



The Montessori School of San Antonio Phasing In Approach

Objective: The Montessori School of San Antonio is working to serve the entire community's needs safely and will be implementing a Phased In approach to In-Person Learning on September 14.

According to the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, school systems that reduce risk by all the methods below are better candidates for in-person activities.

- Maximal use of outdoor spaces
- Adhering to American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) guidance for school ventilation
- Monitoring social distancing, including in staff break areas
- Requiring two fresh mask per person per day
- Prohibiting shared food or utensils among people from different households
- Promoting frequent hand hygiene and ensuring adequate access to hand sanitizer, soap and sinks.

MSSA health and safety plans incorporate all of the above measures.

MSSA's Phased-In approach will be informed by the City of San Antonio's School Risk Level as well as coordination and conversations with San Antonio Metro Health staff.

Here is the most recent Risk Level by the City of San Antonio's Metro Health: [Read More Here](#)

Remote Learning for Schools



Health Directive for Local Schools

On August 7, 2020 San Antonio Metro Health's Medical Director Dr. Junda Woo issued an [amended health directive](#) for the upcoming school year that provides guidance for phased restarting in-person instruction. The directive applies to all public and private schools from pre-kindergarten through grade 12th.



Questions about Phasing In:

Q: What is our Phased In approach?

A: The Phased In approach will allow families who want face-to-face instruction to come back on a limited basis. Phasing In will allow for our campus to begin offering In-Person Learning safely as we work through our processes and procedures in an organized way.

Q: How will the school determine who wants to begin Phasing In?

A: Please fill out our [Survey and Decision for Face to Face Instruction](#) to choose to continue with Remote Learning or participate in the Phasing In approach and begin In-Person Learning on campus for the first quarter. Families have until Thursday, September 3 at 5 PM to complete the survey. Both Remote Learning and In-Person Learning options will remain available until a date yet to be determined.

Q: When does Phasing In start?

A: We plan to welcome Seventh Grade students as well as Upper Elementary students back on campus beginning Monday, September 14th. Schedules will depend on how many students sign up for In-Person Learning and may vary depending on level and survey results. Initially we hoped to start Phasing In on Monday, September 8, however we need an additional week to prepare the SchoolPass application. The SchoolPass application manages both our arrival and dismissal procedures and also manages health screenings. This is a mandatory recording requirement from the state and must be in place before face to face instruction begins. Families will receive more information and instructions for using the SchoolPass application in the near future.

Q: How many students will be in classrooms?

A: Cohorts will be organized by year and will start with 10 students or fewer based on recommendations from the City of San Antonio's Health Department. In-Person Learning will begin with students attending one to three times each week at the beginning of the Phasing In. MSSA will attempt to align siblings and make other considerations to minimize trips to campus.

Q: What is the timeframe for students returning to campus?

A: Below is the Calendar for Phasing In by Level:

*LE and Primary teachers will provide an orientation one week before their return dates.

- Week of September 14th: Upper Elementary and 7th Grade Begins
- Week of September 21st: Lower Elementary Begins
- Week of September 28th: 8th Grade Begins



- Week of October 5th: Primary Begins

Q: What will instruction look like in the Phased-In approach?

A: Students will continue to follow the Remote Learning schedule while on campus; schedules may change as we Phase In more students.

Please contact communications@montessorisa.org if you have questions or comments.



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of San Antonio