



WESTMONT
STUDENT LIFE



**RES LIFE: SAFE AND SOCIALLY DISTANCED
FACILITIES AND COMMUNITIES**
COVID PREPAREDNESS PLAN

FOCUS OF THE PLANNING GROUP

The plans represented here will provide safe and socially distanced facilities and communities for students living on campus in Fall 2020.

ADAPTATIONS IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

Facilities: As of July 13, 2020, we are waiting on information from the county and state on specific guidelines for residence halls. Unless we hear otherwise, we will implement the following plans in the residence halls. Each residence hall is architecturally different enough that at least some protocols may be hall specific.

To provide adequate social distancing in Page, we will house new first-year students in doubles, not in triples as we normally would. VK will house triples because the rooms are larger and these students have chosen their roommates. Plexiglass will be installed in bathrooms between sinks. A shower curtain type barrier will be installed in each room between beds and/or desks as the beds and desks cannot be placed six feet apart in many instances. Residents must keep their toiletries with them in their room. Bathrooms and other high touch surfaces should be cleaned once daily, seven days a week and residents are encouraged to clean sinks after each use. The college will provide cleaning supplies. Public lounges may need to be re-arranged to accommodate social distancing. Kitchen microwaves, toasters and fridges will be available for use by the residents.

Residential Communities: Our desire is for things to be as close to “normal” as possible as students live and interact in the residence halls. However, there will be changes in how students are able to interact with each other in the halls.

1. **Students in their own rooms are considered a “pod” or “family unit.”** Therefore, when they are alone with each other, they do not need to wear masks, but should still practice social distancing to the extent practicable.
2. **Residence hall kitchens will be available for use by students, but with some restrictions.** The occupancy of the kitchen area will be limited to adhere to Westmont’s social distancing policy, masks must be worn at all times, and communal kitchen supplies will be removed. Students who would like to use a kitchen are responsible for bringing the kitchen supplies they will need. The college will provide access to appliances (stove, fridge, etc.) and counter-top appliances (toaster, microwave, blender, rice cooker). Cleaning supplies for washing dishes and disinfecting work spaces will be available and students will be responsible for cleaning and removing their supplies.
3. **A strict no off campus visitor policy** will be enforced in the residence halls. In order to keep the campus community safe, we need to have the least number of outside contacts possible. Therefore, we are asking parents and family members to limit visits to campus and ask “is it essential?” We are planning to host commencement and homecoming the weekend of October 16-17, 2020 and then First Parents Weekend November 6-8, 2020.

4. **Students may be asked to limit social interactions for the first two weeks (and also other specific times in the semester), and to not travel away from campus during the semester except for essential travel.**
5. The college will develop a **COVID covenant** that all community members agree to before coming back to campus. There will a section specifically for students.
6. **In-person hall and section meetings/gatherings will be limited** in the number of people allowed and will follow social distancing protocols. This means the larger lounges will likely be in greater use for events in the evenings.
7. **No hall BBQs or events** with opened food (any food needs to be individually packaged).

CONTACT

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