



# Hawkswood School

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TRANSFORMING LIVES, EVERYDAY

December 4, 2020

Dear Hawkswood School Parents and Guardians,

I am pleased to inform you that Hawkswood School has revised its reopening plan and will be returning to in-person instruction for all students on Monday, December 14, 2020.

As we have previously communicated to you, Hawkswood School had recently experienced instances of students and staff members who had confirmed cases, were symptomatic, or were exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. These circumstances led to a significant number of staff members having to quarantine due to contact tracing procedures. This resulted in a pronounced personnel shortage. This situation made full-time in-person instruction both untenable (in light of requisite student-adult ratios) and unsafe.

At this current juncture, we have made this decision to reopen for in-person instruction as we experience that our staff shortage is resolving, due to many successfully completed quarantine periods.

Our goal is to maintain in-person instruction, as we know that is the most effective means of educating our students. However, given that all of New Jersey is now at high-risk (orange) status, and it is anticipated that the number of confirmed cases in New Jersey may continue to rise over the upcoming holidays, we are not able to guarantee that we will not pivot to remote learning in the future.

We appreciate your support and patience during this time, as we work tirelessly to protect all members of our school community.

We will continue to keep you updated. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Orefice, Ed.D.  
Principal