

**TRINITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK
2022 - 2023**

**2209 Duck Slough Blvd.
New Port Richey, FL 34655**

**Telephone: 727-774-9900 Fax: 727-774-9991
Absentee line:727-774-9905**

Web Address: <http://tes.pasco.k12.fl.us>

**Adam Wolin
Principal**

**Shannon Middleton
Asst. Principal**

Dear Families,

Welcome to the new school year! We are excited that your child will spend the next year growing and learning with us at Trinity Elementary School. The teachers are ready for a successful and productive year with your child.

Each staff member is committed to ensuring that each student receives the highest quality education possible. To this end, we ask you to take an active role in your child's education by conferencing regularly with your child's teacher, checking your child's planner or folder daily, and providing a quiet place for homework. Email is a great way to stay in regular contact. All teachers can be reached via our school's website. We look forward to a successful partnership with you and your family this school year.

We have prepared this handbook to help you understand the operation and policies of the school. Please read and reference this handbook during the school year. Also, please be sure to thoroughly read the *Code of Student Conduct for Elementary Students*, which can be found on the Pasco County website, under "Student Supports." These policies have been developed by the District School Board of Pasco County in accordance with state guidelines. Following these policies is in the best interest of your child. The District discipline guidelines are found within the Code of Conduct. All students have a right to a safe and productive learning environment.

We share an important interest in your child. Your cooperation and communication will help us provide the best possible learning environment for your child. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Adam Wolin, Principal
Shannon Middleton, Assistant Principal

Pasco County Schools: Providing a world-class education for all students.

We, as Trinity Elementary Trailblazers, will provide a safe, positive, and collaborative learning environment in which all students will be challenged through research-based curriculum and instruction to reach their highest potential.

Children will be provided with innovative educational experiences that will enable them to become seekers of new ideas and knowledge in our changing world.

MASCOT: Trailblazer

Each Friday is "SPIRIT DAY." Students are encouraged to wear Trinity colors, which are green and orange or a school t-shirt.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Student Day: 9:50 – 4:00

DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

- Dismissal will staggered by transportation method
- Walkers with Parents & Bus Riders
- Bike Riders/Walkers on Own & PLACE
- Car Riders

ARRIVAL

Buses are scheduled to arrive at Trinity at 9:35 a.m. Instructional time begins at 9:50 am. Students riding their bicycles, walking, or being driven should plan on arriving at school no earlier than 9:35 a.m. Breakfast can be purchased between 9:35-9:50 in our school cafeteria. Supervision of children who are dropped off or who arrive earlier than 9:35 a.m. is unavailable, therefore please develop a plan to monitor your child and/or time their arrival appropriately. Students will exit from the buses at 9:35 a.m. **Students who arrive at school after 9:50 a.m. are considered tardy and must be escorted by an adult to the office for check in.**

RAINY DAY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Due to the unpredictable Florida weather, rainy day dismissal will be based on student safety. When it is unsafe for students and staff, we reserve the right to stagger/hold dismissal, until conditions improve. Please be patient and flexible, and know we will communicate the changes to you, if they will push dismissal beyond 15-minutes of our typical time. These communications will come through our social media platforms. Please remember that the majority of the time, the severe rainstorms let up quickly and students are dismissed their usual way.

STUDENT RELEASE

Students who are being picked up early for appointments or an early release, must be cleared to leave the school through the front office. All parents/guardians must pick up their children in the office. Teachers will not release students without the authorization of the office. Parents/guardians are to remain in the office until the child arrives for dismissal. Students will be released only to those individuals listed on the emergency information card that is provided to the school by the parent/guardian. A current photo identification of the person signing out a student(s) must be shown at the time of release. **Students should not be picked up for early dismissal after 3:00 p.m.** due to interference with school dismissal and heavy traffic conditions, unless it is an emergency. The end of the day is very busy, and to ensure that we can safely account for all students and their individualized dismissals, we ask that you adhere to this policy.

TRANSPORTATION

BUSES

Students will be picked up and dropped off at their designated bus stop only. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than their assigned bus. Should a situation arise where you need to contact the Transportation Department, the telephone number is (727) 774-0400. Please have the bus number of your child's bus when calling.

CAR RIDERS

The following are guidelines for parents who drive their children to and from school. They are designed for the safety and welfare of our children. Please help us to ensure the children's safety by practicing these guidelines:

1. Please remain in your car in the car loop (not in the parking lot). Cars are not to be left unattended.
2. Please hang your child's name (car tag) from the rearview mirror. If you need additional tags for other vehicles, please let the office know. Carpools should list all student names on tags.
3. Always be aware of students walking on the sidewalks. Remind your children not to step off of the curb until your car comes to a complete stop.
4. Please follow the directions of the supervising adults and/or Safety Patrol.
5. Children are to enter and exit from the passenger side of the vehicle ONLY. Please ensure all boosters, car seats, etc. are located behind the driver's seat and not blocking the child entering. If you need to check that your child is properly secured, please pull forward out of the loading zone, prior to doing so. For safety reasons and to maintain the flow of the loop, adults are to remain in the car at all times. Trinity staff will be available to assist students.
6. For the safety of everyone, we ask that animals be left at home. However, if you must have your animal in the car, please ensure that they are secure and are not able to exit the doors that our staff and safety patrols will be opening.
7. When visiting or volunteering, parents are to use the staff parking lot. Visitors and volunteers are asked to leave campus by 3:00 in order to prepare for dismissal. ***Please note: All vehicles in the visitor parking lot during dismissal will remain parked in the visitor parking lot until all walkers and bike riders have exited the area.** According to Florida statutes and the Florida Department of Transportation Management "Vehicle and pedestrian traffic are prevented from crossing each other on the site..."
8. The center parking is designated "Staff Parking Only" and closed to traffic during arrival and dismissal.
9. In the interest of student safety, students who do not live in our walk zone must be picked up in the car loop. Families may NOT park and walk up to retrieve their child(ren) during dismissal.
10. State law prohibits drivers from using cell phones while picking up and dropping off children in the car loop.

Finally, please be aware that during arrival and dismissal times, vehicles may only make a right hand turn onto Duck Slough, due to the extreme volume, so please plan your route accordingly.

BIKE RIDERS AND WALKERS

Walkers, bikers, and scooters must utilize the sidewalk the entire way from the entrance to campus to the side walker's gate. No one should be riding a bike or scooter on campus grounds at any time. The expectation is bikes and scooters are walked for safety while on school property. At no time should students/families cut through the parking lot, as this is our bus loop and has vehicles actively moving. In addition, please note that there is no parking in the school parking lots for arrival/dismissal (vehicles may not park and walk their child to/from the walker's gate).

Bike Riders and Walkers should time their arrival on campus for 9:35, as staff supervision is not available prior to that time. Should a student arrive early, the expectation is that they wait quietly until the bell rings. It is not permissible to play football, soccer, baseball, or any other sports/games due to safety reasons. Please note that due to both student safety and wellness (allergies, etc.), pets are not allowed on campus, with the exception of documented service animals.

The school is not responsible for stolen or damaged bikes. It is a "PARK AT YOUR OWN RISK" policy. Florida Law requires all students to wear a bike safety helmet. All pedestrians, including both parents and students must remain on the sidewalk which goes around the visitor parking lot when arriving or leaving school grounds during arrival and dismissal.

RULES FOR BICYCLE AND SCOOTER RIDERS:

1. Bikes and scooters must be placed in the bike rack.
2. Secure your bike or scooter with a bike lock.
3. Walk beside your bike on the sidewalk when coming/going from the bike rack.
4. Tampering with another person's bike or bike lock is prohibited. This includes deliberately knocking another bike to the ground.*The rider may receive a warning from the school staff or the Sheriff's Office. A referral can be given and bicycle privileges may be revoked if behavior is unsafe.

P.L.A.C.E.

Before and after school care: Pasco Learning and Activity Centers of Enrichment (P.L.A.C.E.) is an affordable before and after school child care program offered to parents by the District School Board of Pasco County. The program is available for children in kindergarten through fifth grade at this school, Monday through Friday (6:30 AM. until school starting time and after school until 6:00 PM). In addition, full-day childcare is provided on teacher planning days, during winter and spring breaks, and throughout the summer. Please call P.L.A.C.E. at (727) 774-9992 for further information. PM P.L.A.C.E. students may not be picked up until 4:30pm, due to finalizing school dismissal and the need to complete P.L.A.C.E. attendance.

GENERAL POLICIES

ABSENCES

If a student is going to be absent, **please notify the school by calling the absentee line at (727) 774-9905**. If you are unable to call in the absence, **please send a note/email** with your child on the first day that they return to school. The note should state the date your child was absent, your child's name and the reason your child was absent. If a student is absent three consecutive days and the school hasn't been notified, school personnel will call the parent/guardian to verify absences. Vacations are not accepted as approved absences and will be marked as Non-Excused. Students absent for extended periods may be referred to the social worker, principal and/or the State Attorney.

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work can be coordinated with the classroom teacher for all excused absences.

COMMUNICATION

Our primary communication tools are through our website, email, and REMIND App. All staff members are available to you via email. To find our staff's email, please visit our school's website at <http://tes.pasco.k12.fl.us>. Staff will respond to you within 24-hours or on the following Monday after a weekend.

Please make certain that we have telephone number(s) where you (the parent/guardian) may be reached during the school day. In addition, please make certain that we have the phone number of an emergency contact person whom we could reach in the event that we were unable to contact you. Please make sure you have the most information input into the myStudent/Parent Portal platforms.

Please feel free to contact the school office at (727) 774-9900 between the hours of 8:50 AM - 4:30 PM with any questions or concerns.

Students will contact their parent/guardian by phone during the school day should a problem arise which would necessitate an immediate parent contact. Students will not be permitted to use the school phones, or personal cell phones, except in cases of emergency. It is not appropriate to contact your student on their personal device during school hours, as it may interrupt a lesson or testing scenario. If you need to get a hold of your student, please contact the main office and we will gladly facilitate contact.

Parent/Teacher conferences are encouraged. Each time a parent attends a conference in school, the teacher will complete a conference form, which summarizes the conference. Please arrange for conferences in advance. Teachers may not confer with parents during class time.

CAFETERIA INFORMATION

Breakfast and lunch are served in the cafeteria daily. These meals meet the guidelines set forth by the U. S. Government for the school food service program.

Students will need to learn their six-digit student identification number to enter into the computerized food service system.

Applications for the Free and Reduced priced meals are available online at connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/do/fns/pascoschoolmeals/. Meals are to be paid for until you receive notification that your child(ren) are eligible to receive a free or reduced price meal. A student must have an approved family application in order to receive the free or reduced meals, otherwise the parent or guardian is responsible for providing their child's meal.

Please keep track of your student's lunch balance so that your child does not experience any issues when purchasing lunch. You may monitor and set purchasing parameters at myschoolbucks.com.

A la carte items/vending items, and snacks may be purchased when they are available. Students may carry their own lunches to school. **No glass containers or bottles, candy or carbonated beverages** please. Please make sure that whatever items are packed for lunch have been practiced at home and your child can independently open/access. There is no opportunity for refrigeration or heating of items sent from home. Finally, all food items are to be consumed in the cafeteria.

During lunch visits, parents and their child(ren) must sit outside at the designated picnic tables. ***Only your child that you are visiting may eat with you during lunch. Friends and students who are extended family, are not permitted.*** Lunch visitors are to leave prior to their child's recess time, so each child will be granted time to socialize with peers and participate in movement activities. We are unable to accommodate lunch visitors on rainy days, so please plan accordingly.

CAFETERIA EXPECTATIONS

PROCEDURES

- Walk quietly into the serving line
- Go through the serving line in an orderly manner
- Key in your I.D. number on the keypad and purchase snack items
- Get all condiments before going to your seat
- Sit at the assigned table
- Stay seated and eat your lunch using appropriate table manners
- When dismissed walk to the recycling area
- Dispose of everything in the appropriate place
- Walk to the recess line and line up single file
- Walk silently and in single file to the recess area

EXPECTATIONS

Expectations are posted in the cafeteria in multiple locations and reviewed daily the first two weeks of school with all students, as well as the week when students return following Winter Break.

STUDENT CONDUCT

SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

Please reference and review the school matrix that is found at the end of this document.

The discipline policies of Trinity Elementary School are fully outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct for Elementary Students*. The faculty and administration of the school adhere strictly to the procedures and interventions outlined in this document.

Trinity Elementary will implement a school-wide behavior management plan. Administration presents the Code of Conduct to students at the start of the school year, so all students may be made aware of expectations and possible consequences.

Please remember that our actions involving disciplinary measures are meant to correct inappropriate school behaviors. Our goal (the school's and the parent's) is common: to produce happy, healthy, well-adjusted individuals who will lead successful adult lives. Please support our school's efforts to have students behave appropriately while at school and on the school bus.

Trinity Elementary will implement a social skills program for the purpose of enhancing the students' ability to use intervention steps to make a good choice in a supportive school environment, which enhances their self-esteem through parent/teacher involvement.

DRESS CODE

Please refer to the *Code of Student Conduct for Elementary Students* for district wide dress code.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We are proud to be an important part of community life. The school reaches out to the community in the following ways:

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is composed of parents, volunteers, teachers, support staff, administrators, and business partners. The SAC participates in identifying school needs and assists in preparation and evaluation of the school's annual School Success Plan (SuP).

SCHOOL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

This program is intended to involve members of the community in the school. Please get involved in the volunteer program. Chances are that you will see your friends and neighbors here! ****All volunteers must complete a volunteer application every year.**

The application can be found online at www.pasco.k12.fl.us. This application must be completed each year after July 1st. The process includes a local law enforcement check. This process can take from 4-6 weeks, and we are unable to allow volunteers on campus until the process is complete. **Volunteer hours are 10:00 – 3:00.** All visitors and volunteers must report to the front office and state their reason for being at the school. Visitors and volunteers will be required to wear a badge at all times, while on campus. All visitors and volunteers must provide their driver's license to school personnel and be scanned through our Raptor database EVERY TIME THEY ARRIVE ON CAMPUS.

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

The Trinity Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will be responsible for developing and coordinating various school programs and activities. Please join the PTO during the annual membership drive.

ABC PROGRAM

Community service organizations and Trinity families may contact the school guidance counselor at (727)774-9908 if they wish to provide support to families in our community who are in need of such services. This is done through our ABC program.

CIVILITY POLICY

Please note that the District has set forth a Respect and Civility Policy for all campuses. The expectation is that all staff, families, and community members adhere to the guidelines of the policy in order to maintain positive communications and interactions. If for any reason an individual does not adhere to the policy, communications will be stopped and may be rescheduled for a later time/date.

CUMULATIVE RECORDS

Cumulative educational records (cum) are maintained by the school for each student who is enrolled. The cum record includes all data that is collected concerning an individual student. The cum is updated at the conclusion of each school year or when a student withdraws from the school. Parents/Guardians may review the contents of the cum by making an appointment.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

At Trinity Elementary School, curriculum and instruction are based on the Florida Standards. To view the standards for your child's grade, visit the FLDOE website. As a school, we use a variety of instructional resources including textbooks and technology-based materials to meet the learning needs of our students. Information regarding materials can be found on the Pasco Schools website. We believe in using current, research-based practices to meet the needs of all of our learners. Our goal is for every child to reach their highest potential.

HOMEWORK

The school's homework policy is as follows:

1. Homework should meet the needs of the individual student
2. Homework assignments should be thoroughly understood
3. Homework will not be assigned as a disciplinary measure or an accountability measure
4. Students will be expected to complete makeup work due to excused absence

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please make us aware of any health problem/s that your child may have. You may either call the school or stop in the clinic when you are at the school.

MEDICATION

All medication must be brought to school by the parent/guardian in the **original prescription container** and will be maintained in the schools clinic. The only medication that will be dispensed at school must meet the following guidelines:

1. Student name on medication
2. Name of medication (*only regulated medications will be administered at school*)
3. Dosage prescribed (*if dosage changes, a new prescription bottle must be provided*)
4. Time of day medication is to be taken
5. Physician's name
6. Special instructions
7. Date of prescription (*current, within one year*)

A written statement (authorization for medication administration) must be completed by the parent/guardian, granting the school permission to assist in the administration of such medication and which shall explain the necessity for such medication to be provided during the school day, including any occasion when the student is away from school property on official business.

*Note: The parent/guardian is expected to obtain the needed dose/doses of medication for field trips, in a separate, appropriately labeled prescription container, or use the entire bottle of medication. This will be sent with a trained person to be administered on the field trip. Under no circumstances may medication be transferred from one container or another by anyone other than a registered pharmacist (i.e. no pills are to be placed in envelopes or baggies).

Non prescription medication will not be dispensed by the school, unless accompanied by a physician's statement, and dated within the current year.

Please do not send nonprescription medication with your child. It will be confiscated and returned only to the parent. Staff members other than the Nurse or Clinic Assistant may not dispense medication. Over the counter medications, cough drops, allergy supports, etc. may not be carried by students.

According to Florida Law, students who are returning to school after having a communicable illness must be authorized to do so by a recognized health agent.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items are kept in a designated area. **We encourage you to label your child's backpacks, lunch boxes, jackets, sweaters, coats, etc. to help us return items.** Unclaimed items will be donated to local charities after one month.

PARTIES

- Student birthdays will be recognized on school announcements.
- If you are interested in celebrating your child's birthday, you must order treats from our cafeteria. Due to health and safety regulations, you may NOT bring in any outside treats (store bought or homemade) for birthday celebrations. The ordering link can be found by visiting the Pasco County website, under the Food and Nutrition link, where you will find the "For Parents" dropdown menu. Once there, you will find the "School Celebration" link. A minimum of 10-school days prior notice is required.

TEXTBOOKS

Students are responsible for the textbooks and materials that are issued to them. Should a textbook or other item be lost or damaged, the student is responsible for the payment of the item in question. A replacement textbook will not be issued until a payment for the lost or damaged book has been received by the school.










PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS

Students are provided with a mid-quarter progress report 4 times per year and a report card 4 times per year. Progress reports and report cards will only be available online through the Parent Portal on the myStudent platform. It is critical that families activate their portal and review it regularly to stay updated on their student(s) progress.

Please note that the Trinity handbook and policies are subject to change, due to updates, mandates, and campus needs. Please note that administration has the final authority to set and update policies and procedures as needed.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS MATRIX



	Classroom 	Hallway 	Bus 	Playground & Recess 	Cafeteria 	Bathroom 	Arrival 	Assembly 	Dismissal 
Be Responsible	Be prepared and ready to learn	Get to your destination promptly	Keep track of your belongings	Watch and listen for teacher directions	Pick up all trash	Clean up when finished	Arrive on time and ready to learn	Sit down quickly and quietly	Walk quietly in line
Be Respectful	Respect people and property	Walk quietly in a line	Talk quietly and listen to driver	Be considerate of <u>others</u> feelings and take turns	Quietly enter, listen to monitors, and be silent when staff are on microphone	Wash hands and keep water in the sink	Use kind words and listen to staff	Listen quietly	Listen to teacher for dismissal instructions
Be Safe	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Stand, be attentive, and walk safely	Stay seated and face forward with hands, feet and objects to yourself	Use equipment appropriately and follow game rules	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Wait patiently at a safe distance from the door	Walk directly to breakfast, classroom, or assigned area	Stay with your group	Walk in an orderly manner