

The image is a full-page photograph of Trinity Valley School, framed by a thick blue border. The school is a large, light-colored building with a prominent arched entrance and a balcony. It is surrounded by lush green trees and a well-maintained lawn. In the foreground, several young children in blue school uniforms are running across the grass towards the building. The sky is clear and blue with a few wispy clouds.

TRINITY VALLEY SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN

2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

REOPENING PLAN

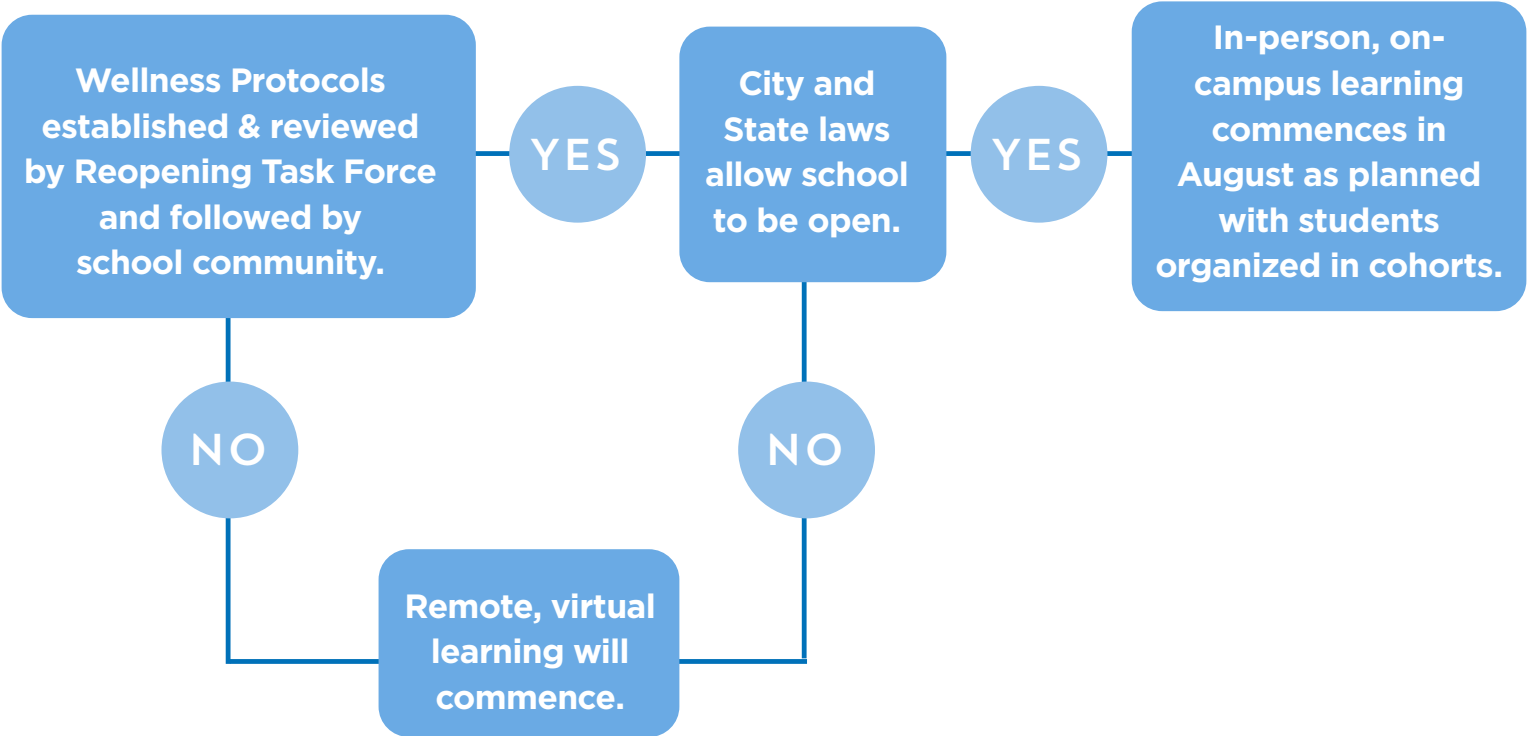
FOR ALL OUR TROJANS

Trinity Valley School is looking forward to an extraordinary, albeit unusual year. This summer, we are creating a safe and healthy environment so that our students, faculty, and staff can be on campus together this fall. Our Reopening team is dedicated to making this a reality in the most judicious ways possible. We are presently hard at work preparing our beautiful facilities, both inside and out, for this unique start of school.

TVS is following sound science and best practices in education to craft this reopening plan. We heed the counsel of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), which “strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school.” [Click here](#) to read the AAP statement in its entirety.

We are committed to welcoming students back on campus for a normal academic calendar. To adhere to health guidelines and protocols, we will be implementing the adjustments below, outlined by division.

Please note that our guidelines are subject to change.



WHAT IS A COHORT?

Cohorts are small groups of students in Pre-K through 8th grade. Organizing the students into these groups will help TVS minimize large group contact. Cohort size will be determined by the square footage of each classroom space.

LOWER SCHOOL

PRE-K THROUGH 4TH GRADE

ON CAMPUS PRE-K

Some modifications to the daily schedule are outlined below:

- Students will remain in classes with their teacher and assistant teacher, providing for social distancing for most of the day
- Co-curricular teachers, except Music and PE, will travel between classes
 - Music classes will be held in the Great Hall
 - PE will be held in the gym and outside areas
 - These locations provide ample room for social distancing
- Brain Breaks and lunch will be modified to reduce cross-group contact
 - Beginning this fall, Pre-K students will have the option to purchase lunch from the cafeteria; these lunches will be delivered to their classrooms
 - Pre-K students will eat in their classrooms



ON CAMPUS K-4

Cohort classes will vary slightly in the number of students, determined by the square footage of each classroom. While we recognize that remaining six feet apart will be challenging, our classrooms and other learning spaces will be configured to maximize this practice.

Some modifications to the daily schedule are outlined below:

- Students will remain in their cohort with their teacher for most of the day
- Co-curricular teachers, except Music and PE, will travel between classes
 - Music classes will be held in the Great Hall
 - PE will be held in the gym and outside areas
 - These locations provide ample room for social distancing
- Classroom learning activities will be conducted outside on occasion
- Brain Breaks will be modified to reduce cross-group contact
- Lunch:
 - Grades K-2 will eat lunch in their classrooms
 - 3rd- and 4th-grade students will eat lunch by grade level in the dining hall

LOWER SCHOOL

PRE-K THROUGH 4TH GRADE

DIGITAL LEARNING

Our Lower School faculty is committed to on-campus learning, while at the same time, we are preparing for the possibility of periods of required distance learning for our children. Some measures our faculty is taking include:

- Teachers have engaged in many summer professional development opportunities, most of which have included components that emphasize technology and distance learning
- We have invested in new and continuing online platforms and hardware to enhance teaching and learning in a digital environment
- Teachers have conducted grade-level planning meetings throughout the summer
- Administrators and teachers have collaborated with ISAS, NAIS, and peer schools from both groups on strategies and best practices amidst the current challenges

We will provide a school year full of rich experiences for our LS students, whether on campus or through digital means, should that need arise. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school to continue learning and growing in the most developmentally appropriate ways.

Please note: Sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids will be avoided whenever possible.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

5TH GRADE THROUGH 8TH GRADE

ON CAMPUS

- Our current Middle School classroom spaces will allow us to appropriately social distance all 5th- through 8th-grade students on campus each day
- Students will be placed in cohorts to minimize large group contact
 - Cohorts will vary in size, as determined by the square footage of each classroom space
- Teachers will travel between classrooms and cohorts
- Lunch will be served each day
 - Lunch seating will include a weekly rotation using the dining hall, classrooms, and outdoor spaces
- To maintain a strong sense of community across cohorts, grade levels, and the division as a whole, we will engage the following:
 - MS assemblies, an essential component of the TVS experience, will continue to take place digitally, and students will view the assemblies with their respective cohort groups
 - Following state and federal regulations, multiple cohort groups will be combined periodically in MS Assembly Hall; the north and south gyms; and many of our large outdoor spaces for select classroom instruction, PE, TOE experiences, and other collaborative opportunities
 - Our MS student committees will continue to work virtually during the school day to support important MS programming, including assemblies and mental health and wellness
 - We will continue to maintain advisory groups that *nurture self-advocacy, community-mindedness, and adaptability* in all our 5th- through 8th-grade students
 - Advisory groups will meet regularly in a virtual format during the school day
 - Advisors will continue to be an important point of contact for parents



MIDDLE SCHOOL

5TH GRADE THROUGH 8TH GRADE



DIGITAL LEARNING

In addition to our planned return to on-campus learning, we are prepared for the possibility that circumstances may require resuming distance learning at some point during the school year. In an effort to provide an enhanced learning experience, we have taken the following steps:

- We have made iPads an optional purchase for all 5th-grade families. In the past, iPads have only been available in 6th grade as a part of our required 1:1 iPad program
- We have invested in online textbook platforms for some courses, such as Latin and Chinese, that include significant online-learning tools
- Teachers have engaged in many summer professional development opportunities, most of which have included components that emphasize technology and distance learning
- Teachers have conducted frequent grade-level planning meetings throughout the summer
- Administrators and teachers have collaborated with ISAS, NAIS, and peer schools from both groups on strategies and best practices amidst the current challenges

We continue to look for ways to bolster the Trinity Valley School educational experience for all our students, and we look forward to a meaningful year in the Middle School.

UPPER SCHOOL

9TH GRADE THROUGH 12TH GRADE



ON CAMPUS

As we launch a distinctly unique school year, we will look to our Upper School students – the leaders and role models for the Trinity Valley School student body – to be positive examples of the sort of patience, flexibility, and intelligent citizenship that we know will make this year a great success.

Unlike in the other divisions, the Upper School schedule requires that classroom groupings shift and reform throughout the day to accommodate student needs and interests in terms of both subject matter and level. Our strategies are designed to reduce close student contact to a minimum as students move through their complex schedules.

- In most cases, classrooms and learning spaces in the Upper School contain sufficient square footage to allow students to be appropriately socially distanced while in class
 - Our talented and dedicated faculty will teach additional sections where necessary to ensure student numbers in each classroom remain at or below safe capacities
 - Thanks to our amazing facilities staff, where necessary, existing Upper School spaces are being combined, divided, or otherwise altered to provide adequate space
- Travel between classrooms and other spaces will be guided by directional signage and distancing recommendations to reduce incidental contact. When it is possible to do so, all will be encouraged to walk outside
- Morning check-in will be accomplished using QR codes on student cell phones, eliminating traditional signing in and out
- During free periods, students will be assigned to appropriately sized and distanced supervised spaces or will have access to a variety of indoor and outdoor spaces with various observed capacities as appropriate
- The daily schedule will be altered slightly to create a second Upper School lunch block, thereby reducing dining room congestion
 - Lunch seating will include a variety of indoor and outdoor areas to achieve appropriate social distancing

UPPER SCHOOL

9TH GRADE THROUGH 12TH GRADE

- To maintain a strong sense of community within the division as a whole:
 - US assemblies will continue to take place digitally, and students will “attend” them within small groups of peers and teachers
 - Following state and federal regulations, somewhat larger groups will be combined periodically in larger indoor and outdoor spaces for TOE experiences, academic and social opportunities, and more
 - Vital functions such as college counseling, health and wellness programs, and student/teacher consultation will continue with adjustments to account for distancing and safety
 - US Student Council, clubs, and committees will continue their good work and advocacy through digital means, or in person as possible
- We will maintain our advisory groups as a resource for academic and social support, community, and skill building
 - Advisory groups will meet regularly, either virtually or physically as space allows
 - Advisors will continue to be an important point of contact for parents



DIGITAL LEARNING

Committed to on-campus learning, we are also prepared for the possibility that circumstances may require resuming distance learning at some point during the school year. So that we might provide the best possible experience in that case:

- We will continue to leverage the Upper School “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) program and provide support for a range of device- and connectivity-related issues
- We have invested in new online platforms and hardware to enhance teaching and learning in a digital space
- Teachers have engaged in many summer professional development opportunities, most of which have included components that emphasize technology and distance learning
- Teachers have conducted department-level planning meetings throughout the summer
- Administrators and teachers have collaborated with ISAS, NAIS, and peer schools from both groups on strategies and best practices amidst the current challenges

We are determined to see and embrace the opportunity for growth and improvement during these challenging times and are prepared to provide an excellent and empowering experience for students in the Upper School!

TECHNOLOGY

At TVS, we leverage technology to fulfill the School's mission of providing fine scholarship with its fulfillment at college; the development of wide constructive interests; intelligent citizenship; and spiritual and moral development which promotes lasting values.

As the 2020-21 school year begins, technological resources must be readily accessible and user friendly both on campus and at home. Below are examples of how technology at TVS will enable learning to take place, regardless of the class structure.

ON CAMPUS

Our teachers are creating learning experiences that leverage technology to create a meaningful sense of community and connection, even as we maintain more physical distance to keep our community healthy.

We are investing in professional development and technological tools to ensure that the learning experience in socially distanced classrooms is engaging, meaningful, and rigorous. Over the summer, many teachers and administrators have taken part in training provided by leading learning organizations including the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS), The Association of Technology Leaders of Independent Schools, Global Online Academy, One Schoolhouse, Powerful Learning Practice, and others.

Students in all divisions will be able to take part fully in the socially distanced classroom experience:

- The School is investing in additional iPads for Lower School
- The iPad program in grades 6-8 now includes 5th graders who would like to purchase an iPad
- Upper School students are well equipped because of our robust 1:1 BYOD program

DIGITAL LEARNING

We are also preparing for the possibility that circumstances may require a return to a period of distance learning at some point during the school year. Teachers are crafting classes that utilize both synchronous and asynchronous instruction so that students participating from home have a rich learning experience. Whether students are at home a day, week, or longer, they will be able to participate actively in their classes, ask questions, and get feedback in real time. This summer we piloted several different speakers, microphones, and cameras in classrooms to ensure that all students have a deep learning experience, both on and off campus.

The School's investments in age-appropriate, robust learning-management systems – Seesaw in grades K-3 and Canvas in grades 4-12 – ensure that students and their parents always have access to lesson materials, class calendars, and other resources. While these systems already enhance learning at TVS, they are especially helpful for TVS families during uncertain times.

ATHLETICS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The goal of Trinity Valley School Athletics and that of the Southern Preparatory Conference (SPC) is to begin the fall season on time and complete it as safely and effectively as possible. TVS Athletics will soon share “return to play” guidelines for student-athletes and coaches for the remainder of the summer. The TVS Athletic department has worked collaboratively with fellow SPC athletic departments to develop a comprehensive approach to maximize health and safety while engaging in sport activities. Through our own Trojan Power strength and conditioning program this summer, we have discovered a great deal about social distancing, instituting cohorts among participants, and developing creative workouts to prepare us for the fall.



While we look forward to launching athletics in August, we will continue to heed recommendations and mandates from local, state, and federal agencies. These recommendations may change based on current trends, data, and needs. Please continue to follow School communications for the most up-to-date information.

Additional points for fall reopening:

- PE coaches are reworking the curriculum by adding more individualized games and activities to minimize physical contact among students during classes
- More activities will take place outside to allow for greater physical distancing
- The divider curtain in the south gym will be used to create two separate activity spaces
- Students will be required to wash hands before and after class
- A handwashing station will be added to the weight room
- Hand sanitizer will be made available at each activity location (both gyms, outside, and the weight room)
- Touchless water-bottle refill stations have been added to both gyms and the weight room
- Equipment will be cleaned and sanitized by PE coaches between each class
- Lower and Middle School classes will be divided into smaller cohorts
- 5th- and 6th-grade PE students will not dress out this year, thus providing more space in the locker rooms
- 7th- and 8th-grade PE students and athletes will be assigned lockers for the year; lockers will be spaced out within the locker room
- US students may be assigned the same athletic locker for the year in either the JV or Varsity locker room, space permitting
- US Trojan Fitness and Wellness will transition to a virtual instruction format this school year, allowing more flexibility for our students
- TVS will offer live streaming of our games in both gyms, the north field, and the stadium field via the NFHS network (a separate [subscription to NFHS](#) will be needed)

Please note: Pre-participation physicals are still required on the same schedule (once every 12 months) and should be scheduled or completed by **July 24, 2020**.

Our department will continue to evaluate protocols, spaces, and activities to make this a safe, fun, and enjoyable school year for our students.

HEALTH SERVICES

As we head into the 2020-21 school year, your child's safety is our top priority. We are following guidelines from the CDC, as well as state and local health officials, and we will act in accordance with government directives and recommendations. Our licensed medical professionals will be on site daily monitoring the health and safety of all students and staff while working closely with the Tarrant County Health Department.

While focusing efforts on the health and safety of our school, we made the decision to expand our health services department and now have an additional full-time registered nurse, Kim Bartell, RN, BSN. Kim is a familiar face at TVS, having worked on a part-time basis with Amy Coats, RN, BSN over the past five years. Kim goes above and beyond in providing outstanding and compassionate healthcare for our students and staff at Trinity Valley School. Her pediatric emergency medicine background is crucial in the development and delivery of our health services.

Together, our nurses are preparing for the beginning of school and the return of students to campus. Below are some of the updates.

Please note: The Health Services department will share the School's official COVID-19 protocol later in the summer and will include an outline of screening measures, sick procedures, and return-to-school guidelines.

CAMPUS CLINIC ADDITIONS

- Second entrance added to our Health Clinic to allow for a well and sick side
- Appropriate personal protective equipment acquired for medical staff in the clinic
- Isolation area established for any students with COVID-19 symptoms



HEALTH SERVICES

EDUCATION

- Our nurses will educate all students regarding the wearing of masks, hand hygiene, distancing, and sneeze/cough etiquette in person and with videos
- Our nurses are participating in a contact-tracing course and working closely with the Tarrant County Health Department
- All faculty and staff members will undergo health and safety training education specific to COVID-19 precautions. This includes but is not limited to strict hand hygiene, social distancing, appropriate face coverings, and cleaning and disinfecting procedures

PARTNERSHIPS

- Following best practices in line with Cook Children's Medical Center with the help of our TVS medical director
- Continuing to offer the Cook Children's Telemedicine program from the TVS Clinic; details to come regarding enrollment

CLEANING & HYGIENE

- Students will undertake strict handwashing and hand-sanitizing procedures while on campus
- More sanitation stations will be available on campus, including more sinks for hand washing
- Campus will be disinfected with EPA-approved cleaning solutions

FAMILY COMMITMENT

- While we have many important health and safety measures in place on campus and are working hard to keep them intact, we really need your help in following these practices outside of school
- We encourage you to start practicing now: please order several masks to determine which ones your child feels most comfortable in, and practice social distancing
 - Please [read here](#) for ideas about encouraging your children to wear masks

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Trinity Valley's school counselors, Karen Peninger (Lower and Middle School) and Kellie McLarty (Upper School), will continue to support TVS students, staff, and families, recognizing the importance of proactive measures to identify and support those in our community that are struggling with mental health, and in particular COVID-19-related stress and difficulty. TVS counselors are uniquely qualified to provide instruction for safety and prevention, appraisal, advisement, short-term counseling, and necessary referrals for specialized services to students and families. Counseling services will be available in person and remotely and will follow the guidelines and recommendations of the CDC, NAIS, and The American School Counselor Association.

T R I N I T Y V A L L E Y S C H O O L

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