



The Children's School

The Midtown school
for age 3 - grade 8.

tcsatl.org

The Courage to Innovate

The Children's School Re-Entry Plan for the 2020 - 21 School Year

The Guiding Principles

We know your entire family has a variety of needs, including health and safety, childcare, strong academics and social connections, and more. We also recognize Wolf Pack families have been or may be financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the pandemic will change how TCS - and all schools around the globe - approach learning for the foreseeable future, it will not change what TCS **values**. We will always be a school that **honors childhood, challenges** and **nurtures** students to be their best selves, and creates and maintains **connections** between teachers, students, parents and administrators.

TCS is committed to maintaining a strong partnership with you and to remaining true to our mission and why you chose TCS as the right match for your family.



Prioritize our community's health, safety, and wellness



Recognize relationships are at the heart of community and engaged learning and are key to implementing a successful re-entry plan



Deliver challenge and nurture within a brave and joyful learning environment whether that is on-campus, remote, or in a blended learning environment



The Team

Our planning team is a cross-departmental group of faculty and staff who are formulating plans for re-opening campus based on **national, state, and local health guidelines**.

The planning team is following guidance from:

- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Georgia Department of Public Health](#)
- [National Association of Independent Schools](#)
- [Southern Association of Independent Schools](#)
- Other Metro Atlanta Schools, Public and Private



Health & Safety



Design and continually update the policies, procedures, and precautions to ensure our community follows all federal, state, and local health and safety guidelines.



Teaching & Learning

Ensure that our approach and execution of teaching and learning fulfills the school's mission and follows health and safety guidelines.



Education & Technology

Ensure TCS's information and educational technology infrastructure, equipment, software/tools, training, and support are robust and meet our community's evolving needs across all learning and working scenarios.



Student Life & Wellness

Foster student's social-emotional health and well-being.



Finance

Utilize and allocate our fiscal resources to best serve our students, faculty, staff, and families.



Building & Grounds

Establish and maintain a safe campus and learning environment that follows all federal, state, and local health guidelines and meets our community's needs.



Extended Day & Summer Learning

Ensure our Extended Day and Summer Learning program continues to offer high-quality programming that is responsive to changing needs.



Relationships & Community Engagement

Foster connection, relationship, and community within and beyond TCS by ensuring the vital functions of admission, high school counseling, communication, and philanthropy are thriving.



Faculty & Staff Wellness and Support

Continued investment in teachers and administrators who deliver the TCS program and support students and families with professional development, resources, and emotional support and encouragement.



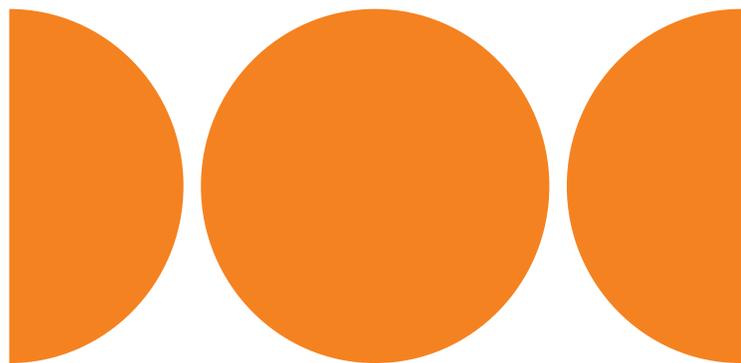
The Playbook

We are creating a strategic playbook with a series of comprehensive yet **flexible** scenarios and preparing to activate the specific scenario that is best aligned with the needs of our community and how the pandemic is unfolding at any time. Every scenario addresses social and physical distancing mandates and recognizes the unique developmental needs of our younger learners as well as the necessity for strong relationships, community building, and engaged learning for all of our students.

Unless there is a shelter-in-place mandate, campus will be open for the start of the 2020-21 school year with physical distancing and health and safety protocols in place to help keep our community safe. We are planning for three possible learning scenarios next year: on-campus learning, remote learning, and a blended learning approach which combines the best aspects of on-campus and remote learning.

Based on health and safety guidelines, there may be times when we need to transition from on-campus learning to remote learning and back over the course of the year. TCS will support any necessary transitions and ensure learning continuity, social-emotional care, and community for all students.

On the next page, you'll find the three Teaching & Learning Scenarios we are preparing for.



The Playbook

Teaching & Learning Scenarios

In each of the three scenarios, students will have “Building Character and Community” lessons with School Counselor Natalie; support from our math and/or reading specialists; and classes with specialists who will likely push into the classrooms to minimize students traveling across campus.

1

On-Campus Teaching & Learning

Students, faculty, and staff will be on campus while following the social and physical distancing guidelines outlined by federal, state, and local health officials.

2

Remote Teaching & Learning

There may be times when the school is required to implement complete remote learning, and students need to transition from on-campus learning to remote learning at home. Your feedback on the survey we are sending out next month will also help inform the remote learning scenario.

3

Blended Teaching & Learning

There may be times when federal, state, and local health guidelines require us to reduce the number of students and faculty/staff on campus, and we will need to implement a plan that combines the best aspects of on-campus learning and remote learning.



3 Blended Teaching & Learning

The **Blended Teaching & Learning** scenario will:



Stagger schedules that rotate students through on-campus and remote learning environments to nurture and challenge students in both settings.



Ensure students can transition seamlessly between fully on-campus and remote learning, as needed.



Recognize the developmental needs of our younger learners and also appreciate the needs of all of our students to have face-to-face relationships, community building, and learning.

2 Remote Teaching & Learning

Our **Remote Teaching & Learning** approach will:



Balance synchronous (live) and asynchronous (accessible at any time) learning to serve the needs of all of our students and include opportunities for instruction, reflection, application, and demonstration of understanding and growth.



Support students and families with robust schedules that balance screen time with opportunities for play and project-based learning.



Foster close connections and relationships between students, teachers, and classmates with regular office hours for students and parents to ask questions.



Ensure students are developing and maintaining academic and social skills and healthy school and study habits through morning meetings, closing meetings, and small groups that support students' social-emotional well-being.

1 On-Campus Teaching & Learning

We are exploring many possibilities for **On-campus Teaching and Learning** including:



Customized schedules, curriculum, activities, and our indoor and outdoor areas of campus so that students can maintain physical distancing guidelines and experience the unique benefits of our small class sizes and our philosophy of structured play and project-based learning.



Students will likely work in small, stable groups assigned to one classroom space with distancing protocols for that space.



The Community



Our community's health, safety, and wellness is at the heart of our re-entry plan. Our planning team is working on specific strategies that include, but are not limited to, the following areas that we'll detail in a mid-July communication:

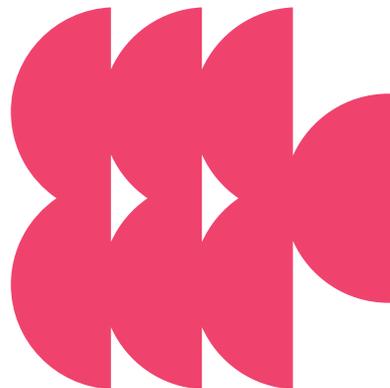
-  Heightened cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting protocols for our facilities and school supplies
-  Emphasis on social-emotional well-being by providing resources and connection so faculty, staff, students, and families feel safe and supported
-  Intentional use of robust technology and communication platforms and tools
-  Evaluate restrictions and reimagine and modify school activities, as needed
-  Health monitoring and reporting requirements for students, faculty, staff, and families
-  Physical distancing measures
-  Daily hygiene protocols that include frequently washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, and keeping hands away from faces
-  Campus access limitations for visitors
-  Follow public health guidance regarding the usage of masks and temperature screening



The Strength of the Pack

Our mission and purpose as a school have never been more urgent or necessary. TCS has always been a **joyful and safe learning community** for children and adults and the last three months have shown that we are stronger together as a community.

Our school spirit, history of innovation and resilience, and proven track record of graduating passion-driven young adults who lead lives of empathy and purpose in an interconnected world will endure. Next year, we will continue to impact **young minds and hearts**, and we will find strength, joy, and resilience in this Pack.



Your Feedback

We Want To Hear From You

Click [here](#) to complete a survey by **Fri., June 5** to share more about your comfort level with your child(ren) returning to campus. The survey only needs to be completed once per family.

Upcoming Ways to Participate

Be on the lookout for another survey in June about your family's remote learning experience at TCS in the spring and other areas of your child(ren)'s learning and school-home partnership during this time that will help us plan for the fall.

Questions?

If you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to communications@tcsatl.org. This email inbox is checked frequently and we will forward questions to the person who can best address your question or concern.



References

The Children's School's planning team is consulting with and influenced by a wide range of local and federal governments, educational organizations, corporations and reports including:

- American Academy of Pediatrics, [Masks and Children During COVID-19](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Preventions, [Interim Guidance for Child Programs and K-12 Programs](#)
- McKinsey & Company, [Coronavirus: Leading Through Crisis](#)
- Mid-South Independent School Business Officers (MISBO), [Coronavirus Resources](#)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources for Independent Schools](#)
- National Business Officers Association (NBOA), [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- Office of Governor Brian Kemp, [2020 Executive Orders](#)
- Serving and Accrediting Independent Schools (SAIS), [Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources for Schools](#)

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Visit our website at tcsatl.org.

