

Trinity Lutheran

School

Reopening

Plan



Operating Assumptions

A return to school will look different. Trinity Lutheran families, students and staff will need to be flexible and understand that the priority of protecting the health of our students may require changes in procedures, sometimes with minimal notice.

This Reopening Plan is based on moderate or mild Community spread allowing Trinity Lutheran to function using a modified, structured response.

Guiding Principles

Trinity Lutheran plans to return to school on September 1, 2020. When we return to school, it will look different than it did before March 13, 2020. To best protect the health of and safety of our students, TLS will abide by recommendations from the Department of Health and state and local authorities. Whatever the circumstances, we remain committed to providing a loving Christian environment which supports the whole child.

It is our goal to prepare and plan as best as we possibly can. However, all plans are subject to change based on state and local government, CDC, and Health Department recommendations. Please note situations may arise where adjustments must be made quickly, therefore communication is key and families are asked to regularly monitor email for communication.

Severity of Spread	Substantial Spread and Risk	Minimal/Moderate Spread and Risk			Low/No Spread and Risk
Instructional Model	Distance Learning *	Distance Learning	Hybrid Schedule	Modified Traditional	Traditional
Response	Extended Closure – Facilities closed for 14 days or more days Facility Deep cleaning occurs	Minimal use of Facilities- Students will go to distance learning.	Minimal use of Facilities- Staggered in person instruction or Flex Schedule	Facilities Open- Implement intensive mitigation strategies, enhance social distancing with self-contained classroom, modified schedules and maximizing social distancing.	Facilities Open- Implement preventative practices and proactive health and safety protocols

***School Closures and Implementing Distance Learning**

Our plan is to open facilities at the start of the school year; Home visits and Open House will look differently this year. You will be informed through email the details of these two events.

Our School is addressing these specific items:

- Implementing social distancing strategies
- Implementing screening procedures upon arrival
- Intensifying cleaning and disinfecting efforts

Social Distancing Strategies

- Only Trinity Lutheran staff and students will be allowed in the building. Parents will not be admitted beyond the office foyer during school hours.
- Volunteers will need to have a health screening prior to going to a classroom.
- Students will sit as a class and not with chapel buddies for Chapel services and assemblies.
- Each group of children remains in separate rooms as much as possible.
- Desks and seating will be spaced out as much as possible.
- When necessary, teachers will move and students will stay in the same rooms.

Drop Off Screening

All children and staff will be screened upon arrival. Children and staff who have a temperature of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness will not be admitted. Parents are asked not to drive off until their child's temperature has been taken. Parents must help be on alert for signs of illness in their children and must keep them home when they are sick. Even if the child does not have a temperature, but appears sick (cough, runny nose, etc.) children may be asked to stay home.

Staff will be outside the office for drop-off and in the drop-off/pickup area.

- Please have your child dropped off between 7:55 - 8:10am. If circumstances are such that you cannot, please come to the main office door to have your child screened.
- Staff doing screening will wear a mask and a pair of disposable gloves.

- Staff will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness, which could include flushed cheeks, rapid or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), or fatigue, and confirm that the child is not experiencing coughing or shortness of breath.
- Staff will take the child's temperature using a non-contact, temporal thermometer.
- Students may be asked some or all of the following questions:
- Parents are also asked to be mindful of these questions:
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
 - Have you had muscle pain or chills?
 - Have you traveled outside Flathead County or to a high risk area recently?
- Student will wash hands upon entering the building.
- After screening children, staff will remove mask and wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Staff will direct anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms (e.g. answers yes to any of the screening questions or who is running a fever) to the office for further evaluation.
- If TLS learns that a staff member or student has tested positive for COVID-19, we will consult CDC guidelines and contact the local health department to discuss the appropriate management of potentially exposed staff and students, and to determine whether school should change protocols.



Students or Staff who Become Sick at School

If a student becomes ill while at school:

- TLS will contact the student's parent/guardian to pick up the student as soon as possible.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Sick children and staff will not return to school until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation,
- Those with fever cannot return to school for **72** hours after fever has resolved.

Handwashing and Hygiene

Staff and students will wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available. Children will be supervised if they use hand sanitizer.

All children and staff will engage in hand hygiene at the following times:

- Arrival and after breaks
- Before and after preparing food or drinks
- Before and after eating or handling food,
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
- After using the toilet
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After playing outdoors
- After handling garbage

Trinity Lutheran School will:

- Teach and reinforce washing hands and respiratory etiquette among students and staff.
- Practice frequent handwashing and advise students and staff to avoid touching their face.
- Have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, tissues, and no-touch trash cans.
- Install alcohol based hand sanitizing stations at entrances, common areas in the school, and classrooms.

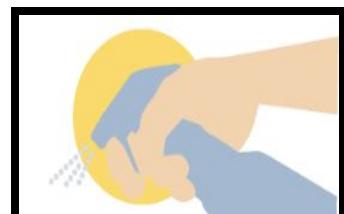


Face Masks and Cloth Face Covers

- The use of face coverings will be dependent on a variety of factors. We understand that face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school.
- Face coverings **may** be worn by staff and students (particularly older students) when feasible and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult such as in hallways and at dismissal time.
- Individuals will be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
- Trinity Lutheran will provide information to staff, students, and students' families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.
- Note: Cloth face coverings should not be placed on Children younger than 5 years old. TLS pre-k will not be required to wear a face mask.

Recommendations for Cleaning and Disinfecting

- *Cleaning* is physically removing dirt, debris, and sticky film by washing, wiping, and rinsing.
- *Disinfecting* kills nearly all germs on a hard, non-porous surface when applied correctly. Prior to disinfecting, cleaning must be completed. Note: Disinfecting is different than sanitizing.
- *Sanitizing* is the reduction of bacteria to safe levels as set by public health standards. It is required for any surface that comes in contact with food.
- The following will be disinfected at least daily:
 - Door and cabinet handles
 - Sink handles
 - Shared objects (e.g., toys, games, art supplies) should be cleaned in between uses.
- Cleaning and Disinfecting Materials, Toys, and Manipulatives
 - Toys and objects that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.
 - Cloth toys will not be used.
 - Toys and objects that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by bodily fluids will be set aside until they are cleaned and sanitized.
 - Staff will not share toys and manipulatives with other classrooms, unless they are washed and sanitized before being moved to another classroom.
 - Children's books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes,



are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfecting procedures.

Drinking Fountains

Drinking fountains should not be used at this time. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles labeled with their name from home, or the school will provide cups that are disposable or labeled with student's names.

Limit Sharing

- TLS will keep each student's belongings separated and in individually labeled storage containers or cubbies.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (art supplies, equipment etc. assigned to a single student) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of students at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.
- If food is offered at any event, have pre-packaged boxes or bags for each student.
- Avoid sharing of foods and utensils.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- Discourage families from bringing materials/toys from home.

Recommendations for Cafeteria

- All food service workers should wear a face mask or cloth face covering.
- Frequently wash and sanitize all food contact surfaces and utensils.
- Workers must practice frequent hand washing and make glove changes before and after preparing food.
- Serve food using gloves.

- Children may be seated as a class in the lunchroom with greater distance between students
- TLS will stagger meal times to provide adequate physical distancing and will possibly add a third lunch period.
- All kitchen/lunchroom areas will be cleaned and disinfected after use and prior to a new group of students entering for meals.

Recommendations for Gym and Playground

- Face masks should not be worn while engaged in physical activity.
- Physically distancing will be encouraged with non-contact sports and activities.
- According to Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and other credible health resources, COVID-19 is not spread through sweat. However, surfaces touched by multiple people and that are dirty will be cleaned prior to disinfection.
- TLS staff members will be responsible for ensuring regular cleaning and disinfection.
- TLS will minimize sharing of equipment as much as possible and disinfect shared equipment between uses.

Recommendations for Restrooms

- TLS will clean restrooms frequently.
- TLS will place a trash can by the door if the door cannot be opened without touching the handle, so restroom users can cover the handle with a paper towel and easily dispose of it afterward.
- Restrooms will have signs instructing students and staff on how to wash hands after using the restroom.