



**Charlotte
Jewish Preschool**
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Charlotte Jewish Preschool COVID-19 Policies & Procedures for Parents

Policies and procedures are subject to change as new information and best practices from federal, state, and local governments are communicated.

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Public Health Guidance from the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

After months of the decline, North Carolina is experiencing a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations among those who are unvaccinated. The Delta variant, which is now the predominant strain of the COVID-19 virus in North Carolina, is significantly more contagious than the original virus.

This document is intended to guide the Charlotte Jewish Preschool (CJP) community in making informed, responsible, and compliant decisions as we work together to minimize the risk of exposure of COVID-19 to both the staff and children in CJP's care. These policies are made in concert with the NC DHHS Toolkit, current CDC recommendations, and other local governing bodies. CJP will consult with the Mecklenburg County Health Department on an as-needed basis and the Health Department has final authority.

Thank you for your partnership as we navigate the best practices on keeping a healthy, safe, and engaging learning environment for our children.

In this document we address all of our efforts to minimize the exposure, and spread of COVID-19 such as:

- Access to The Bernstein Education Building (CJP)
- Drop off and pick up procedures
- Health screening and monitoring
- Masking
- Cohorting and physical distancing
- Cleaning, hygiene and sanitation practices
- Sick and return to school procedures

Access to the Bernstein Education Building (CJP)

- Access to CJP will be granted to students, one parent/caregiver per child, staff, therapists, and emergency personnel only.
- All parents/caregivers, staff, children, and therapists will enter through the main entrance and must remain masked at all times.

Drop-off/Pick-up Procedures

- Parents/caregivers will use their personal mobile device to answer health screening questions about themselves and anyone in their household via brightwheel.
- One parent/caregiver per child will be able to walk their child(ren) to the door of the classroom. As children are not yet vaccinated, parents/caregivers will not be allowed in the classrooms at this time.
- Drop off must take place within 15 minutes of entering the CJP.
- If the parent/guardian does not have their mobile device with them, the teacher is required to ask them the health screening questions before admittance to the classroom.

- Please check in and check out your student via brightwheel every day. If you are having difficulty connecting to brightwheel while in CJP, please connect to our Wi-Fi:
 - Wi-Fi: CJP
 - Password: Cjp6776!

Carpool Procedure- Half Day Only

- Half Day Parents are responsible of transferring their children in and out of their car seat, including buckling children in. We ask that parents/caregivers remain masked when interacting with staff at carpool.
- We strongly encourage everyone's participation in carpool particularly in the afternoons as we work to limit the amount of adults in the building.

Screening & Monitoring

Health Questions

Parents/caregivers will use their personal mobile device to answer health screening questions about themselves and anyone in their household via brightwheel. **If the parent/caregivers cannot answer yes to all of the health screening questions, please apprise the CJP office of your situation and we can guide you on an individual basis.** Our main number is 704-944-6776. We are happy to help you navigate each individual circumstance.

1. Have you, anyone in your household, or any of the children you are dropping off had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 cumulative minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with, or is under assessment for COVID-19? Has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?

2. Does anyone in your household or any of the children you are dropping off have any of these symptoms?

- Fever
- Chills
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Cough
- Loss of taste or smell

3. Since they were last at CJP, has anyone in your household or the children you are dropping off been diagnosed with COVID-19?

Symptoms

Children, parents, and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for testing and care. Symptoms may appear 2 – 14 days after exposure to the virus. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of specific and non-specific symptoms of COVID-19.

There are specific symptoms that exclude you from the CJP. Those symptoms are listed in our questions upon entry to school. These symptoms are:

- **Fever (temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)**
- **Chills**
- **Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing**
- **Cough**
- **Loss of taste or smell**

In addition, the presence of any of the symptoms below suggest the person may need to be tested for COVID-19:

- **Sore throat**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Nausea/vomiting**
- **Severe headache, especially with fever.**

Monitoring

This list does not include all possible COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals with the virus that causes COVID-19 may experience any, all, or none of these symptoms. The symptoms alone may not exclude you; however, if a household member or your CJP student is experiencing more than one of these symptoms, you may be excluded. Each case will be determined on a case by case basis, as the severity and combination of the symptoms will vary. The Health Department will be consulted on an as-needed basis to make the determination on any exclusions.

CJP staff are required to report vaccination status to school administrators. As a preventative measure, CJP staff who are not vaccinated will participate in weekly PCR testing.

Masking and Personal Protective Equipment

When people wear a mask correctly and consistently, they protect others as well as themselves. Consistent and correct mask use is especially important indoors and when physical distancing cannot be maintained. Guidance for Mask wearing and PPE at CJP is that we:

- Require all adults and children four years or older (regardless of vaccination status) to wear a face covering at all times when indoors unless actively eating, drinking or napping
- **Strongly encourage 2 and 3 year old children** to wear a mask while indoors.
- Make exceptions for medical/behavior conditions or disabilities defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that prevent a person from properly wearing a face covering.
- Encourage you to utilize these resources when talking to children about proper mask wearing:
 - [COVID-19ActivityBook https://resphealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RHA-Coloring-Book.pdf](https://resphealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RHA-Coloring-Book.pdf)
 - [PBS Kids Arthur video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXp8bK3C8qA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXp8bK3C8qA)

- [Tips for talking to toddlers about face coverings](https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/3211-why-are-people-wearing-masks-why-are-people-covering-their-face)
<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/3211-why-are-people-wearing-masks-why-are-people-covering-their-face>

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) protects the person wearing it and those nearby from the spread of germs. When used properly, PPE acts as a barrier between germs found in blood, body fluids, or respiratory secretions and the wearer's skin, mouth, nose, or eyes. Examples of PPE are:

- Disposable gloves
- Face shields
- Disposable procedural masks

Staff will use PPE as needed when caring for a child that is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

Cohorting and Physical Distancing

Maintaining physical distance is often not feasible in a child care setting, especially during certain activities (e.g., diapering, feeding, holding/comforting, etc.) and among younger children in general. When it is not possible to maintain physical distance in child care settings, it is especially important to layer multiple prevention strategies, such as cohorting.

Cohorting: Cohorting means keeping people together in a small group and having each group stay together throughout an entire day. Cohorting can be used to limit the number of children and staff who come in contact with each other, especially when it is challenging to maintain physical distancing, such as among young children, particularly in areas of moderate-to-high transmission levels. The use of cohorting can limit the spread of COVID-19 between cohorts but should not replace other prevention measures within each group.

CJP will do our best to limit the number of staff entering and exiting the classrooms each day, and classrooms will have limited co-mingling. Furthermore, to limit possible exposure/spread on Shalom Park, CJP will be mainly operating in the Bernstein Education Building (CJP) and maximizing all available Shalom Park outdoor space.

Due to the immense effort it takes to cohort classes, CJP will not be facilitating two-way transfers to the Levine Jewish Community Center (LJCC). We will be providing a one-way transfer to the LJCC for classes. To clarify any confusion around transfers, children in our Full Day program will be able to be transferred to the LJCC and parents/caregivers will be responsible for bringing students back to CJP and signing them back into our care.

CJP will periodically need to evaluate our ability to provide one-way transfers to the LJCC.

Cleaning, Hygiene and Sanitation Practices

Requirements and recommendations for Cleaning and Hygiene have been updated to align with guidance from the Center for Disease Control to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Continuing with good hygiene practices and routine cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting routines based on child care and sanitation requirements will prevent the spread of all infectious diseases.

The Charlotte Jewish Preschool will continue to:

- Follow [NCDHHS Environmental Health Section](#) guidance for cleaning and disinfection recommendations.
- Follow North Carolina Child Care and Sanitation rules.
- Clean surfaces throughout the day, prioritizing high touch surfaces.
- Frequently clean and sanitize mouthed toys and contaminated objects between uses by individual children.
- Clean and disinfect the school using an EPA-approved disinfectant; misting the classrooms and common areas weekly.
- Maintain HVAC HEPA filters throughout the building.

Sick at School

Children or staff who develop symptoms during the day

If a child or staff member develops any symptoms of COVID-19, he/she and any of their household members (who are at CJP) will be separated from others and leave CJP as soon as possible. As per our sick policy, parents/caregivers will have 45 minutes to pick up sick children.

Returning to CJP after Exclusion

CJP is required to follow the recommendations of the Mecklenburg County Health Department if someone at CJP has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed to COVID-19.

Quarantine is required for an individual who has been a close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period) of someone who is determined positive with COVID-19 either through testing or symptom consistent diagnosis, with the following exception:

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated, do not have symptoms, and have had a close contact will need a negative PCR test result upon readmission. They should get tested at least 5 days after exposure.

Unless an exception applies, the CDC, NCDHHS, and the Mecklenburg County Health Department still recommends a 14-day quarantine for unvaccinated individuals.

For more detailed information on when a person can return (this includes siblings) to CJP, please see the "Summary Table for Returning to CJP after Exclusion".

NOTE: CJP only recognizes PCR testing for return to school.

Summary Table for Returning to CJP after Exclusion

Exclusion Category	Scenario	Criteria to return to CJP
Diagnosis	Individual has tested positive with an antigen test but does not have or develop symptoms of COVID-19	If the individual takes a repeat PCR/molecular test performed in a laboratory within 48 hours of their positive antigen test, and that PCR/molecular test is negative: the positive antigen test can be considered a false positive and the individual can immediately return to CJP; OR If the individual does not take a PCR/molecular test, or takes one within 48 hours and it is also positive, they can return to CJP when they complete 10 days of isolation. Isolation should begin starting from the date of their first positive test.
Diagnosis	Individual has tested positive with a PCR/molecular test but the individual does not have and does not develop symptoms.	Individual can return to CJP when he/she completes 10 days of isolation. Isolation should begin starting from the date of their first positive test.
Symptoms	Individual has symptoms of COVID-19 and has tested positive with a PCR/molecular test .	Individual can return to CJP when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He/she completes 10 days of isolation. Isolation should begin starting from their first day of symptoms; AND • It has been 24 hours since he/she had a fever without using fever reducing medicine; AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
Symptoms	Individual has symptoms of COVID-19 but has not been tested for COVID-19 nor has visited a health care provider. Therefore, the person who has symptoms is presumed positive.	Individual can return to child care when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He/she completes 10 days of isolation. Isolation should begin starting from their day of symptoms; AND • It has been 24 hours since he/she had a fever without using fever reducing medicine; AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
Symptoms	Individual has symptoms of COVID-19 but has received a negative test for COVID-19* or has visited a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19. *In a person with symptoms, a negative test is defined as a negative PCR/molecular test	Individual can return to child care when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 24 hours since he/she had symptoms (without using medicine); AND • He/she has felt well for at least 24 hours and is able to participate in all classroom activities.
Exposure	Individual who is not fully vaccinated has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 .	Person can return to child care after completing up to 14 days of quarantine. The 14 days of quarantine begin after the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive individual. Any quarantine less than 14 days is at the discretion of the health department.
Household Member, Exposure	Individual is a household member (e.g. a sibling) of someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19	Individual can return to CJP after completing up to 14 days of quarantine, unless otherwise directed by the local health department. The 14 days of quarantine being either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of a 10-day isolation of the person with COVID-19 since that person may remain infectious for up to 10 days after symptom onset, OR: • After the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive person, in situations where the positive person isolates from all other household members.
Household Member, Symptoms	Individual is a household member (e.g. a sibling) of someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 but symptomatic person has not been tested for COVID-19, nor has visited a health care provider. Therefore, the person who has symptoms is presumed positive.	Individual can return to CJP after completing up to 14 days of quarantine, unless otherwise directed by the local health department. The 14 days of quarantine begin either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of a 10-day isolation of the person who is presumed positive with COVID-19 since that person may remain infectious for up to 10 days after symptom onset; OR

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the last known close contact with the person who is presumed to be COVID-19 positive, in situations where presumed positive person isolates from all other household members.
Household Member, Symptoms	Individual is a household member (e.g. a sibling) of someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 and has received a negative PCR test for COVID-19 .	Individual can return to CJP immediately, as long as he/she has not developed symptoms.
Household Member, Symptoms	Individual is a household member (e.g. a sibling) of someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 but symptomatic person has visited a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis that would explain symptoms of fever, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new cough or loss of taste or smell and the health care provider has determined testing is not needed.	Individual can return to CJP when symptomatic household member receives their alternate diagnosis, as long as he/she has not developed symptoms.

Glossary

Antigen Test: Rapid antigen tests, which detect protein on the surface of the virus, are less sensitive and less specific than a PCR/molecular test. This means they miss some infections that would be detected by a PCR/molecular test, and they may be positive in someone who does not actually have the infection. However, they can be performed without having to send the sample to a laboratory and results come back quickly (e.g., approximately 15 minutes). For this test, a sample may be collected through a nasal swab, and the test can be conducted inside a doctor's office, or even at a community event that meets the right set of requirements.

Asymptomatic: Not showing any symptoms (signs of disease or illness). Some people without any symptoms still have and can spread the coronavirus. They're asymptomatic, but contagious.

Close Contact: Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before symptoms began (or, for asymptomatic individuals, 2 days prior to test specimen collection date) until the time the individual is isolated.

Cluster: Five or more positive COVID-19 cases in a setting within 14 days of one another that have an epidemiological linkage between them (e.g., presumed COVID-19 transmission within a child classroom.) Note: an 'outbreak' is a specific term used for a congregate living setting such as a nursing home, when there are two or more cases connected to each other. A cluster and an outbreak are not the same thing.

Cohort: A group of non-overlapping children, teachers, and staff who are designated to follow identical schedules. Keeping clear and distinct schedules help with contact tracing, should it be necessary.

Communicable: Similar in meaning as "contagious." Used to describe diseases that can be spread or transmitted from one person to another.

Community Spread: The spread of an illness within a location, like a neighborhood or town. During community spread, there's no clear source of contact or infection.

Confirmed Case: Someone tested and confirmed to have COVID-19.

Coronavirus: A family of related viruses. Many of them cause respiratory illnesses. Coronaviruses cause COVID-19, SARS, MERS, and other respiratory illnesses. The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 is officially called SARS-CoV-2, which stands for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2.

COVID-19: The name of the illness, caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 stands for "coronavirus disease 2019."

Exclusion: An individual is not allowed to attend child care in person in order to isolate because they are, or are presumed to be, COVID-positive, or to quarantine to ensure they do not expose others if they may become COVID-positive.

Exposure: Being within 6 feet of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more, over a 24 hour period.

Fully Vaccinated: People are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson Janssen vaccine.

Incubation Period: The time it takes for someone with an infection to start showing symptoms. For COVID-19, symptoms appear 2-14 days after infection.

Isolation: When someone tests positive for COVID-19 or is presumed to be positive, the separate (isolate) themselves from others for 10 days to make sure they do not spread the virus. This is not the same thing as quarantine, which is someone who is NOT positive with COVID.

Local Health Department: An administrative or service unit of local or state government concerned with health and carrying out some responsibility for the health of a jurisdiction smaller than the state.

Off-premises Activities: An activity that takes place away from the child care premises (Defined as: the entire child care building and grounds including natural areas, outbuildings, dwellings, vehicles, parking lots, driveways, and other structures located on the property).

PCR/molecular Testing: Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)/molecular tests detect the virus's genetic material. This test is the 'gold standard' for detecting the virus that causes COVID-19 and typically requires a sample being sent to a laboratory. For this test, it is most common that samples are collected through a nasal swab.

Pandemic: When a new disease spreads to many countries around the world.

PPE: PPE stands for personal protective equipment. This includes masks, face shields, gloves, gowns and other coverings that help prevent the spread of infection to others.

Physical Distancing: Consistently putting space between yourself and other people. The goal is to slow down how fast an infection spreads. The CDC recommends keeping at least six feet between you and others around you in public. Physical distancing also includes avoiding crowds and groups in public.

Presumptive Positive Case: A person who has COVID-19 symptoms but has not been confirmed positive by a health care provider or through a laboratory test.

Positive COVID-19 Test: An individual has taken a PCR/molecular COVID-19 test or an antigen COVID-19 test and the result is positive.

Quarantine: Quarantine refers to the time spent away from other people by an individual who has been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period) with someone who is positive with COVID-19. A person exposed to COVID-19 may quarantine for up to 14 days- incubation period of the virus. This is not the same thing as isolation, which is for someone who is positive with COVID-19.

Symptomatic: When a person show signs of illness. For COVID-19, that includes new cough, fever, shortness of breath, or new loss of taste or smell.

Testing: Testing is used to track cases of COVID-19 in the population. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, those who have been around others with symptoms or others who have tested positively, and high-risk members of the population should consider testing for COVID-19. The most common tests are the molecular PCR test and the antigen test, both of which seek to determine whether or not a person currently is infected with COVID-19. The NCDHHS hosts testing sites regularly throughout the state.