



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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*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
- Cohorting

Access to the Bernstein Education Building (CJP)

Access to CJP will be granted to students, parents/caregivers, staff, therapists, and emergency personnel only. Parents/caregivers must drop off outside of the classroom.

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 along with known direct exposure the student/staff member is required to be tested for COVID-19.

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

Testing

If a student or staff member **has known exposure** to COVID-19, **and has symptoms** they must test in order to return to CJP. All testing mechanisms (antigen, PCR) are acceptable.

Symptoms, Exposure, and Exclusion

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 **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.

CJP no longer excludes individuals after an identified exposure to COVID-19 (regardless of location of exposure) unless they develop symptoms.

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
Positive antigen or PCR without symptoms	Individual has tested positive with an antigen and/or PCR test but does not have or develop symptoms of COVID-19.	Individual can return to CJP 5 days after the specimen collection date of the first positive test, as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person must continue to mask for an additional 5 days .
Positive antigen or PCR test with symptoms	Individual has symptoms of COVID-19 and has tested positive with an antigen test or PCR/molecular test .	Individual can return to CJP when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He/she completes 5 days of isolation.; 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. The person must continue to mask for an additional 5 days .
Symptoms with negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis	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. 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"> 1. a negative PCR/molecular or antigen test or 2. Or is fully vaccinated; or has had a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection within the last 3 months. 	Individual can return to CJP when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 24 hours since he/she had symptoms (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • He/she has felt well for at least 24 hours and is able to participate in all classroom activities.

Communication

We ask that you please use this link: [COVID-19 Symptoms & Testing](#) to notify us of your child's confirmed COVID case.

Individual classes and will be notified of 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

Consistent and correct mask use adds a layer of protection for the wearer and others in their environment. Those who are infant to 3 years old are exempt from wearing masks to return to school after a confirmed case.

- **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.**

At this time general mask wearing is optional for staff, students, and parents.

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. CJP will do its best to remain in classroom cohorts between 8:00a-5:00p. From 7:00am to 8:00am and 5:00pm-6:00pm classrooms in each grade level often integrate.

LJCC Transfer Program

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.