



TASIS CAMPUS SAFETY PLAN

2021–2022

Introduction 2

Expectations for our Community 2

 Time for Community 2

 Pledge for TESIS Safety 2

General Guidelines 2

Specific Policies 3

 Covid-19 Testing 3

 Quarantine for those Arriving in Switzerland 3

 Vaccination 4

 Masks 4

 Temperature Checks 4

 Visiting TESIS 4

 Social Gatherings 5

 Travel 5

Further Details Regarding the School Day 6

 In the Classroom 6

 Passing Periods and Outside the Classroom 6

 Fire Safety 6

Information for TESIS Day Families 7

 Morning Drop-offs and Afternoon Pick-ups 7

 Checking Out a Boarding Student 7

Covid-19 Response 7

 Boarding Students 7

 Day Students 8

 Employees 8

 Contact Tracing 8

TESIS Safety Chart 8

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to share our updated TESIS Campus Safety Plan with the TESIS community. We look forward to providing the traditional TESIS experience of challenging, engaging academics and broadening extracurricular activities—in brief, stretching our students as scholars and human beings—in a safe and meaningful way. We need the commitment of every member of our community (see our [TESIS pledge](#)), and with that commitment we are confident that our students will have a wonderful experience and will grow to reach their full potential.

As we prepare for the opening of the 2021–2022 academic year, we remain in constant dialogue with local, Cantonal, and Swiss authorities to ensure the School is meeting or exceeding all safety requirements and expectations related to Covid-19. While the safety of our entire community is paramount, we will also do our utmost to maintain the spirit of joy and excitement that marks the beginning of a new school year.

The objective of this document is to highlight the specific operational measures that we have implemented due to Covid-19. The latest updates for TESIS and official government links can always be found at tasis.ch/coronavirus.

Note that as government guidelines change, our policies will likely be amended. Please pay close attention to any emails or bulletins sent by the School, which will outline any changes to expectations and policy.

EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

TIME FOR COMMUNITY

Given the unprecedented global challenges of the ongoing pandemic, now is the time to think of others and our responsibility to each member of our community. If we continue to come together and think beyond ourselves, we will emerge from this crisis stronger than ever.

PLEDGE FOR TESIS SAFETY

All students and employees are asked to [pledge to follow](#) all health and safety guidelines and regulations outlined by the School and by local and federal authorities.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

All students, employees, and third parties are required to follow the School-specific health and safety guidelines outlined below and all [local](#) and [federal](#) regulations, with the understanding that we all share the responsibility for keeping our community safe. Further details can always be found on Switzerland's [Federal Office of Public Health's website](#).

- Maintain at least 1.5 meters of separation whenever and wherever it is recommended both on and off campus
- Wear a mask as directed by the School
- Wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer frequently
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or the crook of the arm
- Have temperature checked daily on campus
- Contact the school nurses when exhibiting symptoms associated with Covid-19
- Inform the School immediately if you test positive for Covid-19 or knowingly have had close contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Self-isolate when required to do so and follow the guidance of the School's nurses and medical authorities
- Cooperate with any contact tracing carried out by the School and local authorities

All TASIS-sponsored activities held on or off campus comply with the latest [measures and ordinances](#) issued by the Swiss Federal Council.

SPECIFIC POLICIES

COVID-19 TESTING

To protect the school community, all students will be required to be tested for Covid-19 at the beginning of each semester and after extended breaks regardless of their vaccination status. Boarding students will be tested upon their arrival to campus at the start of each semester, and day students will be required to submit a negative test certificate (either a rapid antigen test that is not older than 48 hours or a PCR test that is not older than 72 hours) before they can start classes. Additional tests will be administered as needed.

QUARANTINE FOR THOSE ARRIVING IN SWITZERLAND

Switzerland's [current entry requirements](#) state that anyone who has not been vaccinated or recovered from Covid-19 must present a negative test result upon entering the country. In addition, those who arrive from a [country with a variant of concern](#) must go into quarantine upon arrival. Any TASIS students who are required to quarantine are able to do so comfortably at a location a short distance from the main TASIS campus.

It is important to note that the quarantine requirement is not determined by a person's passport or nationality—it is based solely upon where he or she has been during the 10-day period prior to entering Switzerland. Those who have spent any time in a [country with a variant of concern](#) in the 10 days prior to their arrival in Switzerland must observe the quarantine. Those who have spent the previous 10 days in countries not on the list are exempt from the quarantine—regardless of what their home country is.

Because Swiss Covid-19 regulations are subject to change, we strongly encourage all families to see which rules apply to their particular situation by consulting [Travelcheck](#), a service provided by the Federal Office of Public Health.

VACCINATION

Our school doctor, Dr. Vincenzo Liguori of LuganoCare, has received authorization from the Canton to administer Covid-19 vaccines to any students age 12 and older. Because this is part of the Canton's vaccination program, there will be no charge for the vaccines. Please note that only the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have been approved in Switzerland for adolescents at this time. LuganoCare will be administering the Moderna vaccine, and the Pfizer vaccine can only be obtained at the Canton's vaccination center in Giubiasco.

All TESIS students who are 12 and older are eligible to receive their vaccines through [LuganoCare](#). In mid-September, our Health Center will begin working with boarding families who are interested in obtaining the vaccine for their children. Day student families are free to make their own arrangements either through LuganoCare or their family doctor.

MASKS

Our current mask policy, effective as of March 7, 2022, states that masks are required only in the Health Center and on transportation. We will, of course, always encourage and support community members who wish to continue with this safety measure as a personal choice.

All mask policies remain in effect regardless of a person's vaccination status.

TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Thermal and optical cameras will be used at the Gazebo and Focolare to check each person's temperature once they arrive on campus. Note that anyone with a temperature of 38 degrees C / 100 degrees F or higher will not be allowed on campus.

- Pre-K through grade 1 will have their temperatures checked at Focolare.
- All day students in grades 2–12 will have their temperatures checked at the Gazebo. Grade 2 students will be taken to Hadsall by a staff member after the temperature check.
- All employees, family members, and visitors must also have their temperatures checked upon arrival to campus at the Gazebo or Focolare.
- Boarding students will have their temperatures checked as needed and when symptomatic.

VISITING TESIS

All visitors to the main TESIS campus must check in at the Gazebo and have their temperature checked through our thermal camera system. They must then follow all safety measures in place on campus, including observing social distance and the mask policy outlined above.

Before arriving at TESIS, visitors are advised to check with their travel operator for any Covid-19 measures that may be required for their journey. TESIS continues to follow the [Federal Office of Public Health's guidelines on travel](#).

In the interest of safety and limiting exposure, please note that dining services are reserved for students and employees.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

We recognize that socializing and community are critical components of the student experience and will continue to provide social opportunities while adhering to local and federal guidelines on gatherings.

TRAVEL

Due to the various and ever-changing Covid-19 restrictions imposed by countries and organizations around the world, our travel policies will need to be adjusted regularly. Air travel is unlikely for the time being, but we are monitoring the situation closely to see when we as an institution deem it safe to proceed. Below are further details regarding the different types of school-sponsored trips that may occur this year.

Weekend and Elementary School Activities

All weekend activities offered to High School students will be designated as either A (vaccination and/or rapid test certification required) or B (no vaccination and/or rapid test certification required) depending on the destination and nature of the trip. Students will be informed of this before they decide if they'd like to register for a given trip.

The same system will be in effect for any Elementary School After-School Program activities that require travel off campus—except that parents will be informed beforehand.

Athletics

All athletics events will follow the requirements stipulated by the event organizer, which may include vaccination or rapid test certification prior to the event. If and when air travel resumes, these trips will require vaccination and/or PCR/rapid test certification.

Academic Travel/Global Service Program

Academic Travel and Global Service Program trips will follow the requirements in place at the destination, which may include vaccination or rapid test certification prior to and during the trip. Any travel by air will require vaccination and/or PCR/rapid test certification.

Testing and Certification

We expect that students and employees will require additional rapid/PCR testing in order to participate in some of the travel programs discussed above. Testing for boarding students and employees will be carried out in our Health Center, at LuganoCare, or by a family's doctor/pharmacy.

Boarding students will have their vaccination status recorded in Veracross. Trip leaders will be responsible for ensuring that all attendees have the appropriate certification prior to departure.

FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THE SCHOOL DAY

In this extraordinary time we understand the importance of routine and familiarity for children. We have done our best to ensure that our campus is a safe space for everyone. This extends to our daily schedules, which were created to promote regularity and minimize variability.

The Middle School and High School will follow similar schedules, and the Elementary School will follow a typical schedule. Everyone in our community is expected to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day, especially as they enter and leave classrooms, before and after meals, and after using the bathroom.

IN THE CLASSROOM

- Teachers will assist students, provide reassurance, and monitor hygiene and social distancing procedures within the classrooms
- Windows should be left open as much as possible for ventilation.
- If windows must be closed due to weather, then rooms must be ventilated regularly (at least once per class).
- All classrooms have a maximum number of students allowed. Only one student will be at each desk.
- Students may not share food, beverages, supplies, materials, books, etc.
- Students must wash or sanitize their hands immediately upon entering the classroom, then go directly to their desks.
- Shared surfaces such as desks and plexiglass will be cleaned after each use. To save time between classes and further promote the spirit that we are all in this together, students may be asked to assist in cleaning their surfaces after use, which adults will facilitate in an appropriate, supportive way.

PASSING PERIODS AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

- When moving around campus, everyone should stay to the right of the pavement, hallways, or stairs. This mirrors the movement of vehicle traffic on Swiss roads.
- Common spaces such as the library and snack bar will have limited access based on size.
- HS day students with free periods are expected to find an appropriate place to study while respecting social distancing guidelines.

FIRE SAFETY

Students and faculty must maintain the 1.5-meter social distancing expectations when leaving a building due to evacuation and at the fire meeting point. See the evacuation procedures ([Italian](#)) ([English](#)). Fire drills will take place to familiarize students, faculty, and staff with updated guidelines.

INFORMATION FOR TESIS DAY FAMILIES

We ask day parents to please take note the following:

- As we did during the 2020-2021 academic year, we will conduct a testing program at key times throughout the 2021–2022 academic year, such as the beginning of the year and upon returning to school from extended breaks. We may also need to run large testing programs as needed and directed by local authorities or our school doctor.
- As noted earlier, day families must supply their children with masks. See [here](#) for approved masks.
- Students are expected to arrive in a clean uniform each day.
- Parents must follow all visitor protocols.
- Day students may not eat breakfast on campus.
- Day students must leave campus by 19:40 on weekdays and by 21:30 on weekends.

MORNING DROP-OFFS AND AFTERNOON PICK-UPS

We follow our [traditional procedures](#), which are updated as necessary.

CHECKING OUT A BOARDING STUDENT

Boarding students may not be checked out by day families at this time.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

TASIS adheres to [current Swiss guidelines](#) for what constitutes Covid-19 symptoms, and at TASIS a “high temperature” means anything of 38 degrees C/100 degrees F or higher. We ask that anyone in or visiting our community with a Covid-positive test follows current [Swiss federal guidelines on isolation and quarantine](#) and **informs the school nurses immediately.**

BOARDING STUDENTS

Should a **boarding student** exhibiting symptoms require [isolation](#), he or she will be moved to our isolation facility, which is staffed by health professionals who are available throughout the entire isolation period. The isolation facility will have 24-hour care provided by our Health Center and [InterNursing](#), a respected Swiss organization that specializes in selecting and placing healthcare workers in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and senior residences. Students who test positive will remain in this facility until they are cleared to return by medical authorities.

DAY STUDENTS

If a day student exhibits [symptoms](#) while at home, the student should remain at home and the parents should contact the family doctor. For more specific guidance for **day students** when deciding whether it is safe to go to school, follow the advice provided in the appropriate flowchart linked to below:

- [Screening tool for Elementary School students](#)
- [Screening tool for Middle School and High School students](#)

If a day student exhibits symptoms at school, a school nurse will isolate the student and call her or his parents and ask them to pick up the child.

EMPLOYEES

- If an employee living on campus exhibits [symptoms](#) at home, he or she should remain isolated in the apartment and call the school nurse. The nurse will make initial assessments and will call the doctor if necessary for additional support. The doctor will then provide the necessary guidance.
- If an employee living off campus exhibits symptoms at home, he or she must remain at home and contact his or her doctor.
- If an employee exhibits symptoms at work, the school nurse will assess the gravity of the situation. The employee must then go home, call his or her doctor immediately, and remain at home.
- Employees must keep the School apprised of their condition and will be strongly encouraged to take a Covid-19 test at the earliest possible opportunity and promptly inform the School of its outcome.

CONTACT TRACING

Contact tracing is run by the local Swiss authorities. For each positive case of Covid-19, close contacts who were near the positive person within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms will be contacted by the Canton medical office, which will implement other necessary measures. To ensure that we have comprehensive knowledge of close contacts, we will keep detailed lists of where students are and who they are with for every school activity, including classes, meals, and events.

TASIS SAFETY CHART

We created the chart below to help students understand when they can be on campus, when they should be wearing masks, and how they should approach meals and travel. This chart will be updated as needed.

	Boarding students	Day students
Presence on campus	Can be on the TASIS campus at any point of any day	Must leave campus at the end of the school day (by 18:30) unless

		participating in an after-school activity
Wearing masks	Wear a mask when in the Health Center or on transportation	Wear a mask when in the Health Center or on transportation
Breakfast	Can eat breakfast on campus	Must seek permission from the Dean's Office before eating breakfast on campus
Dinner	Can always have dinner on campus	May only have dinner on campus if they have an after-school activity
Free time in Lugano	Must follow the current Swiss mask policy when off campus	
Independent travel	No independent travel will be permitted unless approved by the School	May travel at the discretion of their parents