



TURLOCK CHRISTIAN COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN –

2020-2021

Turlock Christian COVID Safety Plan

Introduction

Turlock Christian School, K-12, will open September 8th with distance learning. We will switch to in-person learning immediately upon being given permission to do so. Turlock Christian's Elementary current enrollment for K - 6 is 229 students, Jr. High and Senior High is 180. Some families have selected to attend distance learning or our homeschool option. These options will remain readily available for every K -12 Turlock Christian student.

“Though we know not what the future holds, we know who holds the future.” With this truth in mind, Turlock Christian School K – 12 has returned to in-class instruction Fall of 2020 with direction and assistance from the Stanislaus County Health Department. While precautions are being taken and definitive protocols are in place, what will not change is the mission of Turlock Christian School. We are committed to equipping and inspiring hearts and minds to transform the world for Christ.

With that overarching aim in mind, we convened a Re-Entry Team (made up of administrators, board members, school personnel, parents and local medical professionals) with the goal of developing a safe and sensible plan for reopening Turlock Christian. The team has kept up to date on the latest guidelines coming from various organizations, including the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency (SCHSA), the California Department of Education (CDE), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and others. In addition, we reviewed the preliminary plans from various area schools and other Christian schools in the state in hopes of being in sync with others.

We are hopeful that the plan presented here is one that provides a safe and healthy environment in which education can flourish and precious community can be enjoyed. While we've endeavored to lay out a comprehensive plan, all guidelines and protocols listed should be considered subject to change based on new developments or mandates issued by state or local authorities, as well as simple and practical determinations of what works well when we come back to campus.

Though we want to create a plan that works well and allows for a safe return to school, we're hopeful that the following contingencies won't become permanent protocols. The Re-entry Team and the School Board have and will continue to revisit this plan to assess its viability and effectiveness, making changes as necessary.

We believe it is imperative for the health and development of the whole student to have access to on-campus learning. With On-Campus Learning the following plans are created to minimize the spread of COVID-19 while providing a healthy on-campus experience for students to learn.

- **The size of the cohorts will be determined by the ability to maintain social distance protocols in the assigned classroom.** Our current numbers are:
 - K – 29 (2 classes of 14 & 1 class of 15)
 - 1 – 36 (2 classes of 18)
 - 2 – 29 (1 class of 15 & 1 of 14)
 - 3 – 27 (1 class of 13 & 1 of 14)
 - 4 – 27 (1 class of 13 & 1 of 14)
 - 5 – 26 (2 classes of 13)
 - 6 – 31 (2 classes of 16)
 - 7 – 19 (varied classes)
 - 8 – 41 (varied classes)
 - 9 – 27 (varied classes)
 - 10 – 26 (varied classes)
 - 11 – 32 (varied classes)
 - 12 – 35 (varied classes)

Please consider the following information in relation to re-opening in-person school:

- Turlock Christian School (TCS) Elementary current enrollment is 229 students K - 6.
- Elementary Students are housed in a 37 thousand square foot facility on a 7+acre lot.
- Turlock Christian Jr. & Senior High enrollment is 180 students
- The Jr. & Senior High are housed in a 90 thousand sq ft facility on 18 acres.
- Our parent survey shows in excess of 95% prefer returning to the classroom
- Our staff survey shows that all faculty prefer returning to the classroom
- The TCS Board and Administration fully support returning students to the classroom.
- TCS will provide Distance Learning, Independent Study and/or Homeschool for all students who are unable to return to the classroom due to COVID related issues.

Cleaning and Disinfection:

- TCS will clean and disinfect or sterilize equipment, surfaces, and objects (daily or following use as appropriate) that are frequently touched throughout the day. This will include playground equipment, doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles countertops, and the like.
 - Our staff and facilities team will clean with approved disinfectant for use against the COVID-19 virus as listed on the EPA approved list (i.e. Chlorine Dioxide and/or Lysol).

- Our staff will use products in accordance with their recommended use.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned up to 3x a day, as needed or as the facility staff can provide
- Disposable wipes or an equivalent disinfectant will be provided to teachers and staff so that commonly used surfaces (e.g. keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down before use.
- TCS will ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.
- Playground equipment will be cleaned following before/after each use.
- TCS will clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces (designated staff to do so throughout the day) such as bathrooms and drinking fountains (only bottle fillers are available).
- Shared items will be minimized: students will have individual supplies, including Chromebooks and Ipads provided by the school.

Stable Groups/Cohorts: TCS Elementary students will be kept in small, stable, groups with fixed membership that stay together for all activities and minimize/avoid contact with other groups or individuals not a part of the cohort. (See “Entrance Egress and Movement within the school”). We understand that not all students will return to campus right away (homeschool option will be available), but when on-campus exceeds the social distancing guidelines for each classroom, then we will split classes into smaller groups. As we make “a good faith effort” to maintain social distancing as much as possible – increased ventilation will be utilized if distancing cannot be maintained in the classroom. (note: currently ventilation is set to meet and/or exceed industry standards regardless of seating configurations).

While Cohorts, outside of specialized groups, is somewhat more difficult on the Jr. High/High School Campus, the school does employ a number of protocols to reduce contact of COVID-19. These include a block schedule to limit the number of classes students attend, adherence to county and state guidelines and wide reaching quarantining procedures in the event of positive cases on campus. Due to our small size, we easily can and do transition from in-class learning to distance learning by class or whole campus.

- **The size of the cohort will be determined by the ability to maintain social distance protocols in the assigned classroom.**
 - Students will be grouped together in small enough groups to maintain the recommended social distancing guidelines. Additional classrooms will be created as necessary to allow for this spacing.
 - TCS has space and building options available to allow elementary school classroom cohorts to spread out and socially distance.

Entrance Egress and Movement within the School: TCS has plans in place for the movement of students, parents, and staff to avoid close contact and mixing of cohorts on the campus.

- TCS will avoid mixing students in common areas. Example: students will eat lunch outside, in classrooms, or have assigned distance seating within their cohort.
- TCS will restrict hallway use by staggering the release of classes when possible.
- Hallways are marked with clear 6' distancing labels. Students will be trained to use these markings while in the hallway.
- TCS will avoid whole classes using the restrooms at one time following a recess or lunch break.
- TCS has pre-arranged and controlled entry points for students by grade to reduce contact. Staggered drop-off times may be employed if necessary to reduce contact.

Face Coverings: TCS will follow the CA Department of Public Health regarding face-covering requirements.

- Children in grades 3rd - 6th, face coverings are required unless there is a pre-existing health condition as outlined by CDPH guidelines or otherwise exempt.
- Children in grades K - 2nd, face-coverings are required and strongly encouraged when it is consistent with Turlock Christian's policies regarding pedagogy and optimal student learning.
- All staff and adults on campus are required to wear face coverings unless there is a pre-existing health condition as outlined by CDPH guidelines or otherwise exempt.
- Students are asked to bring their own face-covering that is comfortable and fits. TCS will have face-coverings readily available for students and staff.
- TCS will provide face-coverings for all employees.
- Students and staff will be reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
- TCS will encourage everyone in the school to practice preventive behaviors and use protective equipment as recommended and is appropriate.

Health Screenings for Students and Staff: Students and staff will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival and monitored throughout the day. Students or staff who are feeling sick will be separated from others immediately and sent home. TCS will have an isolated room designated for sick students. The following procedures will be followed.

- All students upon arrival, prior to exiting the vehicle will be
 - Temperature checked with a no-touch thermometer.

- Answer a series of questions checking for the following symptoms or group of symptoms:
 - Fever/ Chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fatigue
 - Body aches
 - Loss of smell or taste
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Staff will be trained and informed in all sick leave policies.

Healthy Hygiene Practices: TCS has touchless handwashing stations throughout the facility and outside. Every building entry and all high traffic areas, including hallways and playgrounds, have touchless handwashing stations. Every elementary classroom has a sink with hot and cold water and soap available for washing hands as well.

- Students will be taught to wash their hands as directed by the [CDC website](#)
- Students will review daily handwashing and important hygiene practices (age-appropriate).
- Handwashing signage will be posted throughout the school as appropriate.
- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when arriving, before and after eating after using the restroom, following recess or outdoor activities, and anytime a student coughs or sneezes.
- Students must bring a personal water bottle - marked with their name. Students will use the water bottle filler.
- K - 12th lunch will take place in the multipurpose room, Gym, outside (weather permitting) or in classrooms as necessary.
 - Students will be directed to distance
 - The tables will be cleaned and sanitized between groups.

Identification and Tracing of Contacts: In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 TCS will follow the following steps:

- TCS will follow [CDPH guidance related to contract tracing](#)
- TCS will work with Stanislaus County Public Health using syndromic and COVID surveillance system for case reporting and tracking.

- If an employee calls in or otherwise notifies TCS of sickness due to COVID-19 symptoms the following procedure will be:
 - Immediately inform HR. All employee related questions are to be directed to HR from this point forward.
 - A brief interview will be conducted to determine the timeline of symptoms and conclude possible exposure to the TCS campus.
 - If on-campus, the names of anyone the person had close contact with will be collected. HR will contact those people and inform them of the possible exposure.
 - If not on campus, the employee will follow the CDPH recommendation for 10-day self-quarantine unless a negative test is provided.
 - TCS will require the employee to get a COVID-19 test immediately at a facility of the school's choosing. When COVID-19 testing is directed by TCS, testing costs will be covered by TCS when no other free options are available. Results of testing must be presented to HR once received.
 - Anytime it is determined an employee contracted COVID-19, with certainty, while at work, the employee will follow the policy for worker's compensation
 - If a COVID-19 positive employee has exposed any area of the TCS campus, we will contact facilities and determine the best course of action for deep cleaning and sanitizing the area where the employee was working.
- If a student or immediate family member contracts COVID-19 we will contact our health department for advice and recommendations regarding closing the facility.
- TCS has a COVID-19 contact person - Rick Ryan, ryan@turlockchristian.com
- TCS will provide timely communication with families with whom contact was made, while maintaining privacy and confidentiality per FERPA, HIPPA, specifically 34 CFR § 99.3.

Physical Distancing: TCS has taken into consideration how space and routines will be arranged to allow for physical distancing of students and staff.

- We have cancelled activities and events such as field trips, assemblies, and other large gatherings and opted for virtual options as appropriate.
- Lunch times will be staggered to allow for social distancing guidelines to be enforced when space limits dictate this approach.
- The multipurpose room will only be used when social distancing protocols can be enforced.

- TCS has increased the space between student work areas to maximize the distance between students.
- Students will be arranged to limit face to face situations where students may encounter exposure through droplets.
- TCS has pre-arranged and controlled entry points for students by grade to reduce contact. Staggered drop-off times may be employed if necessary to reduce contact.
- Limited mixing of classes. Assigned class and lunchroom seating to help produce maximum possible social distancing. Use of large room space and outdoor classes when possible. Increase airflow by opening windows and doors whenever weather and safety allow.
- The running of the HVAC system which meets or exceeds EPA air exchange standards.
- Playground use will be staggered, and equipment will be sanitized between use. Toys and classroom equipment will be sanitized as needed, based on use.
- Non-essential visitors are restricted.
- Chapel is considered essential for TC student's development and learning. Chapels will be held outdoors with social distancing, or done digitally in classrooms. TCS will follow state guidelines for group gatherings.
- The Jr. High / High School has implemented a block schedule to reduce contact between student groups.

Staff Training and Family Education: Staff, students, and families will be informed and educated in relation to this plan and its application

- Staff, students, and families will have a virtual training regarding this plan.
- The plan will be posted on our website for review by TC families
- Teaching staff will be trained specifically for their role as classroom teachers with regard to this plan and its implementation.

Testing of Students and Staff: Any employee who has symptoms of COVID-19 will be tested as quickly as possible and given instructions to quarantine while waiting for results.

- TCS will follow CDPH guidance.
 - <http://www.schsa.org/coronavirus/guidances/business/pdf/return-to-work.pdf>
 - TCS will utilize the local county-sponsored testing site for surveillance testing of staff and teachers. One eighth ($\frac{1}{8}$) of staff will be tested weekly or so that all staff are tested every two months. Staff/teachers will schedule their appointment at the local test site and report results to the principal who will track and ensure testing. c
 - [https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf)

- If any student contracts COVID-19 we will contact our health department for advice and recommendations.
 - CDPH Guideline:
 - Students or staff with COVID-19 symptoms:
 - Send home, recommend testing (TCS will send employees for testing), the school remains open. No communication action needed.
 - Students or staff with COVID-19 contact with Confirmed COVID-19 case:
 - Send home, recommend testing (TCS will send staff for testing), quarantine 10 days from point of contact, the school remains open, communication to TCS community considered.
 - Student or staff confirmed with COVID-19 case:
 - Notify local public health
 - Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date.
- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf>
- Identify contacts, quarantine and exclude exposed contacts for 10 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious.
 - Recommended testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts
 - Disinfect and clean classroom and primary spaces where case spent time.
 - School remains open
 - School community notification of known case
- Sick students and staff, particularly those with symptoms of respiratory illness, will be kept separate from students and staff until they can leave the campus. Designated areas are available for this use.
 - TCS will help to educate families when to keep students home due to illness.
 - TCS will make decisions that take into account the level of community transmission.

Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning: TCS will depend upon the guidelines of the CDC and CDPH to determine when to close in-person instruction for students.

- In consultation with Public Health, TCS will follow school reopening guidance on triggers to close classrooms, the school and the district to in person learning and transition to distance learning.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf>

- TCS will provide Distance Learning and Homeschool options for elementary students and families all year in the event the school is required to close.

- TCS Jr. High and High School – Following quarantining of individuals and groups who qualify as contacts, TCS will consider transitioning the whole school campus to Distance Learning when operationally and/ or from an educational perspective it is reasonable. TCS students and staff all have access to technology and have been trained to transition between in-class learning and Distance Learning with ease.

Communication Plans: TCS will communicate with students, staff and parents about cases and exposures at the school, consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA and HIPPA.

- TCS is in contact with Stanislaus County Health and is monitoring changes in requirements, cases, and recommendations from local and state health officials.
- TCS communication goes to staff, families, board members and students as appropriate
- TCS will communicate with staff, students and parents best practices to stay healthy. As well, we will communicate when to stay home if sick through weekly school emails and newsletters.
- TCS communicates primarily through our Student Information System, using email, and text messaging.

If there is a Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Case in the School System

Actions Taken for Positive or Suspected COVID-19 Case				
	Student/Staff With:	Action	Communication	Notes
1.	Covid-19 Symptoms (see CDC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Home if at school • Recommend Testing* • School/Class remains open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action needed 	*if positive see #3, if negative see #4
2.	Close contact with a Confirmed Covid case(+)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home if at school • 10 day quarantine at home (CDPH guidelines) • Recommend testing 5-7 days from last exposure. (testing result will NOT shorten 10 day quarantine if negative) • School/Classroom remain open* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of community notification of a known exposure.** • No action if exposure did not happen in school setting. 	<p>*School and classroom closures are based on prescribed contact definitions – mainly under 6’ for 15 mins or more and/or 30 mins in a closed space such as a classroom regardless of distance.</p> <p>**TCS will most often/always communicate positive Covid cases related to our students and families.</p>
3.	Confirmed Covid-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify SCHED • Exclude from school for 10 days from Symptom Onset date. OR if asymptomatic for 10 days from specimen collection date. • Identify school Close Contacts(+) and inform SCHED of identified contacts. • Exclude close contacts or possibly entire stable group(++) from school for 10 days after last date of contact while infectious. • Recommend testing asymptomatic contacts 5-7 days from last exposure and immediate testing of symptomatic contacts. (testing does not shorten 10 day exclusion) • Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time. • School remains open* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School community notification of known case. • Notification of persons with potential exposure if case was present in school while infectious. 	*TCS will evaluate all school closure for each event; we may close an entire campus even if not directed by SCHED. We may do this as a precaution or if distance learning is deemed more effective for the 10-day period based on each situations factors. We will close a campus if directed to do so by SCHED.
4.	Symptomatic person tests negative or a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May return to school after 24 hours have passed without fever and symptoms have started improving • School/Class remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing. 	

	symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition			
	(+) A contact is defined as a person who is within 6 feet from a case for more than 15 minutes cumulative within a 24 hour period, regardless of face coverings. In some school situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire stable group, classroom or other group may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.	(++) (see Stable Group definition p18 Covid-19 Reopening Plan for In-person Instruction – CDPH) In some situations (e.g. when seating charts are used, face covering is well adhered to, and teachers or staff have observed students adequately throughout the day), contact tracing and investigation may be able to determine more precisely whether each stable group member has been exposed. In this situation, those who were not close contacts could continue with in-person instruction.		