

AMERICAN
SCHOOL
OF PARIS



founded 1946

CHARTING THE PATH

2020–21



A Look Ahead

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the world with the most serious public health crisis in generations, upending 'business as usual', age old traditions, and cherished plans. It has been a time where management of uncertainty, the ability to learn, to adapt, and to iterate has been vital; collaboration, collective action, and creativity have become essential.

We plan to open our campus in August for the 2020-21 school year, but are aware of the possibility that we may face changing conditions over the course of the year requiring us to adapt. Through this document, we share our **guiding principles for decision-making**, to outline the main **learning models** we will adopt, as well as our additional **healthy and safety protocols**.



The American School of Paris is a vibrant, international, family-oriented community. Our mission is to inspire and prepare every student to achieve personal and academic excellence as an engaged global citizen by providing a challenging, innovative program within a compassionate environment.

Our Guiding Principles for Decision-Making

ASP Mission

Our mission challenges us to inspire our students through a compassionate and innovative approach, to achieve personal and academic excellence and, more importantly than ever, to be engaged global citizens.

Our Strategic Plan

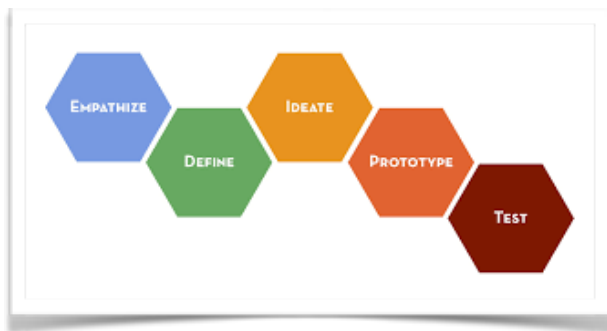
[Going Beyond](#), somewhat presciently conceived to be agile and adaptive, challenged us, at every level, to be a force for positive change. It will provide us with additional direction as we move ahead with courage and confidence, and to create new pathways and innovative solutions to achieve our mission.

Specifically:

1. Stay true to the mission and values of ASP.
2. Place the health, safety, and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff at the forefront.
3. Maintain the highest quality learning experience for students, **prioritizing face to face** learning whenever it is permitted to do so.
4. Gather credible research, learn from other organizations, and listen to the views of all community members, including students, to inform decision-making.

Designing Learning for 2020-21

ASP's Definition of Learning



Learning is a dynamic, transformative process involving engagement, inquiry, and courage. It is social, it builds on what we know and can do, deepens what we understand, enriches our experience, and changes who we are. We aim for ASP learners to be curious people who love to learn, who embrace challenge, and who have the capacity and the motivation to lead their own learning.

Guided by our definition and agreement over the main principles of learning, **we do not believe that distance learning is a satisfactory long-term substitute for the multi-faceted, rich experience of regular school at ASP.** Our goal is to maintain face to face, on campus, learning. However, we must plan and prepare for a range of eventualities, each requiring a different approach. These approaches will broadly fall into the three models below.

Learning Models

Face to Face Model

Minimal risk conditions

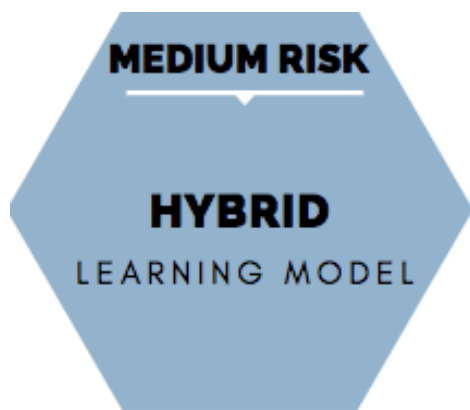
Our preferred option is the regular organization of on-campus learning. This model is adjusted for enhanced hygiene and physical distancing, but allows greater density of groupings, flexibility with student-mixing, and for all practical 'hands on' learning to resume. Masks must be worn by all community members aged 11 upwards, but may be removed if a 1m distance can be achieved. All students attend school, on campus, five days a week and a slightly modified program of athletics, clubs, and activities is available.



Restricted Face to Face Model

Low risk conditions

All students attend school five days per week, but additional restrictive measures are in place including:
No parents or visitors on campus, no community gatherings such as assemblies, live performances, or PFA events, further restrictions on student mixing, separation of Divisions, and movement around campus. If conditions allow, modified versions of higher risk activities such as sports and music take place.



Hybrid Model

Medium risk conditions

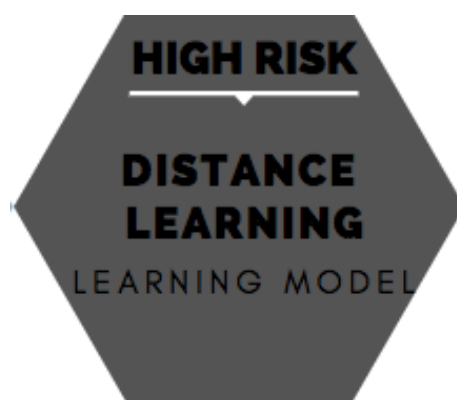
If the risk factors require rigorous attention to density reduction and physical distancing, we will move to a hybrid model. This model combines face to face, on campus, learning with distance learning. It ensures that students receive social interaction and in-person time with teachers, but significantly reduces the possible exposure of infection/spread within our community.

- A hybrid school schedule might look like [this](#).

Distance Learning

High risk conditions

If the campus is forced to close we will move to a distance learning model. This model combines synchronous and asynchronous approaches, using a variety of digital platforms. Our campus is closed but students attend classes, full-time, from home.



Students who Cannot Come to Campus

It is anticipated that within the next year, even if the risk factors are low, we will have a number of students who are unable to come to campus to learn, for certain periods of time in case of quarantine restrictions or other COVID-19 created challenges. Strategies for supporting these students are in place.

Maintaining Progress and Achievement

As shared in the Directors review of distance learning, we are seeing gains in student development as a result of distance learning but also some deficits. We will be addressing this issue broadly in three ways:

1. Evaluation

Careful attention to assessment and evaluation of student learning at the start of the year to identify specific impacts.

2. Remediation

Additional planning and strategies for remediation for individuals or cohorts.

3. Redesign

Restructuring or redesigning our curriculum to ensure key content and skills are not missed.

Decision-Making

The following information provides the basis for the decision on which model of teaching and learning ASP will adopt. We plan to be agile and ready to move towards the most favorable mode of teaching permissible, therefore will not make advanced decisions on the learning model before August. Our current situation, with regard to the French Government regulations, would dictate a hybrid model. We hope this will change by August as the country successfully deconfines. We would adopt the less favorable learning models for as short a time as necessary.

RISK LEVEL AND LEARNING MODEL	KEY CRITERIA
MINIMAL RISK FACE TO FACE LEARNING MODEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• French Government actively supports reopening• Local infection rates are declining and contained• Cases of COVID-19 in our community are low or absent• We are confident in our ability to mitigate risk and ensure health and safety with the campus fully open• School benchmarking indicates that comparable schools are fully reopening
LOW RISK RESTRICTED FACE TO FACE LEARNING MODEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• French Government actively supports reopening• Guidance from trusted authorities suggests that the risk is low• Cases of COVID-19 in our community are low and infrequent• We are confident in our ability to mitigate risk and ensure health and safety with the restricted measures• The community is fully cooperating with all safety measures• School benchmarking indicates that comparable schools are reopening
MEDIUM RISK HYBRID LEARNING MODEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• French Government guidance is inconclusive or flexible• Guidance from trusted authorities indicates medium level of risk and a degree of medical uncertainty exists• Local infection rates are confined and traceable• Cases of COVID-19 in our community are effectively traced and isolated; the community is cooperating with all safety measures• We are confident in our ability to effectively mitigate risk with enhanced measures• School benchmarking indicates many comparable schools are reopening with precautions

RISK LEVEL AND LEARNING MODEL	KEY CRITERIA
<p>HIGH RISK</p> <p>DISTANCE LEARNING MODEL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Government directive to close schools • High degree of medical uncertainty as communicated by trusted authorities • Local infection rates are rising and/or remain at concerning levels • We have a growing number of positive tests for COVID-19 within our community • We are not confident that we can effectively mitigate risk and ensure the health and safety of our community • School benchmarking indicated many comparable schools have closed their campuses

Athletics and Activities

Our Rebels Athletics and Activities program is a fundamental part of our educational programming, and we will work to maintain this program with the same rigor and determination as the other aspects of our curriculum. Based on studies and research adopted from the World Health Organisation (WHO), NCAA Intercollegiate Sports, and the National Athletics Trainers Association (NATA), a return to sports and competitions and other extracurricular activities must take into consideration a number of important factors in order for activities to run in a medium risk environment. We will implement the adaptations necessary and review creative ways to maintain the program as fully as possible. This may include changing the timing of sports seasons.

In general if a hybrid model has to be adopted we plan to offer a similar range of opportunities, they simply might be different from the usual. [Click here](#) for the detailed Athletics and Activities plan.

Health and Safety

In order to keep our campus open and to continue with as much of our rich and varied program as possible we will need a deep community commitment to abiding by Government regulations and the protocols implemented by the school. We kindly ask for your full support and participation in making this work.

We will continue to follow the five key principles established by the French Ministry of Education, as outlined below. We have established a Taskforce to oversee all efforts in this area and we are committed to supporting our teams through training and additional resources, as necessary.

1. **Physical Distancing:** students and adults on campus will be required to maintain a 1m distance.
2. **Preventative Hygiene Measures:** hand washing/hand sanitizing, use of tissues, mask wearing for students Grade 6 upwards and all adults on campus..
3. **Limitation of Student Mixing:** students will be organized with the minimum of mixing necessary to allow our curriculum model to be maintained.
4. **Cleaning and Disinfection of Campus:** additional cleaning protocols have been put in place and cleaning staff numbers have been increased.
5. **Clear Communication:** we will regularly communicate with all community members and seek to give clear and helpful information.

Closing Thoughts

Our strategic plan inspired us to be innovative and to lead positive change. The pandemic has given us a new context, rendering this approach as key to our continued success. Many important questions have been raised regarding what is important in education, our students have new understandings about what they need and what they value, and our faculty have learned new and exciting ways to inspire learning. We look forward to finding new pathways to exceeding expectations in this new environment of challenge and possibility.