



K-8

2026-2027

Welcome to Tennessee River Virtual Academy

Welcome to Tennessee River Virtual Academy (TRVA)!

It is with great excitement that we welcome you to the inaugural year of Tennessee River Virtual Academy. As a new school, we have a unique opportunity to build a learning community founded on strong relationships, high expectations, and a shared commitment to student success.

At TRVA, we are dedicated to providing a safe, supportive, engaging, and academically rigorous virtual learning environment where every student is valued and empowered to reach their full potential. We recognize that virtual learning offers flexibility and opportunity, but we also know that success is achieved through collaboration among students, families, teachers, and staff.

As we begin this exciting journey together, our focus is on creating a school culture where students feel connected, challenged, supported, and inspired to learn. We believe that every student can succeed when provided with high-quality instruction, meaningful relationships, and the encouragement needed to grow academically and personally.

This handbook has been developed to provide families with important information regarding school policies, procedures, expectations, and resources. We encourage all students and families to review this handbook carefully and refer to it throughout the school year. A clear understanding of these expectations will help ensure a positive and successful experience for everyone in our school community.

As founding members of Tennessee River Virtual Academy, your family plays an important role in shaping the traditions, culture, and success of our school. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in us and look forward to partnering with you throughout the 2026–2027 school year.

Together, we will build a strong foundation for learning, growth, and achievement.

We are excited to begin this journey with you and look forward to a successful inaugural year at Tennessee River Virtual Academy.

Sincerely,

The Tennessee River Virtual Academy Team

Mission Statement

The mission of Tennessee River Virtual Academy is to provide individualized learning pathways that empower students to reach their full potential through high-quality virtual instruction, meaningful relationships, and a commitment to academic excellence.

Vision Statement

The vision of Tennessee River Virtual Academy is to create a learning community where every student is engaged, supported, challenged, and prepared for success in college, career, and life.

Belief Statements

At Tennessee River Virtual Academy, we believe:

- Every student deserves access to a high-quality education.
 - Positive relationships are essential to student success.
 - Families are valuable partners in the educational process.
 - Student success is achieved through collaboration among students, families, and school staff.
 - Accountability and flexibility can coexist in a virtual learning environment.
 - All students can learn and grow when provided with appropriate support.
 - Data should inform instructional decisions and student interventions.
 - A safe and respectful learning environment promotes academic achievement.
-

School Philosophy

TRVA is committed to providing a student-centered educational experience that combines the flexibility of virtual learning with the support and accountability necessary for academic success.

Our instructional model includes:

- Synchronous live instruction

- Asynchronous learning opportunities
- Small-group interventions
- Individualized support
- Progress monitoring
- Family engagement
- Social-emotional supports

Students are expected to participate actively in their educational program and maintain consistent engagement with teachers, coursework, and school activities.

Enrollment and Admission

Enrollment in Tennessee River Virtual Academy is open to eligible students in grades Kindergarten through Grade 8.

Enrollment requirements include:

- Completed enrollment application
- Proof of residency
- Birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Withdrawal records (if applicable)
- Academic records (if applicable)
- Any additional documentation required by state law or the school district

The school reserves the right to request additional documentation necessary to verify enrollment eligibility.

Re-Enrollment

Students are not automatically re-enrolled each school year.

Families must complete all required re-enrollment procedures and submit updated documentation as requested by the school.

Re-enrollment may be impacted by:

- Residency verification requirements
- Enrollment deadlines

- Student attendance history
 - Student engagement history
 - Compliance with school policies
-

Attendance and Engagement

Regular attendance is critical to student success.

Students enrolled at TRVA are expected to participate in instruction each school day and complete assigned coursework in accordance with Tennessee attendance requirements.

Attendance may be demonstrated through:

- Participation in live instructional sessions
- Submission of coursework
- Teacher-student interaction
- Completion of assigned activities
- Documented engagement within the learning management system

Families are responsible for ensuring students participate consistently and maintain satisfactory academic progress.

Excused Absences

Excused absences may include:

- Student illness
- Serious illness or death in the immediate family
- Court appearances
- Religious observances
- Military deployment-related absences
- Other circumstances approved by administration

Documentation must be submitted within three (3) school days whenever possible.

Truancy

In accordance with Tennessee law and Perry County procedures:

- Five (5) unexcused absences may result in a truancy referral.
- Excessive unexcused absences may result in intervention plans, attendance meetings, disciplinary board referrals, or juvenile court action when required by law.
- The school may implement attendance improvement plans to support student success.

Virtual Learning Expectations

Instructional Model

Tennessee River Virtual Academy utilizes a blended virtual instructional model that combines synchronous (live) instruction and asynchronous (independent) learning activities.

Students are expected to:

- Attend all required live instructional sessions.
- Participate actively during live lessons.
- Complete assigned coursework by established deadlines.
- Communicate regularly with teachers.
- Utilize school-provided technology appropriately.
- Seek assistance when needed.
- Maintain academic integrity.

Instruction may include:

- Live teacher-led lessons
- Small-group instruction
- Intervention sessions
- One-on-one conferences
- Independent assignments
- Collaborative learning activities
- Project-based learning experiences

Live Session Expectations

Students participating in live instructional sessions shall:

- Attend sessions on time.
- Log in using their assigned school account.
- Participate respectfully.
- Follow teacher directions.
- Remain engaged throughout the lesson.
- Use appropriate language.
- Keep microphones muted unless directed otherwise.
- Utilize chat features appropriately.
- Dress appropriately for participation.

Students may not:

- Record sessions without permission.
- Share meeting links with others.
- Use inappropriate backgrounds.
- Disrupt instruction.
- Engage in cyberbullying or harassment.
- Display inappropriate content.

Repeated violations may result in disciplinary action.

Learning Coach Expectations (K–5)

Because elementary students often require additional support in a virtual environment, families are expected to provide a Learning Coach for students in grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade.

Learning Coaches should:

- Ensure students attend live instruction.
- Monitor assignment completion.
- Support organization and time management.
- Communicate with teachers.
- Review student progress regularly.
- Encourage consistent attendance and participation.

Learning Coaches are not expected to provide direct instruction but are expected to support student success.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

Be Respectful

- Treat others with kindness and respect.
- Use appropriate language.
- Respect diverse viewpoints.
- Follow school rules and expectations.

Be Responsible

- Attend school regularly.
- Complete assignments on time.
- Care for school-issued equipment.
- Follow technology guidelines.
- Communicate with teachers when assistance is needed.

Be Ready to Learn

- Arrive prepared for class.
- Participate actively.
- Maintain focus during instruction.
- Demonstrate effort and perseverance.

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to maintain a safe, orderly, and productive learning environment that supports academic achievement and positive behavior.

Students are expected to comply with all school policies and procedures while:

- Participating in live instruction.
- Using school technology.
- Attending school-sponsored activities.
- Participating in field trips.
- Representing Tennessee River Virtual Academy.

Prohibited Conduct

The following behaviors are prohibited:

Disruption of Instruction

Students may not:

- Intentionally disrupt instructional activities.
- Refuse to follow reasonable staff directions.
- Interfere with the learning of others.

Academic Dishonesty

Students may not:

- Cheat on assignments or assessments.
- Plagiarize work.
- Submit work completed by another person.
- Use unauthorized resources.

Bullying and Harassment

Students may not:

- Bully others.
- Harass others.
- Intimidate others.
- Engage in cyberbullying.
- Target individuals based on protected characteristics.

Threats or Violence

Students may not:

- Make threats toward students or staff.
- Engage in violent behavior.
- Encourage acts of violence.
- Share threatening content electronically.

Inappropriate Technology Use

Students may not:

- Access inappropriate websites.
- Attempt to bypass security systems.
- Share passwords.
- Use school accounts for unauthorized purposes.
- Download prohibited materials.

Destruction of Property

Students may not:

- Damage school-issued equipment.
 - Damage school property.
 - Tamper with technology systems.
-

Progressive Discipline

Whenever possible, discipline will be progressive and educational in nature.

Possible interventions include:

- Verbal warning
- Parent contact
- Teacher conference
- Student conference
- Behavioral contract
- Loss of privileges
- Required intervention sessions
- Suspension from live sessions
- Out-of-school suspension
- Expulsion when authorized by law

The severity of disciplinary action will depend upon:

- Nature of the offense
- Student age
- Intent
- Prior disciplinary history
- Impact on school safety
- Applicable state law

Positive Behavior Supports

TRVA believes in teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors.

Positive supports may include:

- Student recognition programs
- Positive parent communication
- Academic celebrations
- Attendance incentives
- Leadership opportunities
- Student awards

Students are encouraged to demonstrate:

- Respect
 - Responsibility
 - Integrity
 - Perseverance
 - Citizenship
-

Family Code of Conduct

Tennessee River Virtual Academy recognizes that family engagement is critical to student success.

Families are expected to:

- Maintain respectful communication.
- Support school expectations.
- Partner with school staff.
- Monitor student progress.
- Ensure attendance and participation.
- Model appropriate behavior.

Families shall not:

- Use threatening language.
- Harass staff or students.

- Disrupt school operations.
- Engage in abusive communications.

Concerns should first be addressed with the teacher before escalating to administration whenever appropriate.

Grading and Academic Progress

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
-------	------------

A	90–100
---	--------

B	80–89
---	-------

C	70–79
---	-------

D	60–69
---	-------

F	59 and below
---	-----------------

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be issued at the midpoint of each grading period.

Families are encouraged to review academic progress regularly through school communication systems and ParentVUE when available.

Report Cards

Report cards will be issued at the conclusion of each grading period.

Report cards may include:

- Academic performance
 - Attendance information
 - Teacher comments
 - Progress toward grade-level standards
-

Academic Interventions

Students demonstrating academic difficulty may receive:

- Small-group instruction
- Individual interventions
- Academic support sessions
- Progress monitoring
- Parent conferences
- Tiered intervention supports

Promotion and Retention

Tennessee River Virtual Academy is committed to ensuring that students demonstrate mastery of grade-level standards before promotion to the next grade level.

Promotion decisions shall be based upon:

- Academic performance
- Mastery of grade-level standards
- Attendance and engagement
- Assessment results
- Intervention participation
- Teacher recommendations
- Tennessee state requirements

Retention decisions will be made on an individual basis and may include input from teachers, administrators, intervention teams, and parents.

Parents will be notified as early as possible when retention is being considered.

Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP)

All students are required to participate in state-mandated assessments as required by the Tennessee Department of Education.

State assessments may include:

- TCAP Achievement Assessments
- End-of-Course Assessments (if applicable)
- Universal Screeners
- Benchmark Assessments
- English Learner Assessments
- Alternate Assessments when appropriate

Families are expected to ensure student participation in all required testing sessions.

Failure to participate in required assessments may impact school accountability measures and student academic records.

Tennessee Third Grade Promotion and Retention Law

In accordance with Tennessee law, third-grade students must demonstrate proficiency in English Language Arts as measured by state assessment requirements.

Students who do not meet state-established proficiency standards may be required to:

- Participate in intervention programs
- Attend summer learning opportunities
- Receive tutoring services
- Demonstrate growth through approved pathways
- Meet retention exemption criteria established by state law

The school will communicate all state requirements and available pathways to families as required by law.

Because state requirements may change, the most current Tennessee Department of Education guidance shall govern implementation.

Technology and Device Use

School-Issued Devices

Students may be issued school-owned technology equipment to support virtual learning.

School-issued equipment remains the property of Tennessee River Virtual Academy and/or the sponsoring district.

Families are responsible for ensuring that equipment is:

- Properly maintained
 - Kept in good condition
 - Used for educational purposes
 - Protected from theft or damage
-

Device Expectations

Students shall:

- Use devices for educational purposes.
- Protect passwords and login credentials.
- Report damage immediately.
- Follow all acceptable use policies.
- Return equipment upon request.

Students shall not:

- Alter device settings.
- Install unauthorized software.
- Attempt to bypass security filters.
- Share accounts or passwords.
- Use devices for illegal or inappropriate activities.

Loss or Damage

Families may be financially responsible for equipment that is:

- Lost
- Stolen due to negligence
- Intentionally damaged
- Not returned

The school reserves the right to assess replacement costs when appropriate.

Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship

TRVA is committed to promoting responsible digital citizenship.

Students are expected to:

- Use technology safely.
- Respect others online.
- Protect personal information.
- Demonstrate ethical online behavior.
- Follow copyright laws.
- Use appropriate language.

Students should never:

- Share personal information publicly.
 - Meet online contacts in person.
 - Access inappropriate content.
 - Engage in cyberbullying.
 - Use another person's account.
-

Acceptable Use Policy

Use of school technology is a privilege, not a right.

Students who violate technology policies may lose access privileges and may face disciplinary consequences.

The school reserves the right to monitor school-owned devices, accounts, networks, and learning platforms to ensure compliance with school policies and applicable laws.

Students should have no expectation of privacy regarding activity conducted using school-owned devices or accounts.

Special Education Services

TRVA provides special education services in accordance with:

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Tennessee State Board of Education Rules
- Applicable federal and state regulations

Eligible students shall receive services pursuant to an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

The school is committed to providing:

- Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
 - Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)
 - Procedural Safeguards
 - Individualized supports and services
-

Section 504 Services

Students with qualifying disabilities may be eligible for accommodations and supports under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The school shall:

- Evaluate referred students
 - Determine eligibility
 - Develop accommodation plans
 - Provide required accommodations
-

English Learner Services

Students identified as English Learners (ELs) shall receive language support services consistent with state and federal requirements.

Services may include:

- Language development support
- Instructional accommodations
- Progress monitoring
- Annual English language proficiency assessment

Parents retain the right to decline direct EL services while still participating in required assessments.

Child Find

TRVA participates in Child Find activities to identify, locate, and evaluate children who may have disabilities and require special education services.

Referrals may be initiated by:

- Parents
- Teachers
- Administrators
- Service providers

The school will evaluate referred students in accordance with applicable timelines and requirements.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Services

Students experiencing homelessness shall be provided educational protections and services under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Eligible students may receive:

- Enrollment assistance
- Transportation support when required
- School stability protections
- Access to educational services
- Assistance obtaining records

Families who believe they may qualify should contact the school's homeless liaison.

Title IX and Non-Discrimination

TRVA prohibits discrimination based on:

- Race
- Color
- National origin
- Sex
- Disability
- Age
- Religion
- Genetic information
- Any protected status under federal or state law

The school also prohibits:

- Sexual harassment
- Sexual misconduct
- Gender-based harassment
- Retaliation

Reports may be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator.

All reports will be investigated promptly and appropriately.

FERPA and Student Records

Parents and eligible students have rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

These rights include:

- Access to educational records
- Request for correction of records
- Consent requirements for disclosures
- Protection of personally identifiable information

Requests regarding student records should be directed to school administration.

Parent Right-to-Know

Parents may request information regarding:

- Teacher qualifications
- Licensure status
- Professional credentials
- Educational background

The school shall provide this information in accordance with federal requirements.

Complaint Resolution Process

TRVA encourages prompt resolution of concerns.

Step 1

Contact the classroom teacher.

Step 2

Contact the school administrator.

Step 3

Submit a written complaint to school leadership.

Step 4

Appeal to district leadership if necessary.

The school encourages collaborative problem-solving and respectful communication throughout the complaint process.

Parent and Student Handbook

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have received, reviewed, and understand the Tennessee River Virtual Academy Parent and Student Handbook for the 2026–2027 school year.

I understand that compliance with school policies and procedures is required.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Technology Agreement

I agree to:

- ✓ Use school technology appropriately.
- ✓ Protect school-issued equipment.
- ✓ Follow internet safety guidelines.
- ✓ Comply with all acceptable use requirements.
- ✓ Report concerns or damage promptly.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Media Release

I grant permission for Tennessee River Virtual Academy to use photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, student work, and other media for educational and promotional purposes.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____