

# Important Notes for 2019-20

**Project 20/20:** The plan is to move into the expanded facilities at the beginning of semester 2. If you would like to know more about this exciting and important initiative and/or how you can support it, including being part of a Prayer Team, please contact Mr. Groot.

**Parking Lot:** The parking lot will be the same size as in June and will likely not expand until November. Students who would like to park on school property should email Mr. Heinbuch to determine if they can get a parking pass.

**Scheduling Changes:** Parents or guardians need to email [schedules@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schedules@tdchristian.ca) to request any changes to their children's schedules. Mr. Heinbuch will respond to them in the order they are received.

**Daily Schedule:** School runs from 8:55 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. The time schedule is posted daily on the Infoboards found throughout the school. Devotions and prayer occur in first period and/or homerooms except on Assembly Days.

**Homerooms:** Groups of students from all grades meet at the beginning of each Homeroom Day to read announcements and the Bible and pray. Homerooms help build connections across the grades which enhances our school community. For the first two weeks, homerooms will meet almost every day. Later in the year, Homerooms will meet for 15 minutes only on the first day of each school week.

**Assemblies:** We will have a 40 minute assembly, usually between Periods 1 and 2 and on the last day of the week.

**Dress Code:** Dress and appearance should be appropriate for a positive and safe (e.g. shop and PE) learning environment; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 reminds us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit; we are to honour God with our bodies. At TDChristian, we work diligently to ensure good working relationships among students and teachers. For that reason, it is important that we work together on understanding and following it. Learning to make good choices about dress for school is important. The dress code is in the Family & Student Handbook (link is on the Splash! Page).

Here are key things to consider in determining what to wear to school:

- any rips or tears in clothing must only be in appropriate places.
- tops must have sleeves that cover the shoulders.
- tops must be such that midribs remain covered at all times.
- shorts worn to class must be long enough to reach the bottom of the finger tips when students stand straight with arms and hands at their sides. i.e. PE shorts should not normally be worn to other classes.

**Hats and Hoods:** Students may wear them in a respectful manner throughout the school except during their scheduled class times, homerooms, and assemblies.

**Lockers, Backpacks and Coats:** Students are expected to store their belongings in their locked lockers. Students are not to bring backpacks, school bags or coats into a classroom or leave them in the halls during class or assembly. Exceptions are made for students who bring laptops in a laptop bag. Students may have their backpacks or school bags with them during lunch provided the bags remain on or by them. They may not be brought to the gym or left unattended.

**Lunch:** The lunch break will be 30 minutes on some days and 35 minutes on other days. It cannot be longer without lengthening the school day, adding school days, or eliminating scheduled holidays connected to the breaks.

**Fifth Period:** There are two main guidelines for this period which concludes most school days.

1. Students are required to work quietly and independently (exceptions are made for PE and STEM/Shop)
2. Students who miss Fifth Period are able to do assigned work at home or elsewhere alone.

Setting up Fifth Period with these guidelines allows it to be used for leadership, prayer group, and choir. It also means that students on sports teams which need to leave school early usually only miss Fifth Period.

**Choir and Clubs:** Choir will normally be on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during Fifth Period. Clubs, which require administrative approval and a teacher supervisor/sponsor, can be run during Thursday's Fifth Period.

**Project and Focus Days:** Immersive activities are important to learning. TDChristian schedules four Project Days and four Focus Days each semester. Dates are on the school calendar found at [tdchristian.ca](http://tdchristian.ca).

- Project Days are student **work at home** days during which students complete a four to six hour project for one class. *If you are interested in providing feedback on the projects assigned for these days, contact Mr. Groot.*
- Focus Days are scheduled school days on which students have an all-day class. They complete a project at school, go on a field trip, or complete any of a number of different activities related to one class under the supervision of their classroom teachers. Such days allow time for integrating classes or doing grade activities.

**Presentations and Celebrations of Learning:** Since presentations are integral at TDChristian, students are required to present some of their learning in every course. This year's *Presentations Days* are Wed., Dec. 18 and Tues., June 9. Students present to their peers, parents/guardians, and the larger community. In addition, parents/guardians and community members are invited to view *Celebrations of Learning* at the *Winter Open House* on Thurs., Jan. 9 and at the *Spring Open House/Notice Book Launch* on Thurs., May 14.

**Community Service Hours:** In order to graduate, students are required to do 40 hours of community service while in high school. Check the Splash! Page for the guidelines and form. Our advice is to finish the hours by the end of Gr. 11.

**Honour Roll:** Guidelines for the TDChristian Honour Roll for each grade can be found in the Family & Student Handbook.

**Mentorship:** Grade 11 students and families should read the Mentorship @ TDChristian page to learn more about this exciting program and how to get a good start on finding an interesting, challenging, enlightening and/or positive mentorship during Mentorship Week from Jan. 22 to 28.

**Technology:** Students should read and follow the *Technology Code of Conduct* found in the *Family & Student Handbook*.

**Learning Dialogues:** These occur four times a year (Oct. 17, Nov. 19, Mar. 26, and Apr. 23) and are for parents/guardians, students and teachers to connect about how students are learning. Some know these as "Parent/Guardian-Teacher-Student Interviews." Read *The Fridge Door* (posted every other Wednesday) to find out how to schedule these 7 minute appointments as we work together to help students learn for service in the light of God's word.

**Membership:** Find out how you can become a **Voting Member** of TDChristian High School during 60 to 90 minute sessions scheduled throughout the year (e.g. Learning Dialogues on Oct. 17 or by appointment on a Wednesday before a Board Meetings. Click the Membership @ TDChristian link on the Splash! Page to learn more.

**Trips:** Below is an overview of this year's required curricular trips. *Please keep dates free for required trips.*

- *Grade 9 Boys Toronto Service Trip:* Wed., Sept. 4 to Thurs., Sept. 5 (see separate sheet for details)
- *Grade 9 Girls Toronto Service Trip:* Thurs., Sept. 5 to Fri., Sept. 6 (see separate sheet for details)
- *Grade 10 Class Trip:* Wed., Sept. 25 to Thurs., Sept. 26 (see separate sheet for details)
- *Grade 11 and 12 Earth and Space Science Algonquin Trip:* Thurs., Sept. 19 to Mon., Sept. 23
- *Grade 11 and 12 French Trip to Quebec:* Mon., Oct. 7 to Fri., Oct. 11
- *Grade 11 Toronto Service Trips:* Tues., Oct. 8 to Thurs., Oct. 10 for English 11 (sem. 1)/Grade 11 Internship Block and Tues., Apr. 7 to Thurs., Apr. 9 for English 11 (sem. 2)/Grade 11 International Block (TBD)
- *Grade 10 French Trip (tentative):* Dates for the *away* part of the trip will be communicated to the class in the fall for the spring. Visiting students will likely come to TDChristian in the middle of May.

**Optional Trips:**

- *European Culture Trip (to Paris, the French Riviera, Pisa, and Rome):* Thurs., Mar. 12/Fri., Mar. 13 to Sat., Mar. 21 (tentative)
- *Grade 12 March Break trip to Belize (if interested, contact Marg at [marg@tdchristian.ca](mailto:marg@tdchristian.ca))*
- *Dominican Republic March Break Trip organized by Ms. Weening*

**Mini-Handbook (and Phone Directory) for 2019-20:** This will be published and distributed on September 24 to ensure a higher-level of accuracy and to include all TDChristian families.

**Parent/Guardian Volunteer Hours:** To find out how you can fulfill the 25 hour per family requirement, see the Volunteering @ TDChristian sheet. Contact Mrs. Meg Cate at [cate@tdchristian.ca](mailto:cate@tdchristian.ca) if you have any questions.

**Fall Evenings @ TDChristian:** Keep these in mind – *New Families Night, Future Directions Night, and Learn about Resource* (all on Thurs., Sept. 12), *Parents and Guardians Meeting on High School Culture* (Thurs., Nov. 7), *Fall Membership Meeting* – Open to All Parents and Guardians (Tues., Nov. 19).

**Looking Ahead to 2020-21:** On Thurs., Oct. 10, starting at 7 p.m., we will host a *Fall Open House & Information Night for Students & Families* (to learn more about TDChristian). On Thurs., Nov. 14, Grades 7 and 8 students are invited to spend a school day at TDChristian to learn more about the school at our *Grades 7 & 8 Day*. We will also host Open Houses on Jan. 10 (as part of our *Celebrations of Learning*) and on May 14 (as part of the *Notice Book Launch*). To find out how to earn volunteer hours for telling families about TDChristian, contact Mrs. Patty Schuurman at [schuurman@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schuurman@tdchristian.ca).

**For More Information and Details of All Things TDChristian:** Check the *Family & Student Handbook* which can be accessed by clicking the link on the Splash! Page. The newest version will be published later in August.