each family. To be on campus, all students will be required to comply strictly with our Health & Safety protocols and Webb's community pledge.

If your student's location will change for time module two (after October break), please reach out to their personal learning plan coordinator no later than October 5 so that we can ensure continuity in their academic program.

Further, as we look to a return to campus in January, we wanted to provide some guidance to help families plan for the next few months. Please find preliminary information below. We will be reaching out with additional information and to collect plans from families about January in early November.

In the meantime, we know that families will have many questions. [We will be hosting a webinar on Thursday 9/24 at 6:00 pm, **click here to RSVP**](#). We will have the following people on hand to help provide answers:

Taylor Stockdale, Head of Schools
Dr. Theresa Smith, Associate Head of Schools
Stephanie Baron '96, PA-C, Director of Health Center
Michael Hoe '04, Director of Studies
Steve Wishek, Director of Athletics and Afternoon Activities

We know this is not the news many had hoped to receive. Yet, given the safety restrictions and guidance issued from the LA County Department of Public Health, we believe it is the best course for the Webb community for the next few months. We will continue to monitor the situation and work to prepare for our return to campus in January. Again, please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Taylor Stockdale
Head of Schools

Dr. Theresa Smith
Associate Head of Schools

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

January Arrival Information

We look forward to welcoming students back to campus in January, and we will send out updates to this information in early November. Given the fluidity of the pandemic, Webb continues to recommend that families do not make travel reservations that are non-refundable.

Pre-Arrival Quarantine (December 19-January 2)

We are asking all members of the Webb community to follow a self-imposed isolation period of fourteen days prior to the return to campus. This pre-arrival quarantine period starts for all students, families, and employees on December 19. We recognize that quarantining over the holidays may be difficult for some, and yet we also recognize that limiting travel and contact outside of our immediate families is necessary to reduce community spread and ensure our campus community's good health in January. For complete details on the nature of this isolation, please refer to page 5 of our [New Health & Safety Protocols](#).

For our out of area boarders (those who will require a plane flight back to Claremont) and international students who cannot quarantine in the local area during the winter break, Webb has secured a limited number of accommodations at the DoubleTree Hotel in Claremont. Students who sign up for this option must arrive in Los Angeles by 8:00 pm on January 3. You will quarantine at the Doubletree for 14 days, under the care and supervision of Webb faculty. You will continue to take your classes online and then move to campus on January 17. Additional costs for airport transfer, individual occupancy room at the DoubleTree, Webb faculty and staff supervision, and delivered meals will be \$1900. There is limited financial aid available to support families who require assistance.

PCR Testing Requirement

In addition to this quarantine, all Webb community members will be required to complete a nasal PCR test approximately five days prior to arrival. These tests may be completed through your own health care provider or through Webb. Day students and local boarders can sign up for PCR testing and to drop off items to be moved into their rooms the last week of December.

Anticipated Schedule

December 20	Pre-arrival Quarantine Begins
January 2	Staggered Move-in and Orientation (new/returning boarding students by grade level– sign up for arrival time)
January 3	Staggered Move-in and Orientation (new/returning boarding students by grade level– sign up for arrival time)
January 4	Classes Resume Online/Sports Practices Begin In-person
January 6	Day Student On-campus Orientation (small groups of 6-8 students by grade level)
January 7	Day Classes Transition to In-person (evening classes still online)
January 17	Students Quarantined at DoubleTree Move on Campus
January 18	Honor Symposium
January 25	Spring Semester Begins