



Trinity County Office of Education Schools Health and Safety Plan for Reopening 2020-2021 School Year

In order to address the learning loss and increased social and emotional needs of students and staff because of COVID-19, Trinity County schools are proposing a plan based on in-person instruction with an option for those families who would like to continue distance learning.

Introduction

Trinity County schools were closed for in-person instruction in March 2020 due to concerns about the possibility of COVID-19 transmission in schools. Unlike influenza and other respiratory viruses where children are known to spread infection, children and adolescents do not appear to play a major role in COVID-19 transmission. COVID-19 has mainly spread between adults, or from adults-to-children. Children are less likely to become infected or spread. It is rare for both children and adolescents to have symptoms or develop severe COVID-19 illness.

The understanding of how COVID-19 spreads and how to limit transmission has also increased. There is now evidence that certain precautions effectively decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission. By coordinating and layering effective mitigations, we can greatly reduce the risk of COVID-19 for students and staff.

This plan is based on the best science available at this time and the current degree of COVID-19 transmission in Trinity County. It is subject to change as new knowledge emerges and as local community transmission changes.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has provided schools with a three-month supply of protective equipment, along with no touch thermometers. Each school has a plan for reordering of supplies and Trinity County Office of Education, along with Trinity County Public Health, may assist with accessing these resources.

Cleaning and disinfecting supplies are secured. All schools will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. These guidelines include recommendations for frequently touched surfaces such as; desks, tables, chairs, bus seats, bus handrails, phones, door handles, restrooms surfaces etc.

Supplies for healthy hygiene have also been stocked. The California Department of Public Health has provided hand sanitizer to the county schools. Other items such as soap, tissues, papers towels etc., have been purchased by each school district and stock will be regularly assessed and ordered.

The schools in Trinity County are unique to any other in the state. This gives them an advantage in many ways to continue to provide a healthy and safe learning environment. Not only are the class sizes small, many are remote, creating a natural distancing setting. Furthermore, communities are tight-knit and they are supportive of each other. We feel that for Trinity County students, the risk to social-emotional wellbeing associated with distance learning could be greater than that of the spread of COVID-19.

The social-emotional considerations, due to the effects of COVID-19, of our students, staff, and other stakeholders is concerning and it crosses all socio-economic boundaries.

Health and Safety Plan

****School Districts will have employees, students, and essential visitors use face coverings as per California Department of Public Health (CHPH), Cal/OSHA, and Gov. Newsom's Guidance for the use of Face Coverings https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings_06-18-2020.pdf**

****After School programs will put this plan into place as appropriate for their individual district program.**

Training/Education for staff and parents/guardians

Staff Training

Reopening Plan- Communicate with staff regarding the district's reopening plan. Make the plan available and accessible through the district office, school website and/or email.

COVID-19- Educate staff on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. (Many trainings are available through Keenan)

COVID-19 Testing requirements- It is recommended that school districts test staff periodically, as testing capacity permits and as practicable. Staff includes teachers, paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, janitors, bus drivers, or any other school employee that may have contact with students or other staff.

(www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf)

Physical Distancing- Educate staff about the importance of physical distancing in reducing the transmission between adults; including minimizing the use of staff or break rooms.

Face Coverings- All staff must use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines Cal/OSHA standards.

(www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html and

www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings_06-18-2020) (See Appendix A)

Other Mitigation Strategies- Educate and train staff on mitigation strategies being implemented and their importance in reducing the transmission of COVID-19. (See Appendix B, C, D)

Human Resources- Educate staff on information regarding labor laws, Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave and Unemployment Insurance, and on government programs supporting sick leave and workers compensation for COVID-19.

Parent/Guardian Education

Reopening Plan- Communicate with families regarding the district's reopening plan. Make the plan available and accessible through the district office, school website and/or email.

Mitigation Strategies- Reproducible information regarding the mitigation strategies the district will implement are found in the appendix; these include but are not limited to face coverings, physical distancing, cleaning/disinfecting, COVID-19 signs and symptoms checklist, importance of staying home when sick etc. (See Appendix A,B,C)

Hygiene Practices

Students and staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day including:

- Upon entering and exiting the bus
- Upon entering and exiting the classroom
- Before and after eating
- After coughing or sneezing
- After classes where they handle shared items, such as outside recreation, art, or shop
- Before and after using the restroom

Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application. Soap products marketed as "antimicrobial" are not necessary or recommended. (See Appendix C)

Students and staff should use fragrance-free hand sanitizer when handwashing is not practicable. Sanitizer must be rubbed into hands until completely dry. Note: frequent handwashing is more effective than the use of hand sanitizers.

Ethyl alcohol-based hand sanitizers are preferred if there is the potential of unsupervised use by children. Do not use hand sanitizers that may contain methanol which can be hazardous when ingested or absorbed. Children under age 9 should only use hand sanitizer under adult supervision.

Call **Poison Control** if hand sanitizer is consumed: **1-800-222-1222**.

Handwashing or sanitizer stations will be placed at the entrance to all classrooms, cafeterias, libraries, restrooms, and offices.

All water fountains will not be used.

Trinity County Public Health will provide districts with:

- Wall mounted hand sanitizer stations
- Handwashing stations
- Refillable water bottles for all students and staff

Face Coverings

****Employers must provide and ensure staff use face coverings in accordance with CDPH and Cal/OSHA guidelines.**

Trinity County Public Health will provide:

- Face Masks and Face Shields

Face coverings must be used in accordance with CDPH and Cal/OSHA guidelines (unless a person is exempt as explained in the guidelines), particularly in indoor environments, on school buses, and areas where physical distancing alone is not sufficient to prevent disease transmission. (See Appendix A)

Students

CDPH and Cal/OSHA requirements for Face Coverings:

- 2 years old- 2nd grade----Strongly Encouraged
- 3rd grade-High School----Must Use, Unless Exempt

****Face coverings are strongly encouraged for young children between two years old and second grade, if they can be worn properly. A face shield is an acceptable alternative for children in this cohort who cannot wear masks properly.**

Persons younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious or incapacitated, and anyone who is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance are exempt from wearing a face covering.

A cloth face covering or face shield should be removed for meals, snacks, naptime, or outdoor recreation, or when it needs to be replaced. When a cloth face covering is temporarily removed, it should be placed in a clean paper bag until it needs to be put on again.

Schools will provide students with a face covering if needed.

In order to comply with this guidance, schools must exclude students from campus if they are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines and refuse to wear one provided by the school.

Staff

All staff must use face coverings in accordance with CDPH and Cal/OSHA guidelines.

In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for instructional or developmental reasons, (i.e. communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs) a face shield can be used instead of a cloth face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others, to the extent practicable.

Workers or other persons handling or serving food must use gloves in addition to face coverings.

Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

(See Appendix D)

Trained staff should clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces at school and on school buses at least daily and, as practicable. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>)

Limit use and sharing of objects and equipment, such as toys, games, and art supplies to the extent practicable. When shared use is allowed, clean and disinfect between uses.

When choosing disinfecting products, use those approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- approved list “N” and follow product instructions. (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>)

To reduce the risk of asthma and other health effects related to disinfecting, programs should select disinfectant products on list N with asthma-safer ingredients (hydrogen peroxide, citric acid or lactic acid) as recommended by the US EPA Design for Environment program.

(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDCPHP/DEODC/OHB/Pages/OHWMay2020.aspx>)

Cleaning staff and any other workers who clean and disinfect the school site must be equipped with proper protective equipment as required by the product instructions.

Introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, for example, by opening windows (weather permitting).

Replace and check air filters and filtration systems to ensure optimal air quality.

Take steps to ensure that all water systems and features are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown to minimize the risk of Legionnaires’ disease and other diseases associated with water.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>)

All water fountains will not be used.

Trinity County Public Health will provide districts with:

- Refillable water bottles for all students and staff

Passive Screening and Wellness Check

All staff members and students will be required to participate in passive screenings and wellness checks for COVID-19. (See Appendix B)

Educate all staff members, students, and parents regarding when to stay at home. (See Appendix B)

Illness at School

Any student or staff member who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated in a designated private room until departure from campus is possible.

Any student or staff member who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 will immediately be required to wear a face covering.

COVID-19 symptoms:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ● Fever | ● Muscle pain |
| ● Cough | ● Headache |
| ● Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | ● Sore throat |
| ● Chills | ● Congestion or runny nose |
| ● Repeated shaking with chills | ● Nausea or vomiting |
| ● Fatigue | ● Diarrhea |
| | ● New loss of taste or smell |

For serious injury or illness, call 9-1-1 without delay. Seek medical attention if COVID-19 symptoms become severe, including persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, or bluish lips or face.

Close off areas used by any individual suspected of being infected with COVID-19 and do not use before cleaning and disinfection. To reduce risk of exposure, wait 24 hours before you clean and disinfect. If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as practicable. Ensure a safe and correct application of disinfectants using personal protective equipment and ventilation recommended for cleaning. (See Appendix D)

Advise sick staff members and students not to return until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation, including at least 3 days with no fever, symptoms have improved and at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>) (See Appendix B)

School Transportation

Face coverings will be required to ride the bus. This is required for both passengers and drivers. Hand sanitizer will be used upon entrance to and exiting the bus. (See Appendix A, C) Students will be assigned seats and families will be seated together. Passive health screening and visual wellness check will be completed before entering the bus. (See Appendix B)

Buses will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily and after transporting any individual who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. (See Appendix D)

Classroom/Restroom/Cafeteria

To reduce possibilities for infection, students should remain in the same space and in cohorts as small and consistent as practicable, including for recess and lunch. Keep the same students and teacher or staff with each group, to the greatest extent practicable.

Prioritize the use and maximization of outdoor space for activities where practicable.

Distance teacher and other staff desks at least six feet away from student desks. Consider ways to establish separation of students through other means if practicable, such as, six feet between desks, partitions between desks, markings on classroom floors to promote distancing or arranging desks in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact.

Activities where there is increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets such as band and choir practice and performances are not permitted.

Activities that involve singing must only take place outside.

Limit nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving other groups at the same time.

Use non-classroom space for instruction, including regular use of outdoor space, weather permitting.

Minimize congregate movement through hallways as much as practicable. Provide markings for staff and students for entrance, exit, and physical distancing where lines may be located.

Serve meals outdoors or in classrooms, where practicable. Where cafeterias or group dining rooms must be used, ensure physical distancing, and assigned seating. Suspend use of buffets.

Office/Visitors

Office guidelines will include all applicable guidelines previously stated including but not limited to face coverings, physical distancing, and/or hygiene practices.

Educate visitors and staff regarding physical distancing and limiting the number of people in the office.

Summary

All guidance was gathered from the following sources:

California Department of Public Health, Cal/OSHA

- COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School Based Programs, July 17, 2020
- COVID-19 and Reopening in Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year, July 17, 2020
- Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace
- Guidance for the use of Face Coverings

Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention

- Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting

San Francisco Department of Public Health

- Reopening TK-12 Schools for In-Person, On-Site Instruction, July 8, 2020

Each school district will be responsible for implementing this plan. Any needed adjustments to the procedures will be communicated through Trinity County Office of Education to the districts. Any revisions that are less restrictive will need to be approved through Trinity County Public Health.

Appendix A



Appendix B

COVID-19 Screening Tool

Employees will need to answer these questions daily. If the answer is “yes” to any of the questions or if your temperature is 100.4° or higher, please stay home.

In the past 24 hours, have you experienced:

Fever (felt feverish or above 100.4° F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
New or worsening cough:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Shortness of breath:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sore throat:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Diarrhea:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Severe Chills with Shaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Muscle Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Loss of Taste and/or Smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Current temperature:	_____ ° F	

If you answer “yes” to any of the symptoms listed above, or your temperature is 100.4° F or higher, please do not go into work. Self-isolate at home and contact your primary care physician’s office for direction.

In the past 14 days, have you:

Had close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Travelled via airplane internationally or domestically?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If you answer “yes” to either of these questions, please do not go into work. Self-isolate at home and contact Trinity County Public Health office for direction (530)623-8209.

When Employees May Return to Work if COVID-19 positive:

- A staff member who has COVID-19 may return 3 days after their fever is normal (without fever reducing medications); and
- All of their other symptoms have improved; and
- Ten days have passed since their first symptom OR they have tested negative twice in a row, with the tests being 24 hours apart and they have no fever or other symptoms.
- If a staff member has had direct exposure with COVID-19, they can return 14 days after their last exposure, as long as they do not have a fever or any other symptoms

COVID-19 Screening Tool

Parents daily you will need to ask these questions about your student(s). If the answer is “yes” to any of the questions or if the temperature is 100.4° or higher, please keep your student(s) home.

In the past 24 hours, have you experienced:

Fever (felt feverish or above 100.4° F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
New or worsening cough:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Shortness of breath:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sore throat:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Diarrhea:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Severe Chills with Shaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Muscle Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Loss of Taste and/or Smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Current temperature:	_____ ° F	

If you answer “yes” to any of the symptoms listed above, or your temperature is 100.4° F or higher, please do not go school. Self-isolate at home and contact your primary care physician’s office for direction.

In the past 14 days, have you:

Had close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Travelled via airplane internationally or domestically?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If you answer “yes” to either of these questions, please do not go into school. Self-isolate at home and contact Trinity County Public Health office for direction (530)623-8209.

When Students May Return to School if COVID-19 positive:

- A student who has COVID-19 may return 3 days after their fever is normal (without fever reducing medications); **and**
- All of their other symptoms have improved; **and**
- Ten days have passed since their first symptom **OR** they have tested negative twice in a row, with the tests being 24 hours apart **and** they have no fever or other symptoms.
- If a student has had direct exposure with COVID-19, they can return 14 days after their last exposure, as long as they do not have a fever or any other symptoms



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

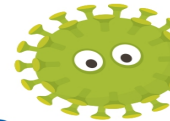
What measures should be taken when a student, teacher or staff member has symptoms, is a contact of someone infected, or is diagnosed with COVID-19?

	Student or Staff with:	Action	Communication
1.	COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing) Symptom Screening: Per CA School Sector Specific Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Recommend testing (If positive, see #3, if negative, see #4) • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action needed
2.	Close contact (†) with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure • Recommend testing (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider school community notification of a known contact
3.	Confirmed COVID-19 case infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the local public health department • Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date • Identify contacts (†), quarantine & exclude exposed contacts (likely entire cohort (††) for 14 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious • Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • 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 a known case
4.	Tests negative after symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May return to school 3 days after symptoms resolve • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing

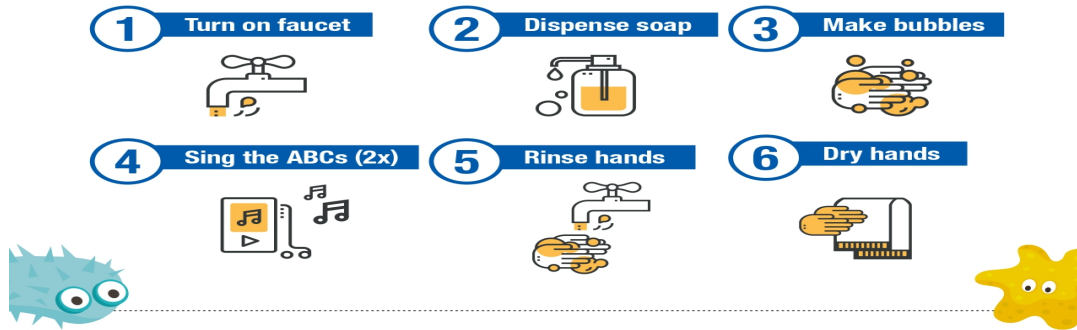
(†) A contact is defined as a person who is <6 feet from a case for >15 minutes. In some school situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.
(††) A cohort is a stable group with fixed membership that stays together for all courses and activities (e.g. lunch, recess, etc.) and avoids contact with other persons and cohorts.

CDPH, MS 0500 • P.O. Box 997377 • Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
(www.cdph.ca.gov)





How to wash your hands



When to wash



Slow the Spread of COVID-19

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN

20 SECONDS

WHEN OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS, WEAR A CLOTH FACE COVERING

AND STAY 6 FEET APART FROM OTHERS

CLEAN FREQUENTLY TOUCHED OBJECTS

DO NOT TOUCH YOUR EYES, NOSE, AND MOUTH

COVER YOUR COUGHS AND SNEEZES

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK

cdc.gov/coronavirus

Guidance for cleaning and disinfecting

Routine cleaning and disinfecting is key to maintaining a safe environment for faculty, students, and staff.

- Cleaning removes dirt and most germs and is usually done with soap and water.
- Disinfecting kills most germs, depending on the type of chemical, and only when the chemical product is used as directed on the label.

Routine cleaning and disinfecting

Clean and disinfect at least daily (or more, depending on use patterns) frequently touched surfaces and objects such as:

- Face shield
- Door knobs and handles
- Stair rails
- Classroom desks and chairs
- Lunchroom tables and chairs
- Countertops
- Handrails
- Light switches
- Shared toys
- Shared remote controls
- Shared telephones
- Bus seats and handrails

It is not necessary to routinely apply disinfectants to surfaces that are not high-touch or high-risk (e.g., floors, bookcases, tops of filing cabinets). Soft surfaces such as carpets, rugs, and drapes can be cleaned using soap and water or a cleaner appropriate for the material.

General precautions for the cleaning staff after an ill student has been in your facility

The risk of getting COVID-19 from cleaning is low. The following are general precautions for cleaning staff, given that community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring:

- Staff should not touch their face while cleaning and only after they can wash hands after cleaning.
- Clothing worn while cleaning should be placed in a plastic bag until it can be laundered. Laundering should be done as soon as possible and done safely at home.
- Cleaning staff should thoroughly wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after gloves are removed.
- Staff who are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting should be trained to use disinfectants safely and effectively and to safely clean up potentially infectious materials and body fluids – blood, vomit, feces, and urine.
- All cleaning staff should be trained on the hazards of the cleaning chemicals used in the workplace in accordance with [OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200](#).

Resource

For more detailed information for staff, see [Frequently Asked Questions About COVID-19 for Facilities Service and Cleaning Staff](#).

Cleaning and disinfecting products

- Use soap and water or another detergent to clean dirty items. Then, use a disinfectant.
- Use an EPA-registered household disinfectant and follow the manufacturer's instructions to ensure safe and effective use of the product.
- [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\)](#)