



## **TLS Back to School 2020-2021 Plan**

### **Overview**

Timothy Lutheran School has developed this Back to School 2020-2021 Plan for reopening our school and continuing to nurture our students spiritually, emotionally, and academically for the 2020-2021 school year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Plan provides an approach with actionable steps that will be taken before students and employees return to school buildings, along with school actions that will be taken given the possibility of varied levels of community spread of COVID-19 throughout the 2020-2021 school year. This plan is built with consideration for the guidance and recommendations of health officials and local leaders. It is designed to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as we return to TLS for the 2020-2021 school year. While careful consideration has gone into the construction of this Plan, school leadership recognizes that the Plan must be fluid to allow TLS to respond to potential changes in local health-related regulations.

The Back to School 2020-2021 Plan is grounded in the identity of Timothy Lutheran School, as defined by our Vision and Mission:

### **OUR VISION**

The mission of Timothy Lutheran Ministries is to Touch Lives for Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

### **OUR MISSION**

Our ministry is founded on the Great Commission which Jesus gave His church— to make disciples of all people. (Matthew 28:18-20)

GATHER (people), GROW (leaf), GO (arrows) and GIVE (heart in hand).



### **TLS Back to School 2020-21**

This Plan provides a flexible framework to address challenges that may develop throughout the 2020-2021 school year, based upon the possibility of varied levels of community spread of COVID-19. Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach, guidelines provide responses that TLS has adopted to ensure the continued success and safety of students and staff members. All details are not listed in this document. The individual classroom teacher may provide more classroom specific details. As more scientific information is discovered, this document may be updated to reflect the most current research.

#### **CDC**

The CDC has provided recommendations to help with prevention that will be put into practice at TLS. These preventions are handwashing, face masks, staying home when sick, and environmental cleaning and disinfecting.

#### **COVID Symptoms**

COVID-19 Positives have reported a wide range of symptoms. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include:

- Cough
- Fever
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell.

This is not all inclusive. Please refer to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more information.

We are asking families to help with monitoring these symptoms and if any are present, to **stay home**.

#### **Precautions Taken**

##### **Physical Distancing**

All classrooms have been set up for students to have their own desk to learn. They have been spaced as far apart as classroom spaces allow.



### **Face Coverings**

All faculty and staff will be required to wear face coverings while around people. Students will be required to wear a mask upon entering and exiting school, when they are not able to physically distance themselves, and other times when necessary. Face masks should not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, or unable to remove the face mask without assistance.

#### **Preschool – 4th grade**

- Students are not required to wear a face mask in the classroom. If a student wishes to wear a face mask in the classroom, they may do so.
- Face masks will be worn anytime the students are moving in the building.

#### **Students in 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

- Students will wear masks the entire school day.
- There will be times throughout the day that students will be allowed to remove the masks.
- Classroom teachers will do the same using the [CDC guidelines](#).

#### **Wearing your face covering:**

- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Face masks should not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, or unable to remove the face mask without assistance.
- Please work with your child on how to properly put on and take off their mask.
- For more information on Face Coverings, please visit, [cdc.org](#)

### **Proper Hygiene**

We will continue to work to educate the students in proper hygiene, specifically hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes correctly. We will also have hand sanitizer throughout the building, but this does not replace proper hand washing. We will have scheduled handwashing for everyone in the classroom.

### **Proper Cleaning**

Each classroom will have a spray bottle with the proper bleach-water solution and towels for regular wipe downs throughout the day. The building will be cleaned and sanitized regularly.



## **Arrival/Dismissal (Entering School Building)**

### **Arrival**

Upon arrival students will have their temperatures checked and will use sanitizer for their hands. They will be encouraged to go straight to classrooms and not congregate. There will be one drop off time. 8:15-8:30.

### **Dismissal**

Kindergarten through second grade will be picked up at the south door. Third through eighth grade will use the west door. If a student in kindergarten through second grade has a sibling in the upper grades, that student will also be dismissed from the west door.

Parents picking up at the south door will line up in the same manner as morning drop off and exit via the main entrance on Wyatt Road. Cars should NOT cut through the west parking lot when arriving or exiting in the afternoon.

Parents picking up at the west door should enter the playground-side parking lot via the west driveway on Lincoln. Students will come directly to the car. All cars should exit the west parking lot via the west driveway and proceed to 7 Highway (use 6th Street to access Wyatt Rd.) Cars should not exit through the south parking lot.

All that are able will be asked to wear face coverings when entering and exiting the building.

### **Transition**

When students are transitioning through the building they will be encouraged to wear a mask. We will work to limit the number of classes transitioning through the building through scheduling. We will establish single exit and entry doors during the normal school day.

**Before and After School Care** (procedures continue to be developed in a way that is consistent with school guidelines)

#### **Before School Care**

BSC is from 6:30-8:15.

#### **After School Care**

ASC is from 3:30-6:00.



## **In the Classroom (Teaching and Learning)**

### **In-Person**

We are excited about having students back in the classrooms. All grades will stay with their class throughout the day and have primarily their homeroom teacher. All students will be forward facing and distanced as space allows. There will be a sanitary location for students to store their masks when not being worn. Students will not share supplies and will keep them nearby. If regular TLS resources are used they will be cleaned upon completion of use. All students will need to bring a water bottle to school each day.

There will be regularly scheduled hand washings, bathroom breaks, and recess for the students. The scheduled times are to help minimize the number of students in the hallway.

### **Music, PE, Computers, Spanish**

These classes are scheduled for each class on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

### **Attendance**

All students who need alternative learning arrangements will be marked present based on participation in and communication with the teacher.

### **Lunch**

We will also eat lunch in the auditorium. For those who order lunches, they will be delivered during the classes scheduled lunch time to the office. If your child brings lunch, please pack the needed utensils for eating and *please do not pack lunches that need to be microwaved and are difficult for children to open.*

### **Parents/Building Visitors**

We are asking that all parents not enter the building during drop off, during the day, and pick up at the end of the school day. If you need to pick up your child early from school, please call the office prior to or on arrival, and your child will be walked out. We will sign them out as to who picked them up, what time, and reason. If a student reenters the building, they will have their temperature checked before returning to the classroom.



### **What if a Positive Case**

The administration will serve as the point of contact for the local health department.

Anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 will be taken to the sick room. Parents will be contacted for pick-up of students and asked to call the office upon arrival. We will walk the students from the sick room to their car for pick up and the student will be signed out by the person who walked them to their car.

A student who is confirmed positive, or is in close contact with a household family member who has tested positive, or has a positive contact which is defined as being within 6 feet of a confirmed positive for longer than 15 minutes will be asked to remain out of school and stay in quarantine until:

1. 10 days have passed since the first symptom, **24** hours fever free without medication and symptom free  
or
2. 10 days have passed, symptom free and two negative results greater than 24 hours apart  
or
3. Symptom free students will be able to return to school when the 14 days have passed when all members in the household are symptom free

Please contact the office prior to returning to school. All students will be encouraged to provide a doctor's note prior to return.

Families will be provided online resources and teaching will be available while at home. TLS will work to continue to provide an excellent education for all students.

[Children's Mercy Hospital Guidance for School Reopening](#)

Communication with families will continue. Remember, families will need to keep their children home when they are not feeling well.