



Charlotte  
Jewish Preschool  
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# Charlotte Jewish Preschool COVID-19 Policies & Procedures

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

## **Current Public Health Guidance from the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS)**

As the pandemic evolves, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) is applying the most effective and appropriate public health tools for the current phase of the pandemic. As the United States and North Carolina emerge from the latest surge, the COVID-19 landscape looks different today than it did two years ago or even two months ago. More has been learned about the virus and effective tools to reduce the risk to people. Based on the emerging science and evidence, NC DHHS is adapting its guidance to allow North Carolinians to get back to the people, experiences, and places they love.

*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 (MCHD) on an as-needed basis and the MCHD 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)
- Symptoms
- Diagnosis and Exclusion Exemptions
- Communication
- Masking & PPE
- Cleaning & Hygiene
- Cohorting

### **Access to the Bernstein Education Building (CJP)**

- Access to CJP will be granted to students, parents/caregivers, staff, therapists, and emergency personnel only.
- All parents/caregivers, children, and therapists will enter through the main entrance.
- Therapists must check in with the office and work with children in a separate classroom (away from other CJP students).

### **Drop-off/Pick-up Procedures**

- Parent/caregiver will be able to walk their child(ren) to the door of the classroom. As most children are not yet vaccinated, parents/caregivers will not be allowed in the classrooms at this time.
- We encourage Drop off taking place within 15 minutes of entering the CJP.
- 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**

### Unloading Children from the Car

Please keep your child buckled in their car seat until a staff member is ready to take him/her safely from the car.

### Loading Children into the Car

Children's numbers and classroom teacher must be displayed in your car when picking up children. Placards will be distributed during "Meet the Teacher".

## **Screening and Symptoms**

### **Screening for Symptoms**

CJP will:

- Have families conduct daily home-based monitoring of symptoms before drop off/check-in and keep children home if symptomatic.
- Exclude children or staff if any symptoms of COVID-19 are present, regardless of negative COVID-19 test, until they meet criteria for return.
- Have staff perform daily self-monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms before coming to work and stay home if symptomatic.
- Have staff monitor for symptoms in staff and children during the day.
- Immediately isolate a person who develops COVID-19 symptoms during the day while at the facility and send him/her and any family member(s) home as soon as possible.
- While waiting for a child who is sick or has tested positive for COVID-19 to be picked up, have a CJP staff member stay with the child in a place isolated from others and, if possible, ventilated to outside air.

### **Symptoms**

Children, parents, and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for testing and care. Staying home when sick is essential to keep infections out of CJP and preventing spread to others.

The presence of any of these symptoms suggests the student/staff member may be required to be tested for COVID-19 at the discretion of CJP Administration:

- Fever (temperature 100.4°F or higher) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

### **Testing**

#### **Testing for individuals who have symptoms**

Individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and contact their healthcare provider, use other available testing sites, or use at-home antigen tests for diagnostic testing for COVID-19.

## Testing for individuals who have been exposed

Individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 and **have not developed symptoms**:

- May return to CJP with a negative COVID-19 test.
- If the person develops symptoms, he/she should stay home and get tested immediately.
- The individual may choose to test immediately upon notification of exposure and to start isolation period sooner if the test is positive.
- Individuals can use a health care provider or other available testing sites, or use at-home antigen tests for testing for COVID-19.

Individuals who have had a COVID-19 infection in the last 90 days and develop symptoms should consult with health care provider about testing.

## Diagnosis, Exposure, and Exclusion Exemptions

### Diagnosis

Individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home until they meet the criteria for returning to child care. Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keeping COVID-19 infections out of CJP and preventing spread to others.

CJP will:

- Exclude individuals from CJP who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Notify Mecklenburg County Health Department if we have reason to suspect an individual within CJP has COVID-19.

### Children who develop symptoms during the day

If a child develops any symptoms of COVID-19, he/she will be separated from others. As per our sick policy, parents/caregivers will have 45 minutes to pick up their sick children.

### Exclusion from CJP

**Exclusion from CJP for individuals with COVID-19 is required following the specific criteria listed below.**

#### Exclusion for individuals with COVID-19:

- Individuals with COVID-19, or symptoms of COVID-19 without a test, **must be excluded from CJP for 5 days** after the first day of symptoms or day of specimen collection, if no symptoms.
- Individuals may return to CJP after 5 days if they have no symptoms or symptoms are improving and they have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, but must continue to wear a mask for an additional 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others, unless an exemption to mask use applies. The mask can only be removed during sleeping, eating, and drinking.

#### Exclusion for individuals who are exposed to COVID-19:

**NC DHHS recommends child care facilities no longer exclude individuals after an identified exposure to COVID-19 (regardless of location of exposure) unless they develop symptoms.**

Although exclusion from child care is no longer recommended following an exposure, when an individual with COVID-19 is identified at CJP:

- CJP administration will notify staff and families of individuals who have been exposed so they can receive appropriate public health guidance, testing, and access to any resources that might be needed.
- Individuals who have been exposed should:
  - Wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after the last know exposure, unless an exemption to mask use applies.
  - Be tested on day 5 after exposure, unless the individual tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 90 days.
    - If the exposed individual develops symptoms, he/she should stay home and get tested immediately.
    - The exposed individual may also choose to test immediately upon notification of exposure to start isolation period sooner if the test is positive.

## Summary Table for Returning to CJP after Exclusion

**For individuals exposed, day of exposure is considered day zero (0). For cases, day of symptom onset is day zero (0) or day of specimen collection for cases with no symptoms.**

Exclusion Category	Scenario	Criteria to return to CJP
<b>Positive antigen or PCR without symptoms</b>	Individual has tested <b>positive</b> with an <b>antigen</b> and/or PCR test but does not have or develop symptoms of COVID-19.	Individual can return to CJP <b>5 days</b> after the specimen collection date of the <b>first</b> positive test, as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person must continue to mask for an additional <b>5 days</b> .
<b>Positive antigen or PCR test with symptoms</b>	Individual <b>has symptoms</b> of COVID-19 and has tested positive with <b>an antigen test or PCR/molecular test</b> .	Individual can return to CJP when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He/she completes <b>5 days</b> of isolation.; AND</li> <li>• It has been 24 hours since he/she had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine): AND</li> <li>• Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.</li> </ul> The person must continue to mask for an additional <b>5 days</b> .
<b>Symptoms with negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis</b>	Individual has symptoms of COVID-19 but has received a negative test for COVID-19 or has visited a health care provider and <b>received an alternate diagnosis</b> that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19. Alternate diagnosis must be in writing by a doctor and submitted to the CJP office in order to return.  *In an individual with symptoms, a negative test is defined as <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a negative PCR/molecular or antigen test or</li> <li>2. Or is fully vaccinated; or has had a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection within the last 3 months.</li> </ol>	Individual can return to CJP when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has been at least 24 hours since he/she had symptoms (without using fever reducing medicine); AND</li> <li>• He/she has felt well for at least 24 hours and is able to participate in all classroom activities.</li> </ul>

## Communication

We ask that you please use this link: [COVID-19 Symptoms & Testing](#) to notify us of your child's symptoms and/or testing status during both the weekday and on the weekend. This will ensure that we are receiving the most accurate health data from you in a timely and organized manner.

Please note the administrative team does not check brightwheel or consistently check email on the weekends. This form will serve as the primary communication tool to report positive COVID-19 cases and testing status.

Individual classes and any other exposed individuals will be notified of known direct exposures and confirmed cases only. This communication from CJP will include pertinent information such as symptom onset and exposure date.

## Calculating Isolation

The date of your exposure is considered day 0. **Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact with a person who has had COVID-19.** Child/staff member should stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days.

## Masking & PPE

### Masking

Consistent and correct mask use adds a layer of protection for the wearer and others in their environment.

- **NC DHHS no longer recommends universal mask requirements in schools or other lower risk settings like child care programs.**
- **Individuals must wear a well-fitting mask, unless an exemption to mask use applies, following a COVID-19 infection upon return to CJP for 10 days from**
  - **The day symptoms start (if the person has symptoms).**
  - **The day of specimen collection for individuals with no symptoms.**
- Individuals should wear a well-fitting mask after a known COVID-19 exposure for 10 days after the last know exposure, unless an exemption to mask use applies.

**At this time general mask wearing is optional for staff, students, and parents. CJP will support any individual ages 2 years and older who choose to wear a mask.**

### Personal Protective Equipment

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.

### Cleaning and Hygiene

CJP will follow NCDHHS Environmental Health Section guidance for cleaning and disinfection recommendations as well as North Carolina Child Care and Sanitation rules.

CJP will:

- Clean surfaces once a day, prioritizing high touch surfaces.
- If there has been a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean and disinfect the space using an EPA-approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2.

- Create a plan for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting that protects children and adults.
- Remove and not use toys that cannot be easily cleaned.
- Clean all toys that are used consistently.
- Maintain awareness of children's behaviors in the classroom in order to remove toys and objects which become contaminated with oral and/or respiratory secretions when the child is finished with it and clean as per our guidelines.
- Minimize items that are shared between groups/cohorts of children.
- Set up hand hygiene stations at the entrance of CJP so people can clean their hands before they enter their classrooms.
- Encourage individuals to cough and sneeze into their elbows or cover with a tissue, and avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.

## **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, to help reduce transmission risk.

**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.

## **LJCC Transfer Program**

The transfer program to the Levine Jewish Community Center (LJCC) is courtesy of the LJCC. We are reinstating the two-way transfer to the LJCC for classes beginning at 1:15pm and select swimming classes. This is subject to change at any time based on changes to COVID-19 protocols.

CJP does not manage COVID-19 exposures that occurred at other outside agencies or events including but not limited to LJCC transfers. Additionally, please be aware that the LJCC and CJP may have different guidelines as CJP is a licensed childcare center.