

FALL  
2020

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# FALL 2020 REOPENING PLAN

PURSuing EXCELLENCE FOR MIND AND HEART

## Trinity Christian School 2020 Reopening Plan

We have grown accustomed to a rapidly shifting landscape over the past few months, and more surprises undoubtedly lie ahead of us. But we go forward with our great God who goes before us and walks with us. There are no surprises for him. As events unfold, our school nurses will continue to monitor current health department information, CDC recommendations, and updated public health guidelines as these are issued.

We firmly believe that in-person classes deliver significantly higher levels of learning than on-line instruction. With that in mind, we plan to begin in-person classroom instruction for the coming school year the week of August 24, 2020. As in previous years, **Friday, August 21**, will be an open house day for meeting teachers and receiving final schedules and classroom assignments. In-person classroom instruction will commence on **Monday, August 24**.

### Important Dates



**Friday, August 21**  
Back-to-School Open House



**Monday, August 24**  
First day of school (in-person)

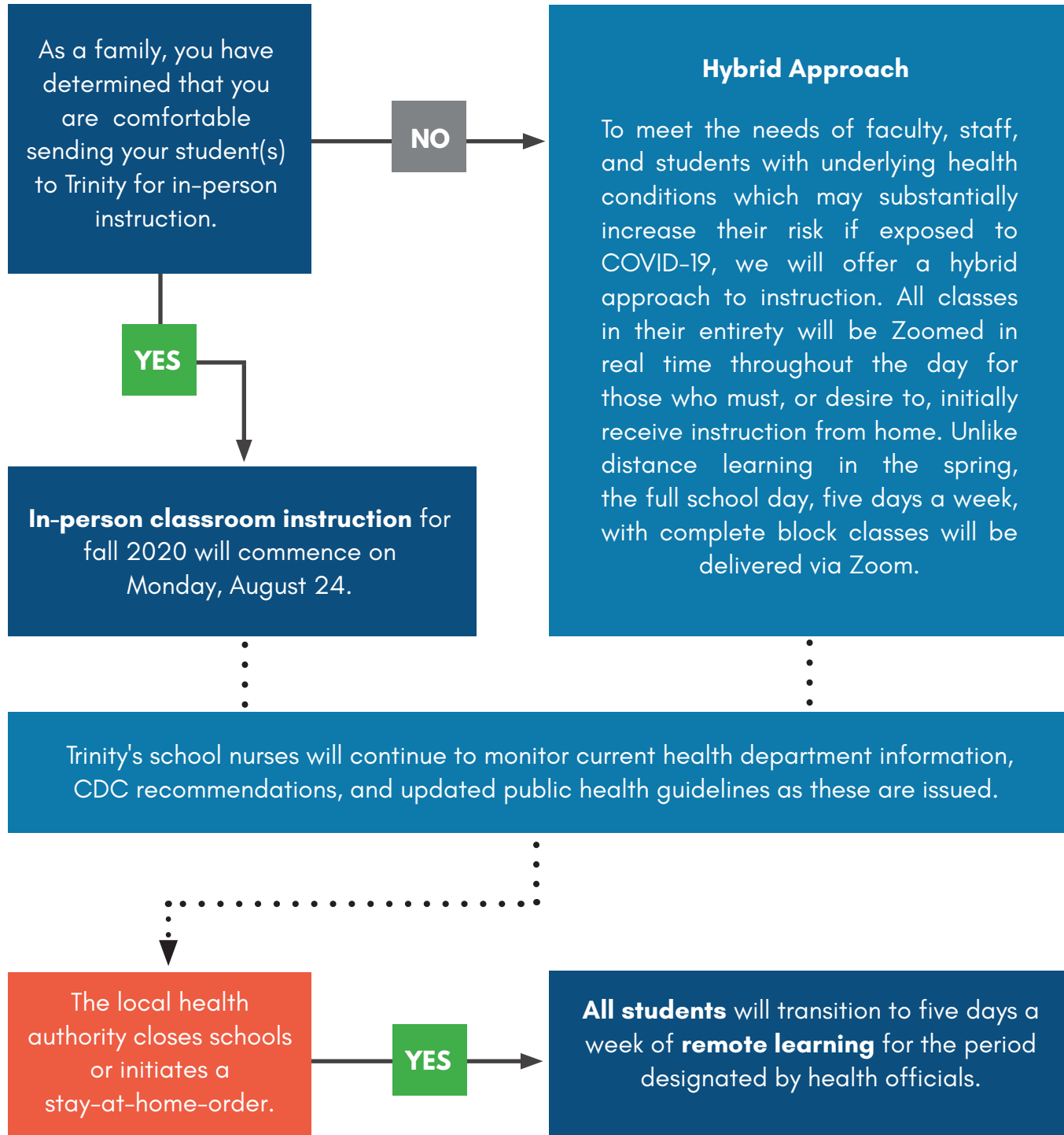
To properly safeguard our community during the resumption of on-campus learning, specific health precautions and safety procedures which are in accordance with health guidelines will be **required**.

**\*NOTE:**

This guide is intended as a living document and will be periodically updated in order to ensure the most current guidelines are in place.

# Reopening Approach

We recognize that not everyone will be able to immediately participate in on-campus classes. We have faculty, staff, and students with underlying health conditions which may substantially increase their risk if exposed to COVID-19. To meet their needs, we will offer a hybrid approach to instruction.



# Social Distancing

## Lower School Grades K-6

- Lower School playground is closed (PE and recess will use athletic fields)
- Grades K-5 will have plastic sneeze/cough shields (3 sided)
- Kindergarten will use individual desks instead of group tables

## Upper School Grades 7-12

- Student and staff parking will be at George Mason University (GMU) for the fall (no shuttles)
- Chapel will take place via Zoom
- Media centers will be used for some classes as additional classroom space

## Lower & Upper School Grades K-12

- All fall field trips are canceled (virtual tours are encouraged)
- Lockers will not be used for the fall (includes athletic lockers)
- All lunches will be in classrooms or outdoors (no lunch in the MPR)
- No parent lunch volunteers for first semester – TAs and teachers will cover lunch in the fall
- The number of people in the restroom at one time will be limited
- Classroom seating will be reconfigured to maximize distancing
- All desks will face the same direction
- Use of shared supplies will be minimized
  - Individual use of pens, pencils, and basic office supplies
  - Art supplies will be individualized
- Reception areas and offices will have plexiglass desk shields

# Personal Hygiene



- Handwashing emphasized
  - Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands every two hours if possible
  - Hand-sanitizer stations will be placed in common areas and entrances
  - All classrooms will have hand-sanitizer dispensers
  - No-contact paper towel dispensers will be installed in Lower School classes and all restrooms



- All staff and students will wear masks
- All students will wear masks whenever moving outside their classrooms
- We understand that prolonged use of face coverings could be difficult and even inappropriate for some students (especially our younger students), and we hope to provide flexibility based on meeting physical distancing criteria and government restrictions. We also know that there will be students on campus who will wear face coverings for longer periods of time, including students who are directed to do so by their healthcare providers
- Faculty and students may also wear cloth face coverings and sanitary gloves



- Water fountains will be closed, at least initially
- All students are to bring water bottles from home
- Paper cups will be available in the Health Clinic for students who forget to bring a water bottle from home



- Students are encouraged to avoid touching their faces, particularly eyes, nose, or mouth to reduce risk of exposure

# Cleaning



- Nightly cleaning of all buildings by our housekeeping service
- Frequent cleaning of **high touch areas every day**
  - This includes water fountains, handrails, doorknobs, keyboards used by multiple persons, phones, light switches, sink faucets, and restroom facilities
- Restrooms cleaned twice during school day with electrostatic 360 sprayer
- Supplies of anti-bacterial sanitizing wipes distributed to every classroom
- Frequent disinfection of PE and recess equipment
- Air purifying systems are being evaluated for efficacy in destroying COVID-19

# Athletics



Our athletic department will follow the guidelines issued by the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA) and the Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC). Currently, cross-country, golf, and tennis will compete in the fall. Decisions are yet to be made regarding soccer, field hockey and volleyball.

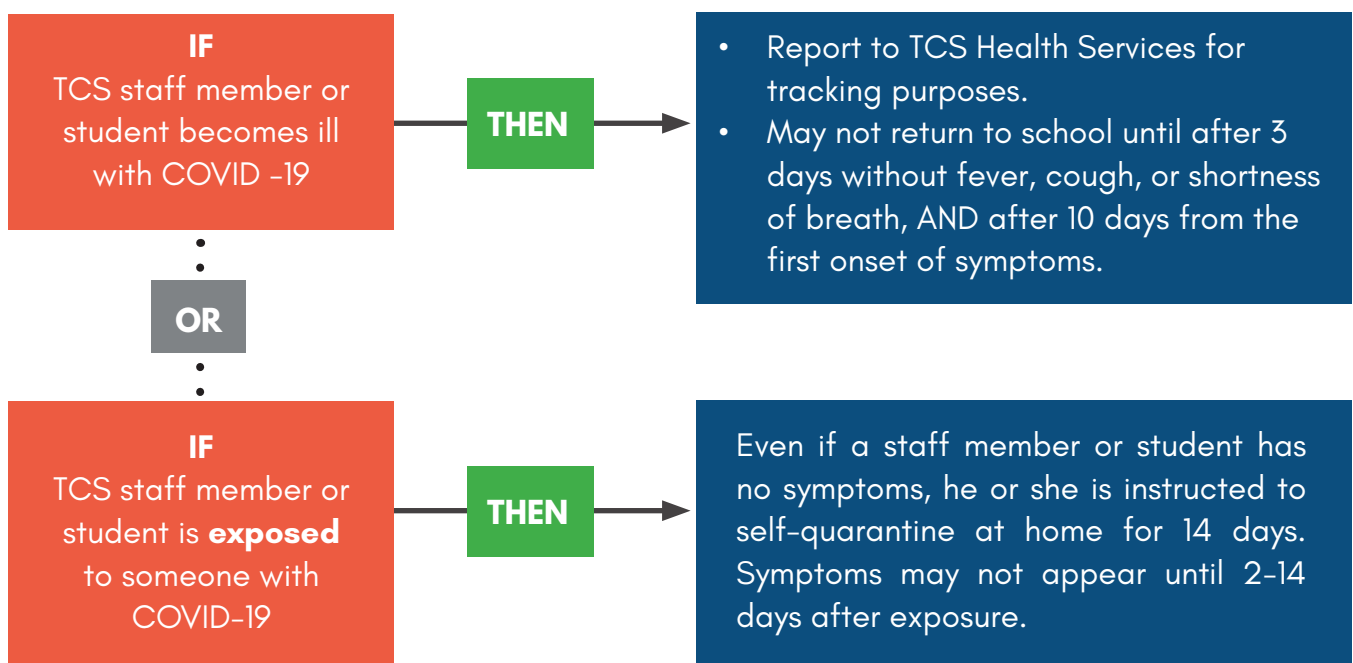
- Current-year physicals will be required for athletic participation
- Temperature and symptom checks required prior to each practice or game

# Health Screening



- All visitors must have temperature and symptom checks before entering buildings
- Parents are urged to take students' temperatures at home before coming to school
- All staff and students will have temperatures taken before entering buildings in the morning
  - Anyone with a temperature over 100.4° F or 38° C will be referred to the Health Clinic
  - Students awaiting parent pick-up will wait in designated Isolation Room
  - Parents are asked to keep children home if temperature is elevated over 100.4° F or 38° C
  - No perfect attendance awards will be given for the 2020-2021 school year
- Nursing staff will monitor all students for COVID-19 symptoms daily
- Fall flu shots for TCS staff and students will be encouraged

What if a TCS staff member or student **becomes ill** with COVID -19 or is **exposed** to someone with COVID-19?



# Health Clinic

Trinity's head nurse, **Jenny Jones, R.N., B.S.N., N.C.S.N.**, will be the designated staff person responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns for staff and families. She will oversee the communication system for staff and families to self-report symptoms and will, with the Office of the Headmaster (OHM), initiate notification of exposures and closures.



## Health Clinic Procedures

- Disinfect between every client visit
- Mark areas to ensure social distancing of 6 feet inside the Health Clinic
- Have a triage area, outside of the clinic, so that students with flu-like symptoms can be sent to the Isolation Room
- Provide ventilation in the Health Clinic with open windows, fan, and air purifier
- If 911 is called, inform the dispatcher if the client has COVID-19 symptoms



## Isolation Room

- Provide staffing for the Isolation Room, with separate restroom, for individuals with flu-like symptoms
- If individuals must go home from the Isolation Room, nurse will make sure the student has a mask on and escort the student to the car of the family, exiting the school from the West entrance of Building One. This will prevent the parent from having to come into the school building.
- Clean the Isolation Room area after waiting 24 hours, if possible, if there was an infected person there



## Medications

- Medications will be dropped off by parent by appointment only, to prevent overcrowding in the clinic
- Scheduled daily medications can be brought by the nurse to the student in the classroom at an agreed upon time

## Health Clinic, Cont.



### Communications

- Maintain clear communication with the Fairfax County Health Department, TCS employees, and TCS families about on-going policy adjustments and/or illness outbreaks
- Provide educational materials to staff, students, and families about how to stop the spread of COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, and what to do if you feel sick
- Communication protocol in place to report to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) or Fairfax Health Department:
  - Increased absenteeism
  - Identified cases of COVID-19
  - Those in quarantine due to exposure



### Tracking

- Health Services will be the contact if students become ill with COVID-19
- Health Services will maintain tracking of absences and illness in the school community
  - Assist the local health department with contact tracing of those exposed by being less than 6 feet away for longer than 10 minutes of COVID-19 positive individuals
  - Avoid identifying the infected person when contact tracing
- Respect the private health information/identity of each individual in the school who becomes ill

# How You Can Help



We ask that all of our families support Trinity's health and wellness protocols by **keeping children at home**:

- when they are not feeling well
- have COVID-like symptoms
- have potentially been exposed



In addition, we are asking families to perform daily temperature checks of their children before coming to school. If a student has a temperature of 100.4° F or 38° C or higher, he or she should stay home.



All families will be invited to a Zoom Cottage Meeting in the latter part of July to receive updates and ask questions of our administrative team.

We covet your continuing prayers for the health and safety of our community, especially for our students and staff as we begin a new school year together.

**We look forward to seeing you all soon. God bless you!**