



July 16, 2020

Dear Holy Trinity families and students,

While we eagerly await the opportunity to welcome students back to campus to start the 2020-2021 school year, we continue, like you, to watch the trends and accept that being back 100% in person will not be immediately feasible.

Our Return to School Plan sent out last week is designed to mitigate and limit risk through safety measures designed first and foremost around physical distancing. As such, the number of students that will be allowed to be on campus and in classrooms at any given time is limited by our school's ability to physically distance students per those mandated guidelines.

Based on the space available in each classroom, there are only two scenarios available for Holy Trinity to start the 2020-2021 school year. Those two scenarios are outlined below. Unless local governing bodies mandate that all instruction must be done in a Distance Learning format, each Holy Trinity family will be asked to choose an option for their student from either Option 1 ("Hybrid Instruction") or Option 2 ("Distance Learning").

1. **Hybrid Instruction:** When we speak of hybrid instruction, we mean an operational protocol in which there is an alternating percentage of our entire student body on campus during any normal school day and that others are receiving the same instructions remotely. The model we are working through consists of 50% of the student body (Blue group) being on campus on Mondays and Tuesdays and the other 50% of the student body (Gold group) being on campus on Wednesdays and Thursdays. On the days when students are not on campus, they will participate in the same concurrent live-streamed instruction that is taking place in the classrooms. Fridays will be set aside as "Supplemental days" during which students will be able to work with their teachers either remotely or on campus for such things as safely-distanced bonding activities, faith formation activities, and/or working with teachers/staff for academic support, etc. This is still very much in development, and we will be sharing more details as they are finalized.

The projected day-to-day schedule would then be as follows:

Hybrid Group	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Blue	On campus	On campus	Online/virtual	Online/virtual	Supplemental
Gold	Online/virtual	Online/virtual	On campus	On campus	Supplemental

- 2. Distance Learning:** This scenario will have students participating 100% remotely in all online live-streamed instruction with no in-person contact. Students will attend live-streamed classes Monday through Thursday. Fridays will still be reserved as “Supplemental days” with students participating by virtual means.

Please note that unfortunately at this time, no student will be on campus five days a week due to an inability to social distance within our limited classroom space. We understand that this is not an ideal situation. It is a temporary solution only and all students will continue to be full-time Holy Trinity students, regardless of the number of days they spend on campus.

Family Choice

We understand that some families may choose to keep their student(s) at home for certain periods of time based on safety concerns. Thanks to the hybrid model (Option 1), all classes will be set up to support such needs. For those parents who have expressed a concern for their student’s health and/or the health of vulnerable members of their family, we’ve made complete distance learning (Option 2) available throughout the year or as long as the pandemic affects educational protocols. Please note that distance learning must be selected for a minimum of two weeks at a time, renewable or rescindable every two weeks, as the in-school situation allows.

At this time we ask that ALL families respond to the **survey below** to clarify which option they are selecting for the start of the school year. Some of you have already notified us of your intention to keep your student(s) home. However I ask that you reiterate that choice here for the sake of our database information. **Please complete this survey by July 22nd, 2020**, as our planning numbers must reflect your preference.

NB: Please note that if/when local governing bodies require schools to switch to a Distance Learning format, all Holy Trinity students will revert to Distance Learning. We will return to our hybrid model/distance learning options when we are allowed to do so.

Course Instruction

All classes will occur synchronously (“live”), where teachers simultaneously instruct both the students in class and the students tuned in from home via live-streaming. This way, class times are consistent and the school day schedule follows the regular schedule. All students who choose the Distance learning option are expected to attend school at the normal class time, in a synchronous manner with their in-school classmates.

We understand that exceptions to this might be necessary and the school will make those exceptions available on a case-by-case basis.

International students are permitted a-synchronous (not “live;” pre-recorded) participation due to time differences. If your child is not an international student, but you would like to request permission for a-synchronous participation for your child(ren), please contact the school as soon as possible. Permission to participate in a-synchronous learning will be granted on a case-by-case basis. The school reserves the right to limit a-synchronous participation.

We hope that this information provides insight into how thoroughly we are thinking about how to keep our campus as safe as possible. We believe that these measures will enable us to have students on campus and have the greatest chance possible of keeping everyone healthy.

In closing, I want to acknowledge that while our circumstances may look different in the 2020-2021 school year, our mission remains the same. We are committed to being a Catholic school rooted in Gospel values, striving to work in partnership with parents in the formation of young men and women of outstanding competence, character, and conscience. Part of those values are expressed in teaching our students resilience, humility, and care for others during times of adversity. Well now is a time of global adversity. Now more than ever we need to teach, and model, tools that will enable our students to stay focused on the gaze of the Lord and not on the storm raging around them. I thank you for partnering with us in this tremendous effort on behalf of our precious children.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Brogan

Principal

[Holy Trinity Catholic High School](#)

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."
~ Proverbs 22:6