



Waldorf School of Palm Beach

Pre-K through 8th Grade

2020-2021 RE-OPENING PLAN



Waldorf School of Palm Beach

2450 NW 5th Avenue, Boca Raton, FL 33431

(561) 394-7674 | enrollment@waldorfschoolpalmbeach.org

www.waldorfschoolpalmbeach.org

Plans for the 2020-2021 School Year

Re-Opening Plan

As is traditional in Waldorf education, our teachers are working diligently to define a Waldorf education based on the current data for this upcoming year and keeping the development of the students at the forefront of our thinking. Thoughtful leadership groups throughout the school are focused on what supports and modifications are needed to help WSPB come out of this time with renewed strength. We are spending this time rethinking and resetting to build toward a stronger tomorrow in areas throughout the school.

The following is an update on our plans for the 2020-2021 school year and share some context for how we are assimilating information and making decisions. As you know the situation is ever-changing and while we are looking for the most positive outcome, we are also shifting as necessary with an ever-changing landscape. Our faculty and board are working tirelessly to develop a safe and comprehensive reopening plan for our return to campus in the fall. There remain too many unknowns to state exactly what the school experience will be like in August, but rest assured that we are striving for flexibility and transparency in our process, as well as in the reopening plan we develop. We are closely monitoring all federal and local recommendations, and these recommendations are helping to inform our decision making.



Our Commitment

We are focusing on three major areas in our planning: the health and safety of our community, the educational experience of our students, and the financial health of the school. We recognize the uncertainty you may be facing as you make plans for next year, and we have been and stay committed to:

- Preserving each family as part of our school community through these very challenging times.
- Providing a rich Waldorf educational experience for our students.
- Continuing to communicate plans and decisions as they develop.

Our Assumptions

We are continuing to monitor all facets of this dynamic situation and we recognize that this requires adaptive planning that will evolve as the science and circumstances do. To that end, we are developing plans based on the following assumptions:

School campuses will reopen in the 2020–2021 academic year while keeping abreast on a daily basis of the ever-changing situation. We are also prepared for the repercussions of possible additional waves of infections. Every aspect of our school, including our physical campus, our academic calendar, daily schedules, programming, and social habits, will return with modifications based on guidance from national, state, and local health officials.

We will be taking steps to ensure the health of our staff, students and the community. This will include aspects of:

- Social distancing
- Increased frequent disinfecting of classrooms
- Frequent hand washing
- Wellness/temperature checks
- Adults must attest daily to being symptom-free and adults must attest daily that their children are symptom-free
- Suggesting that persons 65 years and older and those with chronic health conditions stay at home whenever possible

Returning to School: Three Plans

We are excited to get back to school, learning, growing, and enjoying the magic of our school and community! We have developed three plans based on the current data with the understanding that things can shift quickly and we are prepared for that.

Returning to School: Three Plans

Plan A

On-Campus Learning

Plan A will be to welcome all students and staff back on campus with the expectation that specific health and safety procedures will be required. The school will plan in accordance with our local, state and federal regulations.



Plan B

Blended Learning

There may be scenarios where campus would be open, but some families or staff may be in quarantine/isolation due to circumstances related to COVID-19. Our goal is to provide a seamless transition between these scenarios and make instruction available to all students during these periods.



Blended learning, where some students are receiving instruction via ZOOM & Google Classroom, and some are receiving instruction on campus, does not change our mission or our commitment to providing a rich Waldorf educational experience. WSPB's blended learning model will combine synchronous (live) instruction with asynchronous (accessible anytime) instruction in a schedule designed to serve the students at school, and at home, as best as possible.

Plan C

Distance Learning

It is possible that another wave or outbreak may occur, and that our community may experience a spike in COVID-19. Should this happen, we are prepared and will promptly shift to school-wide distance learning via our Zoom & Google Classroom platforms.



Educating through the Head, Hands, and Heart

Regardless of the mode we may find ourselves in at any given time, we will continue to educate the whole child through the head, hands, and heart. We will continue to build the capacities of confidence and resilience, encourage the pursuit of individual passions, promote life balance, encourage play and movement as a foundation of learning, and provide multisensory learning experiences. And most importantly, we will be leaning into the challenges of this new landscape together as a community of caring individuals, committed to raising the children in our care.

We thank you for your continued support, and we know that together we will face whatever may come our way with the strength, flexibility, and commitment to the importance of providing our children with a Waldorf Education.

