



# True North Christian Academy COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

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Version 1.8 – November 18, 2021



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# Overview

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## Purpose

True North Christian Academy is dedicated to providing a safe environment for both staff and students. The following COVID-19 policies and procedures have been developed in consultation with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health unit (SMDHU) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within our school community and ensure we are prepared to respond to any illness related to the virus.

## COVID-19 Screening

The COVID-19 screening process will include a daily self-screening questionnaire along with a daily temperature check (via contactless forehead thermometer) for both staff and students, as outlined in the attached policy.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Physical Distancing

### Plexiglass Dividers

TNCA has installed plexiglass dividers between each desk to provide an added protective measure for our students.

### Masks/Face Coverings

All staff will wear masks and face shields and all students in Pre-K-8 will be required to wear 3 ply masks/face coverings.

### Physical Distancing

Students will remain with their class (cohort) for the duration of the school day. The daily school schedule, including lunch and recess times, has been adapted to ensure individual cohorts remain separated. In an effort to ensure students from different cohorts do not come in contact with each other, cohorts will enter and exit that school in a staggered approach, eat lunch in their classroom at their assigned desks, remain separated on the playground with the use of divided sections, and have assigned stalls/sinks or bathrooms to use.

Physical distancing between students will be promoted, even within individual cohorts.



Directional signage and floor markings will also be utilized within the school to promote and reinforce physical distancing practices.

### **Increased Cleaning/Disinfecting**

Desks, chairs, bathroom sinks/counters, door handles and other high touch surfaces will receive additional disinfecting throughout the school day. Increased hand hygiene using sanitizers and handwashing, will be utilized to minimize potential surface contamination.

### **Training**

TNCA will provide training on all COVID-19 health and safety protocols to all school staff prior to the students return to school, which is set for September 8th, 2020.



# COVID-19 Screening

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## Purpose

Effective September 8, 2020, all staff and students at True North Christian Academy will be required to conduct at-home self-screening, along with receiving daily temperature screening at the school, in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

## Self-Screening Procedure

### Self-Screening Questions

The following self-screening must be completed for each student by their parent/guardian and by staff each day prior to arriving at school:

1. Does your child(ren) have any COVID-19 symptoms? Choose any/all that are new and not related to seasonal allergies or pre-existing medical conditions.
  - a. Fever (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
  - b. Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
  - c. Barking cough, making a whistling noise when breathing (croup)
  - d. Shortness of breath (out of breath, unable to breathe deeply)
  - e. Lost sense of taste or smell
  - f. Digestive issues like nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain (not related to other known causes or conditions)
  - g. Muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting - Staff Only**
  - h. Extreme tiredness that is unusual (fatigue, lack of energy) – Staff Only**
  
2. Did the student/child receive their final (or second in a two-dose series) COVID-19 vaccination dose more than 14 days ago, or have they tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared? If YES, skip questions 3, 4, 5.
  
3. Is someone that the student/child lives with currently experiencing any new COVID-19 symptoms and/or waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms? If the individual experiencing symptoms received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and is experiencing mild fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, select "No."



4. In the last 10 days, has the student/child been identified as a “close contact” of someone who currently has COVID-19? If public health has advised you that you do not need to self-isolate, select “No.”

5. In the last 10 days, has the student/child received a COVID Alert exposure notification on their cell phone? If they already went for a test and got a negative result, select “No.”

6. In the last 14 days, has the student/child travelled outside of Canada AND:

- been advised to quarantine as per the federal quarantine requirements AND/OR
- is the student/child under the age of 12 and not fully vaccinated? If travel was solely due to a cross border custody arrangement, select “No.”

7. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that the student/child should currently be isolating (staying at home)? This can be because of an outbreak or contact tracing.

8. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for those with symptoms of COVID-19 or for contacts of known COVID-19 cases. Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed below should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

## **Results of screening questions**

**If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms included under question 1, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if the student/child needs a COVID-19 test.

φ Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child showing symptoms tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.



- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

**If you answered “YES” to question 3, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- The student/child can return to school or child care after the individual with symptoms tests negative, is cleared by your local public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

**If you answered “YES” to question 4, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) for 10 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if they need a COVID-19 test. The student/child can only return to school/child care after 10 days, even if they get a negative test result, as long as they do not develop any symptoms.

φ Siblings and other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other non-essential reasons. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

- If the student/child develops symptoms or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result. 3

**If you answered “YES” to question 5, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test. φ If they test negative (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/child care. φ If they test positive (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local





public health unit. • If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.

φ Siblings or other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other, non-essential reasons until the individual who got the COVID alert tests negative, or is cleared by your local public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

### **If you answered “YES” to question 6, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must follow federal guidelines for individuals who have travelled internationally, including not going to school/child care for 14 days after their arrival and getting tested as per federal requirements.
- If the student/child has been directed to quarantine, they must stay home for 14 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. For more information on federal requirements for travellers, please see the Government of Canada’s website.
- If the student/child develops symptoms and/or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

### **If you answered “YES” to question 7, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. • Follow the advice of public health. The student/child can return to school/child care after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If the student/child develops symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.

φ Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.



- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

### **If you answered “YES” to question 8, do not go to school or child care.**

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test.
  - φ If they test negative (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/child care.
  - φ If they test positive (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Siblings or other people in your household must isolate until the individual who tested positive on the rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit tests negative on a PCR test or is cleared by the local public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to isolate. • Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result

### **Answering “No” During Self-Screening**

Anyone who answers “no” to all the questions above, on behalf of themselves or their child(ren) may proceed to school as usual.



## Temperature Testing Procedure

### Students

- At first break, a staff member who has been trained in the use of a touchless forehead thermometer will take a body temperature reading of each student
- The student's screening result (over or below) will be marked and maintained in a record that will remain confidential
- Students who have a temperature below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, who are not displaying a cough or shortness of breath, will be permitted to enter and remain at school

### Staff

- Prior to entering the school building, each staff member will have their body temperature reading taken by another trained staff member using a touchless forehead thermometer
  - The thermometer will be sanitized before being passed between any staff members
- The staff member's screening result (over or below) will be marked and maintained in a record that will remain confidential
- Staff who have a temperature below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, who are not displaying a cough or shortness of breath, will be permitted to enter the school

## If a Student Develops a Fever or Other COVID-19 Symptom(s):

### Staff Member Discovering the Student(s) Symptom(s):

If it is discovered that a student has a fever or develops any other symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the school day, the staff member identifying the symptom will:

- Immediately direct the student to the office to ensure they are isolated away from other students
- Inform the Office Administrator of the symptom(s)
- Advise the Office Administrator to contact the student's parent/guardian to arrange to have the student picked up
- Ensure the student is wearing their mask and provide a surgical mask if they are in JK-Grade 2
- Ensure the student cleans their hands using soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Request for the Office Administrator to check for any close contact incident reports in their file
- Develop a report documenting the symptoms and any close contact incidents that have been reported in the past 48 hours



### **Office Administrator:**

Upon notification of a student with a fever or other COVID-19 symptom:

- Contact the student's parent/guardian to arrange to have them picked up from school
- Notify the Principal of the student's symptoms
- Supervise the student until the parent/guardian arrives
- When the parent/guardian arrives, direct the student to the front door, ensuring they bring all of their belongings and do not touch any surfaces
- Utilize a disinfecting wipe or spray to clean the surfaces in the quarantine area
- Check the student's file for any close contact incidents that have been reported in the past 24 hours and forward a copy of any relevant incidents to the staff member who identified the student's symptoms

### **If a Staff Member Develops a Fever or Other COVID-19 Symptom(s):**

#### **Teaching Staff**

If a teaching staff member develops a fever or any other symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the school day, they will:

- Immediately move themselves into the hallway outside their classroom, where they can maintain visual supervision of their class
- Notify the Principal and Office Administrator
- As soon as their class cohort is supervised by another staff member, wash their hands using soap and water or hand sanitizer and leave the school building, limiting the surfaces touched
- Follow the "Returning to work/school" procedures

#### **Office Administrator**

If the Office Administrator develops a fever or any other symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the school day, they will:

- Immediately notify the Principal
- Ensure they are wearing a mask/face shield
- Wash hands with soap and water or sanitizer
- Leave the school building as soon as possible, limiting the surfaces touched
- Follow the "Returning to work/school" procedures



## Returning to School/Work

While an individual suspected to have COVID-19 is **waiting for test results they must be in isolation and cannot attend school in person**. The individual can complete work at home if they feel well enough to do so.

Individuals who have had a COVID-19 test because of symptoms, but who test negative should not return to school until at least 24 hours after their symptoms have resolved.

Individuals 12 years and under, who have traveled out of the country, will follow Canadian Border Services COVID-19 policies and procedures and will isolate for 14 days.

Where a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, the local PHU will be in contact with the school to provide further direction on returning to school.

Medical notes or proof of negative tests will not be required.

### If an ill Individual Does not Have COVID-19

For an ill individual who has a known alternative diagnosis, a note must be provided from a health care provider. Return to school can occur when symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours.



# COVID-19 Testing: When Staff/Students Get Tested

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## Purpose

Early identification and testing of individuals exposed to or displaying symptoms of COVID-19 illness results in early isolation of contagious individuals, contact tracing and isolation of other individuals who may also be contagious. These actions reduce the spread of the virus by removing contagious individuals from contact with other individuals, decreasing the number of people who could get infected and protecting the population that is vulnerable to severe illness and death.

## Management of a Confirmed Diagnosis of COVID-19 in the School Community

**This section applies to a student, staff member or a member of a school community who is regularly in the school, who informs the school that they have tested positive for COVID-19.**

**Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for those with symptoms of COVID-19 or for contacts of known COVID-19 cases. Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed below should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.**

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 should not attend school until they are cleared by their local PHU or health care provider
- Any individuals who test positive must remain in isolation for 14 days. Retesting is not recommended and will not alter this 14-day isolation requirement
- Every individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 is contacted by their local PHU for further follow-up
- The local PHU will notify the school of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis. In some cases, the local PHU may not be the same local PHU as the school; and in these circumstances, coordination between the PHUs and the school is required for further direction. TNCA has designated points of contact within the school, ensuring clear processes for communication are in place



- Where the local PHU determines there was a transmission risk to others in the school, students and staff will be assessed to determine if they were at high risk of exposure (requiring isolation) or if they were at low risk of exposure (can self-monitor for symptoms and return to school)
- Classroom cohorts (students and staff affiliated with the cohort) will generally be considered at high risk of exposure until their case has been cleared.
- All students and staff determined to be at high risk of exposure will be directed to isolate and recommended to be tested (voluntary testing) within their isolation period
- Negative test results do not change the requirement for isolation, nor do they shorten the isolation period for close contacts

### **Staff or Student has Tested Positive for COVID-19**

Our teachers will:

- Ensure continuation of learning for the student
- Continue to monitor students and themselves for symptoms

Our Principal will:

- Follow PHU protocol for school outbreaks, if necessary
- Communicate with the school community, as directed by SMDHU.
- Ensure student and sibling(s) portfolio information (that is, class list, seating charts, transportation details etc.) is up-to-date and share this information to PHU upon request
- Ensure/coordinate environmental cleaning and/or disinfection of the space and items used by the individual(s)
- Monitor school population for new and additional illnesses and symptoms
- Report absence in the daily absence tracking tool

Our Office Administrator will:

- Inform our Board COVID-19 Lead, other Board staff and support Principal as needed

The Board COVID-19 lead will:

- Continue to monitor the situation and liaise with the Ministry of Education, as necessary
- Work with Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, as required

The parent and student will need to:

- Engage in continuation of learning if able
- Communicate regularly with the school to inform daily routines
- Follow advice by health provider and/or SMDHU on isolation protocol



### **Staff/Student with Symptoms who Tests Negative**

If you test negative, staff/student are to remain at home in self-isolation until symptom-free (and no fever) for at least 24 hours.

### **Management of Individuals Exposed to COVID-19 Outside of the School**

**This section applies to individuals closely related to a school community, such as parents or members of a student's or staff member's household, who test positive for COVID-19 outside of the school.**

Situations will arise where students, staff, or teachers may be exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school environment (for example, to family members that do not attend the school, social contacts outside of school).

Household members and others who live with the individual who has tested positive should isolate for 14 days.

TNCA will make necessary arrangements to support continuity of education for students who require isolation.

### **Parent Tests Positive for COVID-19**

**This scenario applies to anyone who shares a household with a student or staff member in a school community.**

If a parent receives a positive test for COVID-19, he or she is not obligated to inform the school of their test result. However, it is strongly recommended.

Children in a household where a parent or other member has tested positive should stay home and isolate for 14 days.

SMDHU will provide direction to close contacts, including household members of a person diagnosed with COVID-19.

SMDHU will provide direction to our school principal on the actions to be taken with the school, depending on the circumstances of the positive COVID-19 case.

Note: Testing recommendations are made by an individual's health care provider and SMDHU.





Our teachers will:

- Support continuation of learning for any students who need to isolate, if necessary

Our Principal will:

- If student is in the school, when notified by the parent, coordinate immediate student pick-up, and ensure the student remains in the office until pickup
- Ask that the student follow the direction of their health care provider and PHU
- Ensure student portfolio information (that is, class list, seating charts, transportation details, etc.) is up-to-date. Note: Be prepared to provide this information to SMDHU upon request
- Support SMDHU next steps
- Connect with TNCA Board and make them aware of the situation
- Ensure/coordinate environmental cleaning and/or disinfection of the space and items used by the individual(s)
- If the student tests positive, refer to Management of Positive COVID-19 diagnosis in the school.
  - monitor the school population for new/additional illness
  - report in the daily tracking tool as necessary

Our Office Administrator will:

- Inform our Board COVID-19 lead and support principal as needed

Our Board COVID-19 lead will:

- Continue to monitor the situation and liaise with the Ministry of Education, as necessary

The parent and student will be required to:

- Continue to adhere to current infection prevention, control practices and advice provided by local Public Health Unit

## **Classroom/School Closures and Outbreak Declaration**

**An outbreak in a school is defined as** two or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in students and/or staff in a school with an epidemiological link, within a 14-day period, where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the school (including transportation and before or after school care).



SMDHU will work with the TNCA to determine epidemiological links (e.g., cases in the same class and cases that are part of the same before/after school care cohort). SMDHU will determine which cohorts are high risk contacts requiring isolation.

- Classroom/cohort or TNCA school closures will be decided by SMDHU who will notify the school and provide guidance and directions that TNCA will be required to follow
- Parents/caregivers will be notified by a teacher or administrator as soon as possible after TNCA receives notification by SMDHU
- Students will be sent home, as directed
- TNCA will provide any further information/paperwork to SMDHU, as requested
- TNCA will ensure SMDHU's recommendations for enhanced cleaning are completed
- TNCA will maintain communication with staff/students via email, our website and through Remind messages
- SMDHU will decide when and if it is safe for TNCA staff and students to return to class in the school building
- TNCA will assess the learning situation by assessing number of students and staff who are ill and local community transmission information
- Families may need to be prepared to provide computer access to a teacher-led virtual learning platform for an undetermined amount of time so that students can remain on track to complete their curriculum

### **Communicating With our School Community**

Parents, students and staff have an understandable interest in knowing when a COVID-19 positive case has been identified at TNCA.

TNCA will create a COVID-19 advisory section on our website.

Where applicable, TNCA will post information if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 that involves a student or a staff member in a school setting.

Students or staff members may withdraw from school if a family or household member has a confirmed case of COVID-19, but information will not be posted in these instances.

In the interests of privacy, information provided to our school community will not identify the student or staff member that has received a positive COVID-19 test unless permission has been given and TNCA is encouraged to share.



If SMDHU advises that a class, cohort or a school should be closed for a period of time, parents, students and staff will be notified immediately.

Notice of any closures of classes, cohorts or schools will be emailed.

### **Reopening the School**

The outbreak does not necessarily need to be over to re-open the school. Cohorts without evidence of transmission can be gradually brought back to school as additional information and test results become available. Consideration will be given to implementing additional preventive measures and active surveillance as part of re-opening.

### **Outbreak Declared Over**

An outbreak will be declared over by SMDHU. This may be based on:

- At least 14 days from the last outbreak associated case (including in a student, staff, essential visitor, or anyone else in the school during the outbreak)
- No further symptomatic individuals with tests pending



# Student Drop off and Pick up

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## Drop Off

### Drop Off Time

Students may be dropped off at school between 8:30-8:45am for outdoor supervision on the playground before they enter the school with their class (cohort).

### Late Drop Off

If students are going to be dropped off late for school, the parents/guardians must contact the school when they arrive to have the Office Administrator meet them at the front doors. Parents/guardians will need to complete the sign-in process before their child(ren) will be permitted to enter the school building. The Office Administrator will direct students to their designated areas to change their shoes and drop off their belongings before taking them to their cohort to begin the school day.

## Sign-in Procedure

### Normal Days

Upon arrival, parents/guardians will be asked to line up at the gate with their children in a socially distanced line to be signed in by the Office Administrator.

The sign-in process will include verbal confirmation of the completed COVID-19 self screening and outcome. Upon successful sign-in, each student will be sent to their designated cohort area to be supervised by their teacher.

Parents/guardians will not be permitted to enter the playground area or congregate around the gate during drop off and pick up times.

### Rainy Days

Upon arrival, parents/guardians will be asked to drop their child(ren) off at the front doors where they will complete the sign-in process with the Office Administrator. Parents/guardians are asked to either wait in their vehicle until the entryway is clear to bring their child(ren) to the door, or line up outside the doors in a socially distanced line to wait their turn to enter the



building. Once inside, students will be directed to their designated cohort area within the building.

## **Maintaining Cohorts on the Playground**

The playground will be separated into individual sections using the barriers. One section will be designated for each class (cohort). Each cohort teacher will be outside during drop-off to receive and supervise their students.

At 8:45am students will begin entering the school, with each cohort entering one at a time, to ensure there is no physical contact between students in different cohorts.

## **Separation Anxiety of Students**

If a student is experiencing separation anxiety during the drop off at school and requires a pat on the back or a hand to hold over to their cohort may receive such support from a staff member wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (i.e. face covering and gloves). The staff member will dispose of used gloves and replace after each interaction with a student.

## **Pick-up**

### **Pick up time**

Students must be picked up between 3:00-3:10pm from the playground area.

### **Pick-up Procedure**

Upon arrival, parents will be asked to line up at the gate in a socially distanced line. The Office Administrator will call students over to meet their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians will be required to take their child(ren) and proceed directly to their vehicle.

Parents/guardians will not be permitted to enter the playground area or congregate around the gate during drop off and pick up times.



### **Early Pick-up**

If students are going to be picked up early from school, the parents/guardians must contact the school when they arrive to have the Office Administrator meet them at the front doors with their child(ren).

### **Parent/Guardian Building Access**

Parents/Guardians will only be received into the school for essential purposes. If permitted to enter the building, all persons must call upon arrival to complete the screening process before entering. All persons entering the building must be accompanied by a staff member, maintain social distance from others in the building, and must provide and wear their own face covering (i.e. mask/face shield) at all times when in the building.



# Bathroom Use

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## Purpose

COVID-19 transmission can occur when people are within close proximity to one another through the spread of droplets or through shared contact with surfaces. The COVID-19 virus has also been found in feces. As one of the most important actions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is handwashing, the benefits of accessing a washroom to facilitate this action far outweighs the potential risks. Therefore, it is important to make sure we have made school washrooms as safe as possible by putting some guidelines for usage in place.

## Bathroom Use Guidelines

TNCA will:

- Make sure that signage about handwashing and hand sanitizing is posted at the washroom sinks
- Ensure that soap and paper towels are always available and are refilled frequently to ensure staff and students can practice proper hand hygiene
  - Paper towels are preferred in public washrooms during COVID-19. Some studies show that air dryers can spread bacteria
- Ensure more frequent cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces is scheduled and completed (as well as cleaning and disinfection of garbage cans, as necessary)
- Hand sanitizer will be made available where possible at the entrance/exit of the washroom
- Make sure that physical distancing signage is posted inside and outside of the washrooms in case of line-ups
- Ensure visual floor stickers are in place to assist students to remain physically distant with each other
- Designate and label the washroom stalls accordingly so that each cohort knows which stall is the one that their cohort is to use
- Ensure that students keep their masks on during their bathroom visits
- Ensure face covering posters/visual cues are posted to remind students to keep masks in place
- Make sure students are supervised during their travels to and from the washroom and encourage the aforementioned risk reduction strategies



# Recess and Lunch

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## Recess

Each class will attend recess with their cohort. Only two cohorts will be out for recess at any time, with one teacher supervising. The teacher on duty will be wearing a face covering and gloves, with access to additional gloves, as required.

Outdoor playground equipment made of metal and/or plastic will be washed with soapy water after each cohort recess break and any time students have used the playground equipment throughout the day. Disinfection is not required in outdoor spaces. Cleaning of wood surfaces is not recommended. Students will be required to wear a mask outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

## Lunch

Each class cohort will eat lunch in their classroom, with each student at their own desk. The teacher in each cohort will disinfect each desk before the students begin their lunch.

The cohorts having lunch will be supervised by a teacher monitoring from the hallway with a face covering and gloves on. The lunch monitor will be responsible for disinfecting desks after the students have finished their lunches. They will also disinfect the doorknobs as they leave each room.

Two cohorts will be out for recess while the other two are eating their lunch, then they will switch.

In addition:

- Staff will ensure that they themselves, and their students will perform hand hygiene before and after eating
- Each student will be required to have their own individual meal and/or snack with no sharing of food items
- Parents will be informed that microwave oven use will not be permitted and that lunches need to be prepared with this in mind





- Each student will be required to bring their own full drink bottle that is labelled and kept with them throughout the day
- Refilling of students' drink bottles will be done by their teacher to limit the number of people touching the water cooler, the teacher will make sure that bottles do not touch the cooler spout and will disinfect the spout after each use
- TNCA will not plan non-instructional activities that involve students in preparing or serving of food.
- Our hot lunch program will be provided in such a way that food is prepared by Health Unit -inspected establishments such as restaurants and delivered in a "Grab and Go" or "boxed lunch" format
- All surfaces, bins and containers for food, if used, will be disinfected prior to and after each use.

### **Boomerang Lunches**

TNCA utilizes the "boomerang" lunch approach. This means that everything in your child's lunch bag goes back home at the end of the day. No matter if it is leftover food, containers, recyclables or garbage, it all goes back home.



# COVID-19 Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability

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COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. Due to the nature of the virus and the way that it spreads through person-to-person contact, it has been recommended by local governments and health authorities that physical distancing is practiced, and large gatherings avoided.

True North Christian Academy (TNCA) has implemented protective measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, we cannot guarantee that you, your child(ren) or any member of your family will not become exposed to or infected by COVID-19 due to your child's attendance at our school.

By signing this agreement, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and on behalf of yourself, your spouse/co-parent and your child(ren) you voluntarily assume the risk that your child(ren), yourself or any member of your family, may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending school at TNCA and that such exposure or infection may result in serious illness, injury or death.

By signing this agreement, you indemnify and hold harmless TNCA, its employees and Board of Directors from any claims, including all liabilities, actions, damages, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. You agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of TNCA, its employees or its Board of Directors.

Student Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of 2<sup>nd</sup> Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of 2<sup>nd</sup> Parent/Guardian