

# HEALTH SERVICES COVID-19 PROTOCOL

AS OF 8/12/2021

Here at TVS, your child's health and safety is always our top priority. TVS health and safety protocols have been established with consideration of current CDC and Tarrant County Public Health Department recommendations, government directives, and TVS health data collected during the 2020-2021 academic year. Our licensed medical professionals are on site daily monitoring the health and safety of all students and staff. We are aware that changes will occur, sometimes frequently, as the pandemic continues to evolve. When we need to alter our protocol, we will notify you immediately.

## **Drop-off and Arrival Procedures:**

- In keeping with best practices, Trinity Valley School strongly encourages families and faculty/staff to perform daily self screenings, including temperature checks, at home prior to arrival at school.

## **Masks:**

- In keeping with the Pre-K and Kindergarten Mask Protocol from last year, masks are strongly encouraged, but not required, for this age group when indoors.
- Masks will be required for students in grades 1-12 when indoors.
- All employees of the School will be required to wear masks indoors.
- All visitors to campus will be required to wear masks indoors.
- All students will be required to wear masks when using TVS buses or buses chartered by TVS for school events.
- Disposable masks will be available should a mask be lost or forgotten.

## **Hand Hygiene Procedures:**

- All students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to wash hands and/or sanitize hands upon arrival at TVS.
- Throughout the school day, we remind students about safe hand-hygiene practices. There will be hand-hygiene intervals for handwashing and hand sanitizing.

## **Room Capacities and Distancing:**

- Classroom capacities will be closely monitored and aligned with safety measures.
- Desks within classrooms will be spaced at a distance of three feet at minimum, and greater when space allows.
- The TVS Dining Hall will operate at reduced capacity.

## **Facility Policies and Procedures:**

- All classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis.
- Toys and teaching aids will be routinely cleaned and disinfected.
- All restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis.

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- High-touch surfaces such as door handles will be cleaned daily.
- All students must bring their own personal labeled water bottle. Water fountains are not available at this time; however, there are bottle-filling stations available.

## **COVID-19 Symptoms, Positive Cases, and Return to School:**

Symptoms of COVID-19 may develop within 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and may include the following:

- Runny nose, congestion
- Muscle pain
- Cough
- Chills
- Sore throat
- New loss of smell or taste
- Headache
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fever (100°F or higher)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

## **Sick Procedures:**

- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF HE OR SHE DISPLAYS ANY SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF ANY ILLNESS. CONTINUE TO MONITOR AT HOME.**
- If your child is showing signs or symptoms of any kind of illness and you send him or her to school, this can result in exposure to staff and other students' families.
- If your child is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, we ask that you contact your pediatrician for further evaluation and treatment.
- If your child gets sick while at school or simply is not feeling well, he or she will be seen and assessed by one of our nurses.
- If your child develops ANY COVID-19 symptoms while at school, you will be notified and may be asked to pick up your child immediately. If you are not able to arrive within an hour of the call, please be sure someone is available to pick up your child.
- A nurse will walk your child to the pickup circle when you arrive.
- Depending on the presentation of the child and his/her symptoms, we may be able to offer a Cook Children's Telemedicine visit for further evaluation, but your child may still need to go home after the visit is complete.
- If your child is sent home due to symptoms and is not evaluated by a physician, you will need to contact the nurses during school hours (8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) for clearance prior to returning to school.

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- If your child is being tested for COVID-19 and/or has symptoms, please contact Amy Coats, RN, BSN or Kim Bartell, RN, BSN. We will request a follow up with the results in order to move forward with notifying individuals who were potentially exposed. The same practices will be followed for TVS faculty and staff.
- If your child routinely experiences chronic issues (e.g., headaches or allergy symptoms), expect increased communication from TVS nurses as we determine how to most effectively differentiate these issues from COVID-19 symptoms. We will assume symptoms are indicative of COVID-19 until determined otherwise. We ask for your cooperation as we navigate this.
- Contact information for TVS Medical Services:  
**The nurses will be available during school hours. If your child is ill, please keep him/her home until you have discussed his/her symptoms with one of the nurses.**
  - Amy Coats - [coatsa@trinityvalleyschool.org](mailto:coatsa@trinityvalleyschool.org), (817) 321-0132, (817) 266-0140 (clinic cell phone)
  - Kim Bartell - [bartellk@trinityvalleyschool.org](mailto:bartellk@trinityvalleyschool.org), (817) 321-0132, (817) 266-0140 (clinic cell phone)

## Isolation Procedures:

- Students and staff presenting with signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be referred to the school nurses for evaluation. Students and staff who either test positive or are symptomatic of COVID-19 will be sent home and required to enter isolation until the following criteria have been met:
  - either the individual receives an alternative diagnosis and return-to-school release from his/her physician and the individual has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication; or
  - 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms or date of positive test; and
  - symptom severity has improved over time
- Any form of positive test (molecular or antigen, aka PCR or rapid) will result in a minimum 10-day isolation period from school. Individuals will not be able to test out of isolation or quarantine by producing a negative test prior to the end of the required isolation or quarantine period. Should there be conflicting test results, TVS will err on the side of caution and treat the case as positive for COVID-19.
- Following isolation of a suspected COVID-19 case, the student and/or staff with COVID-like symptoms may be approved to return to school should he/she obtain a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, or receive an alternate diagnosis (i.e. strep, allergic rhinitis) from an appropriately licensed medical provider.

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## **Quarantine Procedures:**

- Family members and/or individuals that live within the same household as a COVID positive individual will be considered a close contact. “If you are a close contact with someone who has COVID-19 living in your household and you have been vaccinated for COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don’t have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative. You should isolate for 10 days if your test result is positive.”
- In the event of an on-campus COVID-positive case, some individuals may be considered close contacts through contact tracing and will be contacted by the TVS Covid Coordinator, Alan Reid. Our approach to contact tracing will be conducted on a case-by-case basis with the goal of limiting the impact on student learning while also considering the health and safety of all of our faculty and students.
- Close contacts will complete a 10-day quarantine period from the date of their last exposure to the COVID-positive individual during the infectious period. The infectious period is considered 48 hours prior to the first symptom or positive test and the following 10 days.
- There is a quarantine exception due to masking. According to the CDC, “In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.” [link](#)
- Individuals who are fully vaccinated or within 90 days of a COVID infection will not have to quarantine if exposed to a COVID-positive family member or on-campus individual unless they become symptomatic. Documentation of lab-confirmed positive test or vaccination card is required.
- The TVS Medical Team is continuing to monitor cases and potential exposures and will evaluate quarantine and isolation procedures with advice from the Tarrant County Department of Health.

## **Family Commitment:**

We understand that you are entrusting us with your child. TVS is committed to working hard in the coming weeks and months, and we ask that you also commit to the role that your family plays in making school the safest experience for everyone. The safety of your children and TVS employees depends on practicing good safety and health protocols off campus as well, so we ask you to heed the measures below to help keep everyone safe and healthy.

It is important to note that if your child is showing signs or symptoms of any kind of illness and you send him/her to school, this can result in exposure to staff, other students, and their families which could be fatal.

- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF HE OR SHE DISPLAYS ANY SIGNS**

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**OR SYMPTOMS OF ANY ILLNESS. CONTINUE TO MONITOR AT HOME AND CONSULT WITH YOUR PEDIATRICIAN.**

- **Please check your child's temperature at home before coming to school.** If your child has a temperature of 100.0° or higher, **keep him or her home** and contact your pediatrician's office for further instructions.
- If your child seems "off" and is not eating or drinking as he/she normally does prior to coming to school, he/she may be getting sick. **Keep him or her home** and continue to monitor his/her condition.
- Please do not give your child fever-reducing medications prior to school. If he/she has a headache, sore throat, or other symptoms, please keep him/her home and continue to monitor. Medications such as Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Advil/Motrin (ibuprofen) will mask a fever and could result in exposing others to COVID-19 or other illnesses.
- If your child has vomited or had diarrhea within 24 hours of attending school (no matter what you may think the cause could be), **keep him or her home**. These are now also symptoms of COVID-19. Please contact your pediatrician to discuss further and to clear your child to return to school. The child may not return to school until it has been 24 hours since his/her last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- If a family member in the household is diagnosed with COVID-19 or awaiting results of testing, **all TVS students and staff in that household need to stay home** and follow the recommended quarantine guidelines by the CDC and local health officials. Family members that have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine may proceed to school unless they become symptomatic.
- If your child is sick and unable to attend school, please contact your child's division office, and a member of the TVS Medical Team will follow up with you to discuss further.