

Guidance for September 2021

Trinity Christian School will be open to all pupils.

Year Groups	Location	Estimated number of pupils	Entrance/exit
Reception to Yr3	Class 1	<10	Usual school entrance to assembly room
Yr 4 to 6	Class 2	<10	Usual school entrance to assembly room
TOTAL		<20	

It should be recognized that, in all likelihood, we will have to learn to live with Covid-19 for some time to come, and that it is not possible to totally eliminate risk. However, the following measures have been put in place to ensure effective infection protection and control, following government guidelines.

Staff, parents and pupils

Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, or if your LFD test was positive, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and self-isolate. From 16 August, if you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

Anyone in the school who becomes unwell with the following symptoms:

- a new and persistent cough
- high temperature
- loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

will be sent home to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days and advised to:

- follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance)' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>).
- arrange to have a test as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus.

Parents

- When dropping off, or collecting children, parents should not enter the school building,
- We recommend that you use resources from E-bug ([Information about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(e-bug.eu\)](https://www.e-bug.eu)) (<https://www.e-bug.eu/page.php?name=Information-about-the-Coronavirus>) to prepare your children for a return to school.

Staff and pupils

- Hands should be cleaned more often than usual – washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap, drying them thoroughly.
- Staff and pupils will be reminded to wash hands frequently to include: on arrival at school, before and after eating, before and after break times, and at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Hand sanitisers will be provided at all entrance points.
- Good respiratory hygiene will be promoted such as - using tissues ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’, and ‘cough into your elbow’.
- Frequently touched surfaces including door handles, laptops, toilets, basins and other frequently used equipment will be cleaned frequently using standard products.
- Children and staff should use the toilets one at a time to avoid unnecessary close contact.
- Close contact between individuals should be avoided as much as possible. Social distancing should be maintained where at all possible.
- Rooms will be ventilated as much as possible, as the weather allows.

Pupils

- Whilst the school remains at under 20 pupils those attending it will be considered one group.
- Children will eat outside or in their designated classrooms at morning break and lunch time.
- Desks will be spaced as far apart as is reasonably possible.
- Children will use the same desk each day.
- Soft toys and toys that are hard to clean will not be used.
- Pupils should use their own equipment as much as possible to avoid unnecessary sharing of equipment.
- Any toys/equipment shared by pupils will be cleaned daily.
- Rooms will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day.
- Pupils should tell an adult straightaway if they begin to feel unwell.
- Pupils should avoid touching their mouth, nose and eyes with their hands.
- Pupils should not share food, drinking bottles or personal equipment with each other.
- It is not proposed that playtimes outside will be staggered between classes but this could be introduced if considered appropriate by the headteacher.

Teachers and non-teaching staff

- Teachers and non-teaching staff will minimise contact with pupils as much as possible. Government guidelines allow for the fact that this is not always possible, which is why good hygiene and handwashing is important.
- All teachers and non-teaching staff will practice good hygiene.
- Teachers and non-teaching staff should aim to maintain social distancing at lunch times and break times.

Equipment

- For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, staff and pupils must have their own items that are not shared.
- Classroom based resources, such as books and games, can be used and shared, but should be cleaned regularly, along with all frequently touched surfaces.
- Resources that are shared between classes, such as sports, art and science equipment should be cleaned frequently and meticulously, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different groups.

Lost Property

It is very important that all uniform and equipment is clearly labelled with the pupils' or family name. Pupils must ensure, however, that they do not leave their personal possessions lying around in accordance with the School's Infection Control Policy.

We strongly recommend using identitags with just the family name engraved on them, as these are re-usable and extremely quick and easy to attach. You are welcome to borrow the School's attachment tool if you do not want to purchase your own.

To find out more follow this link: <https://www.identitags.com/how-it-works>

Becoming ill while on site

Any member of staff who develops symptoms of coronavirus during the school day, will go home immediately. They will be expected to have a test, and if this is positive then the rest of the class/group will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for the period as set out in government guidelines at that date.

If a child becomes ill with symptoms of coronavirus during the school day, they will be removed from their class to await collection from school. The child will have access to a test, available via calling the 111 online coronavirus service, and if this test result is positive, then the rest of their class/group will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for the period as set out in government guidelines at that date.

Face masks

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff either in classrooms or in communal areas but visitors are expected to wear masks when moving around the school.

The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport.

If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in school a director of public health might advise that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms (by pupils staff and visitors, unless exempt), in which case the following will apply for all lessons taught indoors:

- In primary classes, face coverings should be worn by staff in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas). Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering.
- Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings. They may protect against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in reducing aerosol transmission when used without an additional face covering.

Exemptions

Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. This applies to those who:

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical impairment or disability, illness or mental health difficulties
- speak to or provide help to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate

No pupil will be denied education for not wearing a face mask

Hands must be washed before and after touching – including to remove or put a face covering on. Face coverings should be safely stored in individual, sealable plastic bags between use. Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn and the face covering should be replaced carefully.

PPE is necessary in the situation where a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while at school and needs direct personal care until they can return home, in which case the supervising adult should wear a face mask if they cannot maintain a distance of 2 metres, and follow the government guidance.

Asymptomatic Testing

Asymptomatic testing using lateral flow tests is voluntary for all staff and pupils and test kits are available from the School for individuals who will be testing at home. Pupils and staff should then continue to test twice weekly at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed.

In line with the latest government guidance, primary pupils will not be tested.