



COVID PROTOCOLS 2021-2022

We understand that no matter what we decide to do with COVID protocol our families will have mixed reactions and strong opinions for or against any decision we make. As we anticipate a new academic year, we plan to begin the 2021-2022 school year with careful attention to the following items:

1. Symptom Screening (prior to leaving home - do not send sick kids to school)
2. Cleaning and Disinfecting
3. Ventilation
4. Quarantine and/or Isolation Measures

TCA will continue to follow health protocols of disinfecting, cleaning, and increased ventilation to inhibit the spread of all illnesses including COVID. COVID-19 is a fluid situation. While we want to be as minimally restrictive as possible, circumstances may force us to reconsider these plans. The TCA community should be prepared for changing protocols and for the possibility of interruptions in activities due to the implementation of COVID related restrictions if necessary to keep our community safe.

COVID Vaccines: Many opinions exist with regard to the COVID vaccination. TCA takes that position that getting a COVID vaccination is a choice that individuals and families should make with the consultation of their physician. If your child is vaccinated, and you choose to do so, we encourage parents to submit COVID vaccine records to the school nurse. Having this information on site will help us determine isolation and quarantine protocol in the event of a COVID related issue at school.

Masking: On August 31st Governor Wolf mandated that all students 2 years of age and older in public, parochial, and private schools as well as all staff and guests to school entities must wear masks when in the building until further notice. Below are the specifics that TCA will implement based on Department of Health guidance.

- Masking will not be required, when approved by a teacher/coach, at recess, during P.E. class, by student athletes at practice/games, or in any other situation where students are engaged in physical activity while inside or outside of the building. Students/parents may choose to mask in these situations and will be supported in doing so.
- Mask breaks will be implemented throughout the day when a minimum of 3 feet can be maintained, and the break is approved and monitored by a teacher.
- Mask exemptions will be considered and supported when aligned with the specifics of the mandate and required paperwork is provided. Contact the school nurse mnazario@tca-pa.org for more information.

Social Distancing and Cohorting during Lunch: During lunch all students will be distanced a minimum of 3ft and will sit with the grade(s) they are cohorted with on a regular basis (e.g. 2nd grade will sit together). Preschool and Kindergarten students will eat in their classrooms.

Screening, Isolation, and Quarantine: Please screen your child for COVID symptoms before leaving your home and do not send your child to school sick. We will isolate and quarantine students who have COVID symptoms (or have been in direct contact with a COVID positive person) and/or choose to be tested for COVID depending on individual

circumstances. If a student is showing symptoms of the COVID virus he/she will be isolated, and the parent or guardian must pick up the student within 30 minutes. Quarantine procedures may be altered for vaccinated individuals.

Ventilation: TCA has UV protection on all ventilator units in the classrooms, lunchrooms, and offices. These units kill viral, bacterial, and fungal organisms in the air. We also have a MERV8 filtration system in all spaces that have air handling units that filters things such as bacteria, dust, and mold spores.

Disinfecting and Cleaning: TCA cleans high touch surfaces multiple times during that day (e.g. door knobs, light switches, etc.) All classrooms are equipped with disinfectant and cleaning supplies. TCA has several fogging machines that are used in classrooms when a student member has been exposed or diagnosed with COVID prior to continued use of the classroom space.

Concurrent Program: TCA will not be offering its online concurrent program for the 2021-2022 school year. We will continue to monitor specific situations to determine if individual students need a short-term virtual option because they tested positive for COVID and/or are mandated to stay home and quarantine. Students must have permission from their principal and school nurse to participate in our limited concurrent program.