

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

FAMILY GUIDE



**FULL IN-PERSON
RETURN**
FALL 2021



School
is
Fun

MESSAGE FROM INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



Dear Los Angeles Unified Family,

I am so grateful and excited to share with you all our plans to resume full in-person instruction for all students this August. We recognize how important it is for students to be learning in a classroom with their teachers and to be spending time on campus with their friends, and we couldn't be more confident that our schools are ready for this to happen in the safest way possible – more and more of our staff continue to be vaccinated and not a single school had to close because of the virus since students started coming back to campus in April.

While this past year has been difficult for so many families in many ways, Los Angeles Unified is committed to continue supporting all of those in our school community so that our return to campuses can be safe, successful and super fun. This guide will outline all of the pieces families need to know about to prepare for the start of in-person instruction in August.

The most important piece to our return, however, is you. What makes Los Angeles Unified schools so special is everyone who comes to campus each day – our students, families, teachers and staff. We hope that you share our excitement about the return to schools, and will share this excitement with others, so that students can come back to a feeling of community and care that they so importantly deserve. Thank you for all of your patience and support as we look forward to this exciting new chapter for Los Angeles Unified. We look forward to welcoming back all of our students in August – I'll see you there.

Megan K. Reilly

Interim Superintendent



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WE'RE BACK!

Come join us! Los Angeles Unified will offer full day in-person instructional programming to all students, 5 days a week, on all its campuses. Much more information about what this will look like will be shared by your school principal before school begins.

EARLY EDUCATION/ELEMENTARY

- Students will be on campus **5 days a week for a full day of in-person instruction**
- Beyond the Bell Programs will provide after school programming from the end of the school day to 6 p.m. for elementary school students

SECONDARY

- Middle school and high school students will be on campus **5 days a week for a full schedule of in-person instruction**
- Students will move from one classroom to another to see all of their teachers
- Beyond the Bell Programs will provide after school programming from the end of the school day to 6 p.m.



"GETTING TO PLAY
SPORTS WITH ALL
OF MY TEAMMATES"

-JAYDEN, 12TH GRADER

"FINALLY BEING
WITH ALL OF MY
FRIENDS AGAIN"

-RYAN, 5TH GRADER

WHAT **ARE YOU**
MOST **EXCITED ABOUT**
COMING **BACK TO SCHOOL?**

"SEEING MY SCHOOL
FOR THE FIRST
TIME!"

-SOFIA, 1ST GRADER

"GETTING TO
TALK WITH MY
FAVORITE TEACHERS
FACE-TO-FACE"

-DANIELLA, 10TH GRADER

“WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL”

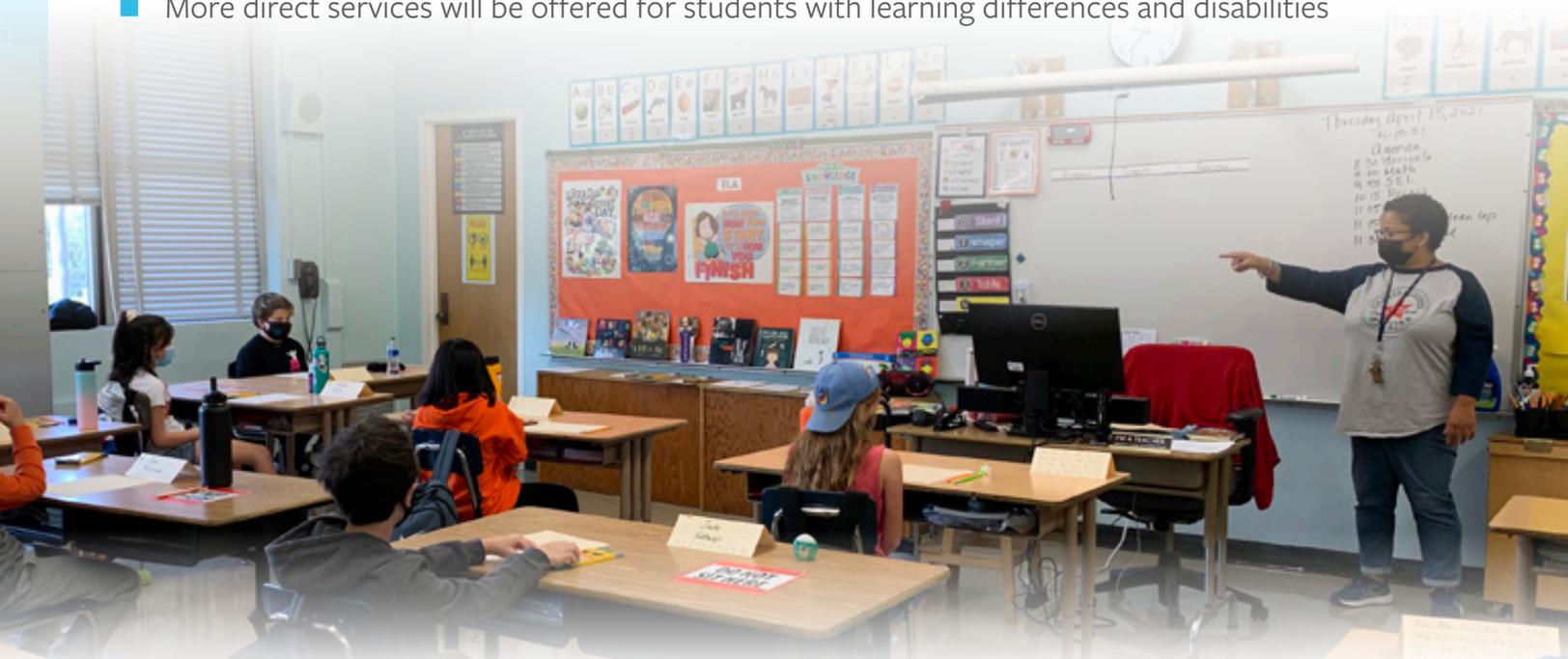
Los Angeles Unified schools will return to a regular school day in August, but students will be coming back to new and improved programs and services to better serve our students.

ACCELERATION OF LEARNING

- More reading and math teachers will support elementary students
- More teachers in secondary schools will provide more individualized instruction
- More opportunities for one-on-one tutoring and personalized learning support
- New exciting digital content for all (virtual field trips, real-life cultural experiences, and more)
- Increased course offerings for secondary students for enrichment and credit recovery
- Updated technology for all students who need it

STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENT GROUPS

- More mental health services will be available for students, such as one-on-one counseling, school-wide wellness campaigns, training for positive school culture, and crisis management
- More staff will be available to connect families with resources and provide ongoing support
- Student and Family Wellness Centers will open for mental health counseling and therapy, help accessing basic needs, assistance with immunizations, and much more
 - Students, families and staff can also call the hotline from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, by calling (213) 241-3840 – press 1 for English, 2 for Spanish
- More direct services will be offered for students with learning differences and disabilities



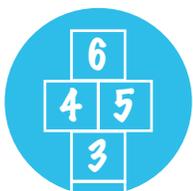
A DAY ON CAMPUS

Spending a day on campus will look and feel very similar to what school was like before our campuses closed, but with a few extra precautions to make sure students can learn and play safe and comfortably.



TRANSPORTATION

School bus transportation to and from campuses will be available for those who qualify (i.e., students in magnet programs or based on certain Individualized Education Programs), following all public health and safety guidelines.



RECESS/NUTRITION

Students will be able to use playground equipment and enjoy sports during recess or nutrition following the latest public health and safety guidelines.



LUNCH/MEALS

All students will be able to get a meal at no charge. Breakfast will be provided to students in the morning, lunch will be served in the cafeteria, and supper may be eaten on campus or taken home. Students will be able to eat meals with friends following the latest public health and safety guidelines.



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Beyond the Bell will offer high quality, safe, and supervised academic, enrichment, and recreation programs from the end of the school day until 6 p.m. Programs will offer in-person enrichment activities in four areas of engagement with opportunities for students to learn and thrive physically and mentally, focusing on academic, physical, creative, and social and emotional learning. For more information on how to participate, please visit btb.lausd.net or call your school.



ATHLETICS

We are excited to return to our normal sports schedule! Our scholar athletes will continue to learn the skills they will need for their journey in a post-secondary school/career.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Los Angeles Unified is committed to maintaining the highest standards of safety for public schools in the nation.



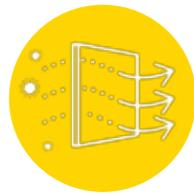
GUIDANCE FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS

Los Angeles Unified will continue to adhere to the most recent COVID guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) and the State of California.



ROBUST SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Robust safety protocols are in place at all campuses, including needed personal protective equipment, frequent disinfecting, and hand cleaning, among others.



UPGRADED AIR-FILTRATION SYSTEMS

Upgraded air filtration systems in 80 million square feet of school buildings.



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Increased staffing to effectively clean and disinfect schools.



HYGIENE

Restrooms and handwashing sinks in classrooms are stocked with soap and paper towels. Hand sanitizer stations are available in locations throughout campus.



COVID-19 TESTING

Operating a school-based COVID-19 testing and contact tracing program.



VACCINATIONS

Students ages 12 and older and family members of Los Angeles Unified students are eligible to receive vaccinations at our school-based community vaccination centers.

STAYING SAFE

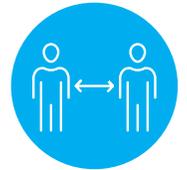


HOW CAN I BE SURE MY STUDENTS WILL BE SAFE AT SCHOOL?

1 **FACE MASKS** will be required for all students, staff, and visitors while on campus.



2 **PHYSICAL DISTANCING** will be based on the latest LACDPH guidelines.



3 **DAILY HEALTH CHECKS** will be required for all students, staff, and visitors before coming on campus. The Daily Pass (dailypass.lausd.net) can be used to answer questions prior to coming on campus, or questions can be answered verbally before entry. Parents sign-in to the Daily Pass using their Parent Portal account and password. Parents can create a Parent Portal account visiting parentportal.lausd.net.



4 **COVID-19 TESTING** will continue for students and employees on campus. Stationary test sites and traveling teams will continue to provide COVID testing.



5 **VACCINATIONS:** All students ages 12 and older are encouraged to make vaccine appointments at the most convenient location. Families can call the Los Angeles Unified Family Vaccination Hotline at (213) 328-3958 for support and to have their questions answered.



*Los Angeles Unified will follow the latest public health guidelines for student safety and will continue to work with public health agencies and experts to update these protocols as necessary. All guidelines here are based on the information available to us at the start of July and may be subject to change.

ONLINE INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

An Online Independent Study Program will also be available for families with medical, social-emotional, or other concerns. Students will receive daily live online instruction for part of the day and complete independent work when not learning directly with a teacher. This program will be an independent study program run through the City of Angels school, meaning students may not be learning from teachers at their current school.

GRADE	DAILY LIVE INSTRUCTION WITH TEACHER	STUDENTS WORK INDEPENDENTLY WHEN NOT LEARNING WITH TEACHER
ELEMENTARY	3 hours per day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SECONDARY	Three 70-minute periods per day (with at least 40 minutes of direct student-teacher time per period)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Families can choose for their child to participate in the Online Independent Study Program by **August 6** by registering in the **Parent Portal**, or by visiting the City of Angels website at www.cityofangelschool.org or by calling **(213) 443-1300**.



Q Will my child be able to participate in the same specialized programs (such as magnet or dual language programs), athletic programs, or student organizations from my child’s current school if they enroll in this program?

A The programs from your child’s current school of attendance may not be available while participating in the Online Independent Study Program, but students will still keep their current spot for things such as magnet programs for when they return to in-person learning.

Q Who may participate in the Online Independent Study Program?

A All students in grades TK-12 are eligible for the program, including English Learners and Students with Disabilities. Necessary accommodations should be discussed with City of Angels when enrolling; for Students with Disabilities, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting must be held prior to enrolling to determine the appropriate placement options.

Q Will I be able to switch between in-person learning and the Online Independent Study Program?

A While it may be possible for students to switch between the in-person and online programs, this may cause disruptions to a student’s learning because they may be learning with different teachers and different lessons. We encourage families to consider the best choice for their student for the entire semester so they can have an optimal learning experience.

BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST

You can make sure everyone is prepared and ready for the start of school by following the steps below. Feel free to check off each box as you go!

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Schedule your baseline COVID test. Baseline testing begins August 2. Visit https://achieve.lausd.net/covidtestingappt to learn about the most current COVID testing protocols required for students before they come back to campus. More information will also be shared by your principals before school begins.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Make sure your student has a clean face mask to bring to campus. Masks should be worn at all times, except when students are eating. Should a student need a mask for any reason, one will be provided. Alternative protections may be followed for students with disabilities or those needing accommodations.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Vaccinations for all eligible family members. Vaccinations have been proven safe and effective for anyone age 12 and older. Vaccines are an important part of protecting yourself and others. While vaccines are not required for staff or students, we strongly encourage all eligible community members to get the COVID-19 vaccine.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Enroll in and update your contact information in the Parent Portal. This is a great tool for parents and guardians to get in touch with their principal, see their child's grades, and access a number of other resources! You can reach out to your local school or Community of Schools office for support on signing up.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Practice new routines. Routines like getting up and getting dressed on time, wearing their mask for a prolonged period of time, eating on a regular schedule, and getting comfortable around other adults and children are all important parts of the transition back.</p>



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



How will this school year be the same as pre-pandemic school?



This school year will feel similar to pre-pandemic school in many ways! All students will have access to a full day of school and enrichment activities until 6 p.m. Middle and high school students will be able to go to different classes taught by in-person teachers. The majority of students and staff will be back on campuses.



Why has Los Angeles Unified decided to open up school for full days of instruction?



The spring reopening has shown us that our high standards of health and safety practices slow and stop the spread of the virus in schools. Levels of the virus continue to decline in Los Angeles. More people are being vaccinated and health authorities tell us conditions should continue to improve. Schools across the country are also opening for full, in-person instruction in the Fall.



My child is nervous or hesitant about returning to a full day of in-person programming. How can I help them prepare for this change in routine?



Children and adults may feel scared, confused or anxious because of the impact of the pandemic. Practicing routines early and often are very important. If a child is experiencing other mental health challenges, families may contact their local principal or school site administrator to request services from school site providers and local community agencies. Also, families can call the Los Angeles Unified mental health hotline at (213) 241-3840 for further support.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AND ANSWERS TO MORE COMMON QUESTIONS:

English

<https://achieve.lausd.net/returnfaq>

Spanish

<https://achieve.lausd.net/returnfaq-span>



**SEE YOU
SOON!**



[ACHIEVE.LAUSD.NET/BACKTOSCHOOL](https://www.achievethecore.org/laUSD)