

# HEALTHY DEERFIELD FACT SHEET



Supporting and protecting community health is essential for the success of our upcoming school year. Deerfield has implemented an array of new processes and protocols that have been guided by extensive scientific and medical advice from experts in the field of public health, medicine, building infrastructure, and education. The numerous steps we are taking to protect our community and minimize the risk of transmission on our campus are outlined on the following pages.

## / PRE-ARRIVAL /

**14 days**



**Travel Policy & Quarantine:** Governor Baker's recent travel policy requires anyone traveling to Massachusetts from most U.S. states and internationally to provide either proof of a negative COVID-19 test or to quarantine for 14 days upon entering Massachusetts. As a result, in addition to providing proof of a negative COVID-19 test before they arrive on campus, all students must also self-quarantine for 14 days before arrival.



**Pre-Arrival Testing:** Test kits will be mailed to all domestic students and will be returned in a prepaid postage envelope back to our testing partner. Results will be reported online to you and to the Academy's health center. International students will need to obtain a COVID-19 PCR test through an alternative vendor and bring to campus documentation of a negative test taken no more than five days prior to their arrival.



**Community Health Pledges:** We are asking all students to sign a Community Health Pledge, which commits them to showing concern for others by demonstrating everyday habits such as wearing a mask and physical distancing.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THE SIGNS YOU WILL SEE ACROSS CAMPUS:



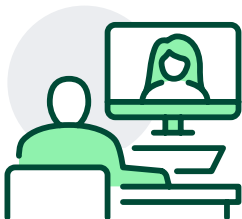
## / ARRIVAL /



**Arrival Appointments:** Each boarding student and their family will have their own designated 15-minute “arrival appointment” based on dorm and squad. In vehicles, students and families will pull up to their drop-off locations during this time and they’ll be greeted—at an appropriate physical distance—by their student’s advisor and/or a member of their student’s faculty dorm team, a student leader, and a representative from the Chen Center.



**Move In:** Once documentation of a negative COVID-19 test is obtained, students will unload their belongings with the help of their student leader. They will then enter their dorm and begin to move in. Parents and guardians will remain car-side and may use the remaining time to talk with advisors and faculty residents before departing campus.



**Orientation:** We will engage with students virtually before they arrive on campus and in person after we have the (negative) results of a third confirmation test. Orientation will include squad and advisor Zoom meetings and important health and safety training.

# / TESTING AND QUARANTINE /

**Biotech Partnership:** Deerfield has partnered with “Concentric by Ginkgo,” which provides COVID-19 testing in support of schools and businesses. This platform is designed to support communities, such as Deerfield, and the process is a non-invasive saliva test.



**Three-Test Approach:** Students will be tested before they arrive on campus, as soon as they arrive on campus, and again five to seven days after they arrive on campus. We will continue to test students, as well as staff and faculty, weekly throughout the Fall Term.



**Quiet Period:** Until we have each student’s arrival test results, we will ask them to remain in their rooms to comply with Governor Baker’s executive order. This Quiet Period will be a mix of activities for new and returning students, including virtual and/or outdoor one-on-one meetings, virtual in-room orientation and education, and virtual and outdoor squad activities.



**Screening and Tracing:** We will employ daily reporting and symptom screening. We also have prepared detailed guidelines for contact tracing in order to quickly isolate any positive cases and quarantine all close contacts.

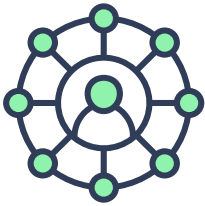


**Quarantine:** We have asked each student’s family to identify an off-campus site within driving distance of the Academy where their student can safely and comfortably quarantine and self-isolate should that prove necessary. If you have not yet done so, please fill out the Off-Campus Accommodations Form on [DAinfo](#); it’s located under your student’s photo. The information you provide will remain confidential.

## / RESIDENTIAL LIFE /



**Single Rooms:** We are providing single rooms for all boarding students in order to adhere to and promote scientific and medical experts' recommendations for physical distancing and de-densification.



**Dorm Squads:** We are creating family units, or dorm “squads,” on each hall to promote “cohorting.” This approach is intended to reduce contacts across campus and foster deep and meaningful connections for small groups of students.



**Limiting Travel:** We will limit student travel off campus during weekends, and in keeping with past years, visits from family will also be limited during Fall Term.

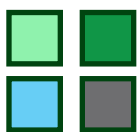
## / ACADEMIC PROGRAM /



**In-Person Instruction:** We will not begin in-person instruction until we have the results of the third confirmation test. Both the second and third tests will be administered on campus.



**Revised Calendar:** We have revised our annual calendar to allow for a longer winter holiday to minimize travel on and off our campus and to avoid in-person instruction during the time some experts predict that a surge of COVID-19 cases could occur. We have also added a new two-week “D Term,” which will be held in December and will consist exclusively of remote instruction.



**Modular Schedule:** Our new modular academic schedule will reduce the number of classes students take over the course of the day and cohort them into smaller classes, limiting the number of “effective contacts” any student has on a daily basis.

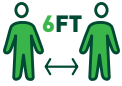
# / CAMPUS HEALTH AND SAFETY /



**SELF-SCREEN**  
daily for symptoms.



**WEAR A MASK**  
when required.



**MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCE** on walkways and in common spaces.



**DISINFECT** with marked products.



**WASH & SANITIZE** frequently.



**SNEEZE/COUGH** into a tissue or your elbow. Avoid touching your face with your hands.



**REPLACE HANDSHAKES** with head nods and waves.



**AVOID USING** others' desks and equipment when possible.



**FOLLOW POLICIES & PRACTICES & BE KIND!**

**Community Health Practices:** Students, faculty, and staff will be required to follow basic public health strategies that have been proven to decrease the risk of transmission, including wearing masks, practicing hand hygiene, and maintaining an appropriate physical distance.

**Second Health Center:** We have substantially increased the capacity of our newly built D.S. Chen Health and Wellness Center by adding a second, separate health center in the renovated Dewey House. This center includes a separate and self-contained space for COVID-19 screening, testing, and supportive isolation.

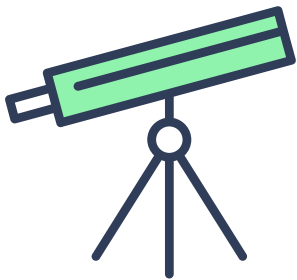
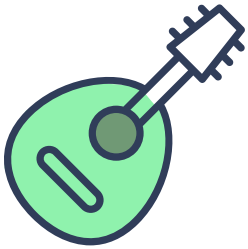
**Campus Facilities:** The Dining Hall, the Greer, and the Hess and Koch centers have been redesigned to promote appropriate physical distancing practices.

**Classroom Modifications:** Classrooms have been redesigned to ensure appropriate distance is maintained between students and faculty at all times. Class sizes will also be limited, and arrival and dismissal times will be staggered to avoid hallway congestion.

**HVAC Enhancements:** We have ensured that all of our HVAC systems have advanced air filters, are up-to-date on maintenance, and are operating efficiently and effectively. We have also extended the hours during which our systems operate and increased the rate at which air is circulated in some spaces to help ensure all campus buildings receive a consistent supply of fresh, filtered air.

**Cleaning and Disinfection:** We have instituted new rituals of hygiene for employees and students and enhanced cleaning and disinfection of high-touch areas throughout campus.

# / COCURRICULAR AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES /



- On paper, the cocurricular program will look like any other fall with a full menu of offerings in team sports, visual and performing arts, and community service.
- The interscholastic game schedule has been suspended for the fall season. There is a *chance* for some late-season contests with schools in close proximity to Deerfield. This strategy will be considered if restrictions within the state of Massachusetts and the CDC deem it sensible.
- Pre-season for all fall interscholastic teams has been canceled.
- Students participating in all cocurricular programs will start the school year adhering to the same safety standards in place for residential and classroom activities.
- All cocurricular groups will begin a phased approach of return to normal activity, and this may take several weeks depending upon the health of the entire Deerfield community.
- We are offering a wide range of choice for all Deerfield students, and anticipate a full term of energy, flexibility, and fulfilling participation from our coaches and students in these modified circumstances.

**Social Events:** Some student social events that cannot be conducted while maintaining proper physical distancing, including dances, will not be held. We have developed a creative and robust selection of social events that will encourage interaction and socialization among students, while also preserving community health and safety.

# / KEY DATES /

## **Tuesday, September 8**

Juniors and Seniors return to campus by dorm:

*Harold Smith, Pocumtuck, Bewkes, DeNunzio, Mods*

## **Wednesday, September 9**

Juniors and Seniors return to campus by dorm:

*Rosenwald-Shumway, Barton, John Williams, O'Byrne-Curtis*

## **Thursday, September 10**

Ninth Graders return to campus by dorm:

*Johnson, Mather, Doubleday, Scaife*

## **Friday, September 11**

Tenth Graders return to campus by dorm:

*John Louis, MacAlister, Field, Louis Marx*

## **Saturday, September 12**

Academic orientation and welcome programs for all students

## **Monday, September 14**

Fall Term classes begin



**Friday, November 20**

Fall Term classes end

**Monday, December 7**

Remote D Term begins

**Friday, December 18**

Remote D Term ends

**Monday, January 4, 2021**

Winter Term classes begin

**Friday, March 12, 2021**

Winter Term classes end

**Monday, March 29, 2021**

Spring Term classes begin

**Friday, June 4, 2021**

Spring Term classes end

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND LINKS



[Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Information](#)

[Massachusetts COVID-19 Travel Order](#)

[Massachusetts COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#)

[CDC: Travel During COVID-19](#)

[CDC: How to Protect Yourself](#)

[Massachusetts Initial Fall School Reopening Guidelines](#)