



Important message from the Head of School

In accordance with published CDC guidelines Trident Academy strongly recommends that eligible people (12 years old and up) be vaccinated. In order to create a safe and healthy environment at school we recognize the importance of vaccination, general personal hygiene, and continued social distancing.

CDC guidance surrounding students returning to school urges mask usage for all whether vaccinated or not. We will begin the year wearing masks inside our building. This requirement is temporary given the rise of the Delta variant and current community infection rate. Every three weeks it will be revisited with the goal of relaxing it as soon as possible.

Please understand that we may be masking and unmasking several times over the course of the school year.

2021-22 School Year Opening Procedures

- Class sizes will be limited to a maximum of 10 students.
 - Desks will be situated 3 feet apart as indicated in CDC guidelines for schools.
 - Teachers and classes are encouraged to take advantage of our outside areas for instruction as appropriate.
- Students and teachers will socially distance throughout the day.
 - Teachers will be required to wear masks while in the building. Does not apply when alone in the office or classroom.
 - Students will be required to wear masks while in the building. Students may lower them while seated at their desks.
 - Desks are situated so that students are seated at least 3 feet from each other.
- Orton-Gillingham classes will resume with small classes in the OG wing.

- Students will wear masks, use hand sanitizer, and keep their distance as they travel to and from their classes.
- Special Area Classes will resume:
 - Art is scheduled for students in K-8.
 - The art teacher may come to the Lower school classes rather than have students travel into the Upper school wing.
 - Music is scheduled for once per week for lower school students.
 - PE is scheduled for twice a week for students in K-8.
- Teachers and students must stay home if they are feeling ill. If a student has a fever higher than 100 degrees, he/she will be sent home to be monitored by parents.
- If a student/student's family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, they must follow DHEC procedures before returning to in-person instruction. That student's classmates will be monitored daily by their parents for COVID-19 symptoms in accordance with SCDHEC guidelines.

FACE COVERINGS (subject to change as virus levels fluctuate)

Anyone on campus in the building will be expected to wear a face covering: cloth face masks, disposable masks, etc.

Students will wear cloth face coverings when moving about the building and may lower them when seated at their desks.

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

Visitors will be allowed to enter the building only by appointment and must wear face coverings while inside. Parents, vendors, and other visitors will need to contact the office before visiting. It is our greatest desire to welcome parents back into the school. We will allow visitors on a limited basis and will not allow access to our classrooms. All visitors to school will be required to wear a face covering.

SANITIZATION

Our classrooms and hallways will be cleaned each evening by our contracted maintenance company. Our maintenance staff will wipe down door knobs,

light switches, bathroom fixtures and other high touch areas throughout the day.

Sanitization spraying will occur at least weekly and more frequently as needed.

Desks will be wiped down in class at least twice each day.

DROP OFF & PICK UP

Doors will open for students at 7:30 each morning. **We will not congregate in the gym until virus incidence goes down in the greater Charleston community.** Students will go directly to their classrooms where teachers will have activities for them to do before school begins at **8:00**.

Students in grades K-5 will enter the building from their hallway near the gym door.

Students in grades 6-12 will enter the building through the gym.

Arrival/Dismissal

- All students will be allowed into the building from 7:30-7:55. They will go directly to their homerooms. Students arriving after 7:55 will need to go to the front door to be let in.
 - All students will be dropped off in the car loop by the gym doors.
 - Lower school students will enter the building through the door on their wing.
 - Upper school students will enter the building through the gym door.
- We will hold our morning meeting via google meet beginning at 8 am. Classes begin at 8:10.
- Dismissal times will be staggered in order to dismiss from the students' classrooms. All students will be picked up from the car loop by the gym door.
 - Primary class students (K-2) will be dismissed at 1:50
 - Lower school students (3-5) will be dismissed at 2:35
 - Upper school students will be dismissed at 2:50; upper school families are encouraged to **arrive on campus after**

2:45 to avoid getting in line with lower school student cars

Process for monitoring students and staff for symptoms and history of exposure

We are asking our parents to monitor at home each day for fever and other symptoms. We are asking our faculty/staff to do the same. We will have a time each morning for teachers to check in with their students about how they are feeling. Each classroom will have a no-touch thermometer to take temperatures as needed. We will track students and faculty whereabouts while on campus to know who might be in contact with whom throughout the day. We will ask families and faculty/staff to self report any exposure to active cases.

Hygiene Practices

Handwashing will be directly taught and practiced throughout the day. Hand sanitizing will be required as students/faculty enter the building, enter and exit the classroom throughout the day. Students will also wipe down their desks with disinfecting wipes throughout the day.

Students will wear masks while moving about in the building. They will “mask up” when leaving the classroom, but will be able to have them around their necks when seated at their desks.

Faculty and staff will wear masks while in the building

Masks will not be required for outdoor activities.

Signs will be posted throughout the building regarding social distancing, hand sanitizing/washing, face covering, etc.

Student Desks & Seating Social Distancing

Student desks will be placed so that students are 3 feet from their peers. Social distancing of 3 feet will be expected at all times.

Sharing Materials

To the extent possible, we will not share materials. Math manipulatives will be given to each student. Lower school students will keep these in their desks; middle and high school students will keep them with their math materials.

Classroom & Hallways Spacing Limitations

We have determined that we can fit ten desks in each classroom keeping students three feet apart. Students will maintain a three foot distance from each other as they move about the building.

Cafeteria & Lunch Programs

Our students bring their lunch each day. Students will not have access to microwaves. Students will eat in the lunchroom at assigned seats to keep everyone more than 3 feet apart while eating.

Field Trip Resumption with Trident Bus

We are planning to resume field trips this fall. Students will wear masks while on the bus. Most field trips will be scheduled for outdoor activities rather than inside buildings.

School sports

At this time we plan to continue with our three team sports: cross country, archery, & tennis. Due to limited bus space, we may ask parents to help with transportation.

Parent Communication:

Ongoing communication is essential. We will continue to reach out weekly via newsletters and emails. *PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK YOUR SPAM FOR EMAILS COMING FROM "TRIDENT ACADEMY"* with the subject line: "Weekly Updates for Trident Academy Families".

Isolation & Quarantine:

We have prepared a room close to the front door for any students who are exhibiting COVID related symptoms. The room will be monitored by an Admin team member until parent/guardian arrives.

We will abide by SCDHEC guidelines for return to school processes.