



August 2021

Dear BCPS Parents (and Prospective Parents),

As a childcare provider, we have an important role in helping children, staff and their families protect themselves from COVID-19. While New York State (NYS) no longer requires childcare centers to implement COVID-19 risk restriction measures, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH), of whom we are licensed by, recommends key practices to continue to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, especially with rising cases due to the Delta variant.

Bridge Community Play School will continue to uphold the following protocols and as always will keep you apprised whenever we receive additional guidance from the NYC DOHMH:

#### **Physical Distancing**

- During drop-off and pick-up please continue to allow for physical distancing between yourself and others.
- Sign-in sheets will continue to be placed outside each classroom door to limit the number of people coming in and out of the room during drop-off.
- Please be as brief as possible when dropping off. While we love our parents to mingle with each other, please do so outside the school building rather than near classrooms.
- Children will be kept with their own class cohorts during the morning.
- Visitors and in-person events will be limited until further notice.

#### **Masks**

- Masks **must** be worn by adults, including staff, parents, and visitors, while inside the school building, whether vaccinated or not.
- Children under 2 years old should **never** wear a mask.
- Masks for children 2 years old and over while not mandatory, are highly encouraged.

#### **Hygiene, Cleaning, and Disinfection**

- Always take your child to the bathroom to wash hands first before signing your child into his/her classroom. The men's room will continue to be used during drop off along with our regular children's bathroom. Please limit it to two families in each room.
- The large play area will continue to be cleaned and disinfected between each class use.
- Frequently touched surfaces, including toys, will continue to be cleaned throughout the day.
- Fantasy play costumes will continue to be worn only once and then laundered before being returned to the play area.

- Staff will continue to practice healthy hand hygiene; by washing their hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Children's hands will be washed throughout the morning. Hand sanitizer on children will be used only when necessary due to its high alcohol content which is not healthy for tender skin.

### **Screening and Testing**

- Continue to conduct a daily health screening for COVID-19 for your child, yourself and/or your caregiver before setting out to school, including a daily fever check. ***Refer to the attached document for guidance.***
- Staff will continue conducting their own health screening and fever check each morning.

### **Communications**

- We will continue to keep parents and guardians informed of any site-specific policies.
- As a reminder, please stay home if sick or you have recently tested positive for COVID-19 or were exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- If you and/or your child has taken a Covid test, please stay home while awaiting results.
- And lastly, if you or your child has tested positive for COVID-19, please inform us immediately so that we can alert the NYC DOHMH and then take all necessary steps/precautions to protect others in our school.

The best form of protection from COVID-19 is to get vaccinated and we are pleased that all BCPS staff are, which will help provide a layer of protection for our children and adults who are not yet vaccinated or are unable to get vaccinated. You can learn more about vaccines by clicking: [COVID-19 vaccines](#).

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

*Jackie Meltzer*

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