

TIRS REOPENING PLAN--FAQs



Student and Staff Safety Measures

1. Will you be taking my child's temperature? If so, when? How will you be implementing screening procedures?

Our drop-off and pick-up procedures have been modified to include protocol screening questions (see page 8) and temperature screening for all staff and students. Additionally, parents will not be permitted to exit their vehicles during drop-off or pick-up. This protocol will help to ensure of a greater likelihood that those who attend religious school are healthy. While we know that some who are infected with COVID 19 can be asymptomatic, we also know that those who are symptomatic are more likely to be infected. Therefore, this screening is a means by which we will limit the exposure through known, effective measures.

2. Will I have to sign a waiver?

Yes. Because the TIRS building is owned by The Foundation of Shalom Park, their insurance company has prescribed waivers which have been adopted by Shalom Park leadership to ensure that every participant in our programs understands the protocols, procedures, and risks of participation. Each student will need a waiver signed prior to the first day of school. The waivers will be kept in the TIRS office. E-signatures **WILL NOT** be accepted. You must print and sign a waiver for each child enrolled in TIRS. If you do not have access to a printer, waiver forms will be made available to you on September 13 at the Meet and Greet. Please see the attached **Waiver Form** to print your own copy.

3. If my child gets sick, what are the requirements for her/him to return to school?

If your child has any symptoms of illness, he/she will not be able to pass the protocol. If your child does not have a COVID 19 test to determine if he/she is still contagious, he/she can return to school after *all* three things have happened:

- Your child has not had fever for at least 72 hours (for at least three full days of no fever **without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers.)

- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when a cough or shortness of breath have improved.)
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

If your child had a COVID 19 test to determine if he/she is still contagious, your child can return to school after *all* three things have happened:

- Your child no longer has a fever (for at least 3 full days **without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers.)
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when a cough or shortness of breath have improved.)
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

4. What procedure is in place if a staff member or student becomes sick?

- We will notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- We will close off areas used by anyone suspected of illness and will not use them again until cleaning and disinfection has occurred. We will ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- We will inform those exposed to a person with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and to follow CDC guidelines if symptoms develop.
- We will monitor State and local health department notices daily about transmission in the area and adjust operations accordingly.
- Please see page 9 for information about protocol if someone becomes ill at school.

5. Will staff and students be required to wear masks?

All TIRS staff and students will be required to wear masks when they are inside the building, and when they are outside and unable to ensure they can keep six feet of social distance from any student or staff member.

6. Should my child bring their own hand sanitizer to school?

The best prevention for contracting COVID 19 from a hard surface is handwashing. Your children will wash their hands many, many, times each day. Hand sanitizer will only be used in instances where your child touches something and is unable to wash their hands in a short period of time. In each classroom there is at least one bottle of hand sanitizer (as in prior years). If you would like for your child to have their own individual bottle, you can send it with them. However, again, our focus will be on frequent hand washing.

7. Will staff receive additional safety training?

All TIRS staff will be required to attend training sessions specific to COVID 19, our health and safety protocols related to COVID 19, and how to ensure for greater health and safety, prior to their first day of work.

8. What happens if a child or staff in my child's class gets COVID -19?

Please refer to question #3 above: If my child gets sick, what are the requirements for her/him to return to school?

9. I have more than one child at TIRS this year. What happens if one of my children does not pass the temperature check of the health screening, but my other child passes?

If your child's temperature is at or above 100.4, he/she will not pass the temperature check of the health screening and will not be permitted to attend school on this day. Children from the same family are screened individually, but if one child has a fever, we ask that none of the children come to school on that day. We know this might seem unfair, but we want to do our best to protect the health of the entire community.

10. What other healthy hygiene practices will be implemented this year?

- Teachers will reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
- Students will be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands.

- Information will be provided to all staff and students on proper use, removal, and washing of face coverings.
- We have posted signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, properly wash hands, promote everyday protective measures, and properly wear a face covering.

Facility Safety Measures

1. What are you doing to prevent someone from bringing COVID-19 into the school?

We recognize, just as does every business and individual, that we will not be able to ensure with 100% certainty that COVID 19 is or is not transmitted within our school. However, we are taking every possible step to mitigate the spread of the virus including: Staff and family education, protocol screening, temperature screening, travel restrictions, enhanced cleaning and disinfection measures, limited class sizes, limited number of people in the building at one time and additional hand disinfecting dispensers available in the building. These measures all align with CDC and NCDHHS recommendations.

2. What are your plans to clean and sanitize the school building?

All rooms in Building E will be sanitized and disinfected after each school session by The Foundation of Shalom Park.

3. How will you be cleaning the classrooms and supplies?

The school will be disinfected with a product on the approved list of Covid-19.

School Structure

1. Will drop-off and pick-up look different this year?

It is very important that you do not arrive late to drop-off and pick-up. Each day at drop-off, you will arrive at the curb in front of the TIRS building, TIRS students will have their temperatures taken, and parents and their child(ren) will be asked the protocol screening questions (see page 8.) Once students pass the screening protocol, they will be able to exit their vehicle and walk into the school building. Parents must remain in their cars at all times.

2. Can my child arrive late to school? Can my child be picked up early?

Late arrivals and early departures are not encouraged. However, if you must drop-off late or pick-up early, you are required to provide advance notification to speed up the process. Parents must notify Melissa Lefko, TIRS Education Assistant, in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the request (mlefk@templeisraelinc.org).

The day of the late drop-off, please pull up to the curb in front of the TIRS building and call the front office, 704-944-6785. A staff member will go through the screening protocols and will then escort your child(ren) into the building.

The day of the early dismissal, your child will be brought to the front office at the requested early dismissal time. When you arrive in front of the school building to pick up your child, please call the front office, 704-944-6785. A staff member will walk your child(ren) out to your vehicle.

3. Can my child carpool with another family?

No. If you carpool with another family, you will not be able to pass the protocol screening questions.

4. Will there be walk-up drop-off and pick-up?

No. To mitigate possible means of transmission, we will not allow drop-off or pick-up via walk-up.

5. Will my child be able to use the playground?

No, use of the Playground is not recommended within the CDC guidelines.

6. **How will bathrooms be different?**

Bathrooms will be disinfected between each use.

Class Information

1. **How many students will be in each class?**

Class size will be capped at 10 students and 1 teacher. The Lower Elementary classes may have 1 madrich/a assigned as well.

2. **Can I request a friend for my child(ren)?**

Friend requests can only be made if you registered on time (by June 30), as in prior years.

3. **Will my child be able to interact with other children not in his/her class?**

This interaction will be extremely infrequent and will most likely occur in passing or while getting ready for dismissal, all at a social distance of six feet or greater.

4. **Will my child be switching classrooms?**

No. This year, the teachers will be switching, and the students will remain in the same room. This will cut down on the number of people walking through the hallways.

5. **Will students be sharing school supplies?**

No. Each student will have a set of supplies in his/her desk (kippah and clips, pen, pencil, glue stick, paper, crayons, markers, etc.,) which will remain in the desk throughout the year.

6. What will social distancing look like for my child?

We know it is more difficult for young children to remain socially distant from one another than older children (due to where they are developmentally.) Our teachers will frequently remind students to social distance, but we know that this is often a difficult task. Masks will be required when students exit your vehicle, and masks must be worn while inside the TIRS building. Our teachers have been encouraged to take the students outside for activities, whenever possible, and while they are outside, they do not need to wear a mask.

7. Will snack be made available?

No, not this year. Since school is only an hour and a half, we feel kids can go for this amount of time without needing a snack.

8. Should I send a water bottle with my child?

Yes. Personal water bottles will limit trips to the water fountain (which has been converted to a touchless bottle filling station) and the need to leave the classroom.

COVID 19 Protocol Screening Questions

1. Have you had any of these signs or symptoms:
 - respiratory infection
 - fever
 - cough
 - shortness of breath
 - sore throat
 - chills, repeated shaking with chills
 - muscle pain
 - loss of taste or smell
 - fatigue
 - headache
 - nausea or vomiting
 - diarrhea

2. Do you have COVID-19, or does someone in your household have COVID-19?

3. Have you had contact with someone (friend, coworker) with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19?

4. Does anyone in your household have a COVID-19 test pending?

FOR STUDENTS WHO EXHIBIT COVID-19 SYMPTOMS WHILE AT SCHOOL

- Teachers should call the school office first if they suspect a child has COVID-19 symptoms.
- The child should be sent down to the designated infirmary room if they are able to go unassisted. If they are not, either Rabbi Kornsgold (RK) or Melissa Lefko (ML) will pick up the child from his/her location.
- No one is to enter the designated infirmary room other than the sick child and the attendant.
- RK or ML will don appropriate PPE to include: clean gown, mask, face shield and gloves.
- RK or ML will open the door to allow ventilation.
- RK or ML will contact the child's parent for pick up and will stay with the child until he/she is picked up.
- RK or ML will document the child's visit to the infirmary.
- RK or ML will ask the parents to take their child and siblings to a health care provider and report any positive test/diagnosis for COVID-19, or other diagnosis by the physician.
- RK or ML will document the positive COVID-19 findings as described in the section below.
- The infirmary will be cleaned after use to reduce the possibility of COVID 19 contamination. Areas visited by the ill person will be closed off. Outside doors and windows will be opened and ventilating fans will be used to increase air circulation in the area. Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
- RK or ML should clean hands often, including immediately after removing gloves and after contact with an ill person, by washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used.
- After the individual suspected of having COVID-19 is separated from others and has received appropriate medical attention, the school will do the following:
 1. The school will close the areas and follow CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfection
 2. The teacher and rest of the class will immediately wash their hands and move to another appropriate learning space for the remainder of the school day.
 3. The school will communicate to employees and families if a possible or credible case COVID-19 exists.