



Trinity Catholic Junior High School
1205 S. Albert Pike Road
Ft. Smith, AR 72901

TRINITY PLANS IN PROGRESS FOR FALL 2020 UNDER COVID-19

Trinity has always been known for delivering excellent Catholic education in a safe and caring environment. Even under the uncertain conditions of the Covid-19 outbreak, we are committed to continue to uphold our high standards for the benefit of our students and their families.

With this in mind, we are working now on plans for reopening school in Fall 2020. The plan will provide for on-site and remote instruction, in accordance with directives and orders from the Arkansas Department of Health, and with the approval of the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock and the Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

Through surveys and focus groups, Trinity administration is gathering ideas and concerns from parents, students, faculty, and staff to construct the plan for reopening.

We have organized the planning into three broad areas:

- Academics, covering on-site and Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI)
- Safety & Security, covering modifications and procedures
- Communications, providing clear information on plans

Sub-teams are working on ideas focused on specialized areas, including academic departments (Math, Science, History, English/Spanish, Religion), athletics, performing & visual arts, faith, mental health, facilities, technology, and extracurricular activities. We are studying new articles being published every day by experts in health and education on recommendations for returning to school under Covid-19.

We will complete our plan in the next few weeks, and will spend the summer training teachers, making any required modifications to the building, and preparing students & parents for school to begin in Fall of 2020.

Trinity is a 1:1 Technology school. Every student is issued a Chromebook for educational purposes. We have decided to allow our returning students to keep their Chromebooks over the summer so that they can stay in touch with us regarding their education and preparations for returning to school. We will issue Chromebooks to our incoming 7th graders and newly enrolled students during the summer so that they can prepare as well.

Since Governor Hutchinson closed schools around the state in early March, we have learned many lessons about ourselves and our world. Probably the greatest lesson of all is the reminder that we all received about our dependence on God and our need to seek Him in all things. Please pray for our students and families. ***“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6***

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Karen Hollenbeck