



## Phased Return to Campus Plan

Ivymount is pleased to begin returning students to campus. The 5 phases below gradually offer students on-site options through a hybrid model including 2 days of on-site instruction and 3 days of distance learning. This approach will support our ability to return all of our students and staff safely back to campus while ensuring we are able to implement layered mitigation strategies, including physical distancing based on the capacity of our buildings. Students will continue to be offered a distance learning program based on their current continuity of learning plan with the option to participate on-site 2 days a week.

Please note the following important information:

- Students who remain in distance learning will continue to receive synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Some distance learning may involve simultaneous instruction (i.e., live instruction provided simultaneously to students both on-site and off-site) so that all students in a cohort access the same content.
- We recognize that each situation is unique and situations may change based on the needs of the students and programs. Students can return to full-time distance learning programming at any time; however, students who opt to return later in the school year or not at all, will have the option to return May 3. Families must notify Program Directors by March 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- All students and staff will be required to wear masks throughout the day. Mask breaks will be provided. If a student exhibits difficulty with mask wearing, attempts to support and improve mask wearing tolerance will be made, but if you have concerns about your child's ability to wear a mask across the day, please let your child's Director know. You will also want to work with your Director to discuss your public school transportation expectations. Many LEAs are requiring IEP meetings for students with difficulty wearing masks.
- Before returning to on-site programs, we will develop a safety plan for any student who previously required physical restraint or unsafe behavior or repeated physical blocking of unsafe behavior, including significant hygiene-related behavior that may not be prevented. If your child demonstrates these behaviors upon return to the building, your child's team will contact you to discuss the development of a safety plan.
- Community outings and school businesses that involve travel around the building will not be included in on-site programming at this time.
- Students will continue to access their related services via tele-therapy and program specials through distance learning unless otherwise notified. This distance learning may occur while students are on-site or off-site.
- When a student temporarily needs to return to distance learning (e.g., due to travel, quarantine), he or she will participate in their current distance learning program via Microsoft Teams.
- For the time being, Ivymount will maintain its no visitors policy. All IEP meetings will continue to be held virtually.
- Spring Break remains March 29 - April 5 and falls between phase 2 and 3.
- We will run distance learning for all our programs (no on-site programs) April 6 - April 9 to allow students and staff to quarantine after travel and conduct PCR testing following break.
- Two professional days have been scheduled for March 5 and April 26. This leaves one additional professional day that may be used in May.

Return Phase and Program Start Dates		Program Offerings
<b>Phase 1</b> <i>Individualized</i>	March 1 - March 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select Autism students participate in intensive intervention</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select student visits for new students and select returning students, as indicated by Program Director, to facilitate return to school preparedness and assessment</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 2</b> <i>Younger grades and select students</i>	March 15 - March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elementary and Middle students</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLN and MAP select High School students participate in Hybrid Study Hall Model</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 3</b> <i>High school</i>	April 12 - April 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLN High School Certificate</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autism Middle/Secondary</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAP High School</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 4</b> <i>High School</i>	April 26 - April 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLN High School Diploma</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 5</b> <i>Post High School and remaining students</i>	May 3 - June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post High School - School to Work</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry date for students from above programs who choose to wait for later date</li> </ul>

**Phase 1**  
**March 1 to March 12**

During Phase 1, we will host supported return to school visits, assessment, and select student interventions. Program Directors will contact parents/guardians of students invited back during this phase.

Select students will be invited for short visits to acclimate to on-site learning. Visits will last from 30 minutes to a few hours based on student need. Students will be invited if they are new to Ivymount, require assessment to be conducted, and/or require a gradual/scaffold reintroduction to on-site learning and expectations.

Select Autism students will participate in intensive intervention. These students will be invited back first to practice tolerance of school demands, including those related to public safety (masking, social distancing, etc.), and to more successfully share spaces with classmates during later re-opening phases. Elementary and Middle School Autism students in this category will return March 1 and Secondary Autism students will return March 8.

**Phase 2**  
**March 15 to April 2**

During Phase 2 we welcome back Elementary/Middle students and select High School Students.

Program Model	Days on Site
MLN students grades K to 8 and select students from grades 9 to 12	Monday and Tuesday
MAP students grades K to 8 and select students from grades 9 to 12	Thursday and Friday
Autism Elementary/Middle Students	Monday and Tuesday

## Elementary/ Middle Students

MLN and MAP students participating 2 days a week on-site will be in a cohort of no more than 10 students and 2-3 staff per room. While on-site, students will receive a combination of simultaneous and distance learning. Simultaneous instruction involves live instruction provided simultaneously to students both on-site and off-site. Students on-site participating in distance learning will be participating in instruction delivered remotely by their teachers and accessed through their electronic device.

Autism Program students participating in on-site instruction will receive 1:1 or 2:1 instruction in classrooms of 1-5 students and 2-5 staff, with no more than 5 students and 5 staff in a classroom at one time. Instruction will focus on acclimating to the classroom safely to include mask tolerance, learning while maintaining appropriate social distance, and selected IEP goals and objectives.

## Select MLN and MAP High School Students – Hybrid Study Hall Model

Select students will be invited to participate on-site 2 days a week to access their distance learning program with the support of program staff in an effort to address some students' significant difficulty in accessing distance instruction. Students on-site participating in distance learning will be participating in instruction delivered remotely by their teachers and accessed through their electronic device. The initial student group for study hall has been selected and parents of those students will be notified by their Program Director. Start dates for this small group of students will be gradual from March 15 through April 12.

<b>Phase 3</b> <b>April 12 to May 3</b>
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Following spring break and a distance learning week of instruction, we welcome back MLN certificate High School Students, MAP High School Students and Autism Middle/Secondary Students.

<b>Program Model</b>	<b>Days on Site</b>
MLN Elementary/Middle, <b>Certificate Program High School</b> and select High School Diploma students	Monday and Tuesday
MAP Elementary/Middle and <b>MAP High School</b>	Thursday and Friday
Autism Elementary/Middle	Monday and Tuesday
Autism <b>Middle/Secondary Students</b>	Thursday and Friday

MLN certificate students and MAP students participating on-site will be in a cohort of no more than 8 students and 2-3 staff per room. While on-site, students will receive a combination of simultaneous and distance learning. Simultaneous instruction involves live instruction provided simultaneously to students both on-site and off-site. Students on-site participating in distance learning will be participating in instruction delivered remotely by their teachers and accessed through their electronic device.

Autism Program students participating in on-site instruction will receive 1:1 or 2:1 instruction in socially distanced classrooms of 1-5 students and 2-5 staff, with no more than 5 students and 5 staff in a classroom at one time. Instruction will focus on re-acclimating to the classroom safely to include mask tolerance, learning while maintaining appropriate social distance, and selected IEP goals and objectives.

**Phase 4**  
**April 26 to April 30**

During Phase 4, we welcome MLN Diploma High School Students.

<b>Program Model</b>	<b>Days on Site</b>
MLN Elementary/Middle and <b>High School (certificate and Diploma)</b>	Monday and Tuesday
MAP Elementary/Middle and High School	Thursday and Friday
Autism Elementary/Middle	Monday and Tuesday
Autism <b>Middle/Secondary Students</b>	Thursday and Friday

MLN diploma students participating on-site will be in a cohort of no more than 8 students and 2-3 staff per room. While on-site, students will receive a combination of simultaneous and distance learning. Simultaneous instruction involves live instruction provided simultaneously to students both on-site and off-site. Students on-site participating in distance learning will be participating in instruction delivered remotely by their teachers and accessed through their electronic device.

**Phase 5**  
**May 3 to June 15**

During Phase 5, we welcome our School to Work Post High School Students. All other students who have not previously returned on-site are welcome to join their cohort on-site at this time (please notify your program by March 23).

<b>Program Model</b>	<b>Days on Site</b>
MLN Elementary/Middle and High School (certificate and Diploma)	Monday and Tuesday
MAP Elementary/Middle and High School	Thursday and Friday
Autism Elementary/Middle	Monday and Tuesday
Autism Middle/Secondary Students	Thursday and Friday
<b>School to Work Post High School</b>	<b>TBD</b>

School to Work Post High School students participating on-site will be in a cohort of no more than 6 students and 2-3 staff per room. While on-site, students will receive a combination of simultaneous and distance learning. Simultaneous instruction involves live instruction provided simultaneously to students both on-site and off-site. Students on-site participating in distance learning will be participating in instruction delivered remotely by their teachers and accessed through their electronic device. Students will not participate in programing in the community at this time.

# Safety for Students and Staff

## Testing

For staff and students returning to campus, Ivymount will require PCR COVID-19 Testing either through a healthcare provider, county testing site, or at one of the testing dates held at Ivymount 's campus provided by [Montgomery County](#).

## Return to Remote Programming following Holidays and Breaks

Ivymount will provide only distance learning for the week following holidays and extended breaks. Any students participating in on-site options will switch to their distance learning program. This pause in on-site programming will enable staff and families who traveled to follow travel policies to stay home, ensure staff and families have time to get tested based on our scheduled request, and ensure extra prevention of asymptomatic individuals returning to campus following family events or large gatherings.

## Safety Plans

The CDC currently places our community transmission data in the higher risk category; therefore, it is critical we correctly and consistently use and layer key mitigation strategies recommended by federal and state guidelines. Ivymount staff will implement various program modifications to ensure student and staff safety to avoid the use of physical and crisis intervention to the greatest extent possible. Staff may wear additional protective equipment, including goggles or shields.

Before returning to on-site programs, we will develop a safety plan for any student who requires physical restraint for unsafe behavior or repeated physical blocking of unsafe behavior, including significant hygiene-related behavior that may not be prevented. In addition, if your child demonstrates these behaviors upon return to the building, your child's team will contact you to discuss the development of a safety plan.

## Personal Responsibility and Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Plan

Before returning to on-site instruction, families will sign an Oath of Personal Responsibility. The Oath outlines the commitment of all members of the Ivymount community to follow best practice guidelines related to COVID-19 to protect themselves and others. These guidelines consist of:

- Monitoring health daily before coming on campus or working together off-site (i.e., checking temperature and observing for any COVID-19 symptoms;
- Staying home or cancelling Outreach home services when diagnosed with COVID-19, exposed to someone with confirmed COVID-19 or a probable case of COVID-19, or when exhibiting one or more of the primary symptoms of COVID-19 not due to another known health condition as set forth in the CDC Symptoms of Coronavirus;
- Reporting COVID-19 like illness, positive COVID-19 test results, or exposure to COVID-19 to Ivymount;
- Adhering to federal, state, local, and Ivymount and Outreach guidelines related to COVID-19 prevention, including isolation, quarantine, social distancing, face coverings, handwashing, crowd sizes, and traveling.

While we have taken extensive actions to limit the potential for transmission of COVID-19, families are asked to acknowledge their understanding that transmission is still possible. Risks to any student or staff include spreading or contracting the COVID-19 virus. The use of face coverings or other mitigation strategies does not guarantee that individuals will not contract or spread disease or illness.

Families will also be asked to acknowledge that they:

- Understand that I can request for my child to continue with remote services at any time;
- Understand the risks to my child of contracting COVID-19 while returning to on-site/ in-person instruction despite the extensive actions taken by Ivymount and its employees to prevent the spread of the disease, and with full knowledge of the risks posed by COVID-19, I am voluntarily choosing for my child to participate in on-site/ in-person programs;
- Have read, understand, and will comply with the Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Plan to minimize the risk of COVID- 19 at Ivymount and will promptly inform my child's director if I become aware of violations of any rules or regulations stated in this plan or have any other concerns or suggestions regarding the safety of the school environment.