



August 10, 2020

Dear Light House Families,

We write this letter with great appreciation for your patience and feedback on reopening The Light House schools. Surveying surrounding and sending districts and other Approved Private Programs helped us make the determination to begin the 2020-2021 school year in a **hybrid model**. This model will allow for fewer students to be present in the building at one time, increased adult support for sanitizing and remote learning, and as a means of gradually phasing in to a full opening.

What does that mean?

Based on information gathered and medical data, we decided upon a hybrid model with a maximum eight-week review process. In our hybrid model, students will be divided into two student groups. Each group of students will attend school, in person, two days per week and participate in online learning three days per week remotely from home. Below is a sample of the schedule for in-person vs remote learning for students. We will begin with half-day programming for each Student Group (8/27 & 28 and 8/31 & 9/1) to ease students into the transition back to school with PPE and social distancing protocols. Lunch will not be served on those half days.

Weeks 1 and 2: August 24 - September 4

Monday (8/24)	Tuesday (8/25)	Wednesday (8/26)	Thursday (8/27)	Friday (8/28)
Staff PD - no students	Staff PD - no students	All Remote - No students Deep Clean/ Sanitize	Student Group B 8am -11am Student Group A Remote	Student Group B 8am - 11am Student Group A Remote
Monday (8/31)	Tuesday (9/1)	Wednesday (9/2)	Thursday (9/3)	G
Student Group A 8am - 11am Student Group B Remote	Student Group A 8am - 11am Student Group B Remote	All Remote - No students Deep Clean/ Sanitize	Student Group B 8am - 2pm Student Group A Remote	Student Group B 8am - 2pm Student Group A Remote

Week 3 - 8: September 7 - October 16

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Student Group A 8am - 2pm Student Group B Remote	Student Group A 8am - 2pm Student Group B Remote	All Remote - No students Deep Clean/ Sanitize	Student Group B 8am - 2pm Student Group A Remote	Student Group B 8am - 2pm Student Group A Remote



Health and safety of students and staff are our top priority. As a result of COVID-19, new school guidelines and procedures are necessary to safeguard all. This model gives us the ability to control our reopening. The controlled reopening will support staff, students, and families as they adjust to the new safety guidelines and procedures at each site. In this model, we will be able to implement and establish those new guidelines, while also re-establishing student teacher relationships. Throughout the established hybrid timeframe, The Light House ReOpening Task Force will continually reassess our ability to open to our fullest capacity possible by mid October.

What are the next steps?

1. Each site will need accurate data on the number of students who will attend school. All parents will receive a call between Tuesday and Wednesday to review this plan. Parents will have the option to opt out of the hybrid schedule and choose remote only learning for their students if they feel more comfortable doing so.
2. Families will make a decision on hybrid or remote only on or before Thursday morning. Based on the number of students who will participate in the hybrid model, The Light House will assign each student to a Student Group ("A" or "B"). The student groupings will be shared with families on Friday.
3. If at any time you wish to change your plan choice (hybrid to/from remote only) you can do so, in writing, with at least one week's notice to the school. This will allow for planning and set up for the change.

Due to the waiver in 180 school day requirements some districts are starting school on a later date than Light House. We have reached out to districts and are waiting to hear back to see how this may impact students who are transported to and from school by their district. This may affect your student's start date. Students transported by Light House will start school on 8/26 as listed above. We will confirm district plans for transportation as soon as possible.

We look forward to a safe start to the school year and the continued education of our students. We know these are difficult decisions to make and remain committed to consistent communication with our families. Please contact Julie Hill with any questions or concerns you may have during this process.

Sincerely,

Julie Longolucco Hill

Interim Education Director
The Light House
59 Pennsylvania Ave.
Niantic, CT 06357
jhill@lvecenter.com
860-445-7626 ex.121