



# TABERNACLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

242 Derry Road Litchfield, New Hampshire 03052  
(603) 883-6310 [www.tcsitchfield.org](http://www.tcsitchfield.org)

## Covid-19 Guidelines for 2021-2022 School Year

Tabernacle Christian School acknowledges that Covid-19 and our knowledge of the disease is an ever-changing situation and may therefore cause guidelines to be changed throughout the school year. As a school, we will strive to abide by CDC and NH DHHS guidelines that have been set forth for us as long as the guidelines are within reason and do not go against our religious liberties. **We will be following the NH DHHS guidance regarding quarantining if exposed to Covid-19 and regarding travel out of our area.** However, we believe that since we have a very small population of students that we can and will use that to our advantage by having guidelines that meet our specific needs. **We will not be requiring masks at the beginning of the school year. However, those guidelines may change during the school year, and we are asking that you be understanding if or when that need arises.** It is impossible to please everyone at all times; so, please understand that every policy that is put into place has been prayed over and thought about in great lengths. As parents, you have entrusted your students to our care and placed them under our authority. Please teach your children through your actions and speech that, even if you do not agree with a policy, that it is right and biblical to submit to the authority that has been placed over them. We are asking that everyone joins us in prayer for this upcoming school year to continue to give the administration, school board, and teachers wisdom and guidance throughout these trying times. Please know that all guidelines that are put into place will be handled with grace and love. TCS is concerned with not only the physical health of an individual, but also spiritual and mental health.

### Prior to School:

To protect everyone, including staff, we are asking that all parents or guardians agree to monitor their own children for any symptoms of respiratory infection, fever above 100° F, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat prior to coming to school. If a student or staff member has ongoing allergies which are not “new” symptoms, they will not be excluded from school. Parents and staff also need to attest to the fact that they have not knowingly been in contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of Covid-19, is under investigation for Covid-19 or is ill with a respiratory illness.

Parents cannot send their child to school with any new symptoms. Even if a child has a sore throat with no fever, we are asking that you keep your child home until you know that they are either no longer symptomatic (for at least 24 hours), have a doctors’ note stating that they are able to return to school, or have had a negative Covid 19 test. Please do not send your child to school with fever reducing medication in their system, this is not fair to any staff or students!

### Arrival:

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Students may not arrive before 7:50 AM. Students and staff will use hand sanitizer as they enter the building and will have to attest to the above listed exclusion from school questions. If a student appears to be ill, their temperature will be taken, and they will be placed in a separate room away from the other staff and children. Parents need to be able to be reached and either be available or have an emergency contact that can come and pick up their child within a half hour of being contacted.

Students are to go immediately to their classroom or designated seat in the auditorium after entering the building and will not be allowed to congregate in the Fellowship Hall. Students may go to their lockers or to the bathroom as needed upon arrival.

## **Bathroom Breaks:**

Elementary bathroom breaks will be directed by the teacher. The students will be allowed two at a time into the bathrooms. The upper end students will be allowed to go to the bathroom as needed with the permission of the teacher. If there are already two students in a given bathroom, they will be directed to wait in the hallway until at least one other student has exited the bathroom. All students must wash their hands thoroughly in the bathroom. The students will not be utilizing bathroom passes during this time.

## **Water Fountains:**

Water fountains are only to be used to fill up reusable water bottles brought in by the student. If a child forgets their water bottle for the day, TCS will provide water for that student for the day, but this should not be a regularly occurring issue.

## **Treats to Share with the Class:**

All shareable snacks shall be pre-packaged by either the manufacturer or the store and will be handed out by the teacher to each child. The snacks will not be shared with other classes or staff.

## **Recess and Gym:**

It is the goal of TCS to get the students outside as often as possible for fresh air and Vitamin D. All students will sanitize both before and after recess/gym. Any item, such as balls and frisbees that are handled by the students will be sprayed with disinfectant after it has been used. Students will be encouraged to space apart if just standing around talking with each other and not huddled into a small group.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> graders will be assigned to a bathroom to change their clothes each day that they have gym class. This will help minimize the amount of people in a bathroom at one time.

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## **Lunch:**

Kindergarteners and 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders will eat in the Fellowship Hall. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will eat lunch in their classroom. The 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will eat their lunch in the Fellowship Hall at a separate time. Every child will sanitize or wash their hands prior to sitting down to eat at the table and will also sanitize after they are done eating. Third through 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be seated at least 3 feet apart in the lunchroom. The Kindergarteners will sit at a smaller table together. The tables and chairs will be sanitized between groups and after all lunches are complete.

## **Items in Classrooms:**

All students will use their own school supplies whenever possible. If an item needs to be shared, it will be sanitized between children. Students will have assigned seats in their classroom and a desk change will only happen if the desk and items in the desk can be thoroughly sanitized first.

## **Dismissal:**

Weather permitting, we will have outdoor dismissal each day. Students are to stay with their perspective class in line. If we have indoor dismissal, the kindergarteners will be lined up in the lower hallway. The 1<sup>st</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> graders will be lined up in the gym and the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will be seated (ready to go) in the fellowship hall. Parents will arrive between 3:00 PM and 3:15 PM to pick up their students. Upon arrival, the names of those students or family name will be paged over the loudspeaker to exit the building. Whoever is still here at 3:15 will be placed into aftercare and charged until their parent can arrive.

## **Basic Overall Guidelines:**

1. If we have to return to mask wearing, masks will only be required when students cannot physically distance. Some examples would include: arriving and leaving school, walking in the hallways, when going up to the teacher's desk, during reading groups, and going to the bathroom. During actual classroom instruction and seatwork, they will be allowed to remove their masks. Masks/face coverings will be provided by each family, but we will have some available if a student forgets theirs at home. Each child will have a pencil box at their desk that will be used to set their mask in when it is not in use. Kindergarten students will only be required to wear their masks when they are in common areas such as entering and

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- exiting the building, hallways, and bathrooms. Teachers and staff will wear masks when they cannot physically distance from the children.
2. Desks will be placed at least 3 feet apart but will be closer to six feet apart when we are able to do so.
  3. Everyone is encouraged to stay in their vehicles for pick-up and drop-off unless absolutely necessary to come into the building. This will limit the people coming in and out of the building.
  4. Parents will be asked to carefully monitor their children daily regarding how they are feeling. We will not be taking temperatures upon arrival, unless a child appears ill, because an accurate temperature would be very hard to obtain upon first arriving at the school.
  5. Parents and staff must make the principal aware of any individual who has symptoms of Covid-19 or has been in close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have Covid-19 in the prior 10 days.
  6. We will not be serving hot lunch or warming up lunches for the students. 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be permitted to warm up their own lunches. If a student forgets their lunch, we will still have some food that we can provide for them so that they do not go hungry. Please pack an icepack in your student's lunch bag if you would like it to remain cold.
  7. We will have a regular 5 day per week schedule in place, as we are able to physically distance well due to our numbers. However, if someone were to be exposed, and a class or the entire school needs to be quarantined for 10 days, we need to be set up and ready to go to remote learning at a moment's notice, if the need arises.
  8. Students and teachers will sanitize upon entering and exiting the building and several times throughout the day to help minimize the spreading of germs.

## **Remote Learning Guidelines:**

1. Remote learning will be provided for any student/students or classes that must quarantine due to Covid-19 symptoms, known exposures, or travel restrictions. Students are expected to participate in their on-line learning in order to count as a school day. Students will have videos to watch and papers to complete during those school days. Any quizzes or tests will be made up upon returning to school.
2. In the event that the entire school must go to remote learning for a period that is longer than 14 days, the quizzes and tests will be completed at home with a parent or guardian that must attest to the honesty of the child.
3. If remote learning has gone on for longer than 5 weeks, and it appears that TCS cannot return to in-person classes for at least 4 more weeks, the parents in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have 3 weeks to decide if they will homeschool their children or sign them up for remote learning through the public school system. At that time, their tuition will be pro-rated to whatever time the parent has chosen to remove the student/students from TCS.

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4. Parents are expected to continue to pay the school for the remote learning that their child/children participate in.
5. Registration and Book Fees are not refundable.
6. 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will have the option to continue with remote learning through the remainder of the school year. They will be expected to complete all work given to them by their teachers in a timely manner, watch all videos assigned, participate in live classes during regular school hours, and to have a parent/guardian attest to their child's honesty regarding tests and quizzes.

Updated 8/12/21

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