

10 Elul, 5780
August 30, 2020

Dear Bnos Yisroel Parents & Staff Members:

Thank you for your patience as we work towards reopening, BEZ"H. After meeting with our Covid Reopening Task Force and reviewing the guidelines of the Governor, the following is the Reopening Plan for Bnos Yisroel. We are well aware that there are many factors at play, and this plan may need to be modified and adjusted. We plan to e-mail you immediately should any changes be necessary.

We will make all reasonable efforts to implement the 6-foot distancing rule to the greatest extent possible.

OPENING DAY:

- School with BEZ"H begin on time and in person.
- Thursday, September 3, 2020 will be a short day. PS/ES will end at 11:45 and MS/HS will end at 12:30.

MORNING CARPOOL/DROP OFF GUIDELINES:

- We will be using the AM Carpool guidelines we implemented in the middle of last year. Detailed directions will be sent in a separate email.
- Parents who participate in carpools must insist that masks are worn, should try hard to enforce distancing, and should keep the windows open regardless of the weather.

MORNING ARRIVAL TIME:

- Carpools/parent drop offs that are restricted to Middle School and High School girls, and do not include any Preschool or Elementary students, can be dropped off beginning at **8:15**. Elementary students can be dropped off beginning at **8:30**. Preschool can be dropped off beginning at 8:45. If there is a mixed Preschool/Elementary School carpool, they can be dropped off beginning at **8:40**. Preschool only drop-offs should begin at **8:45**.
- Students **must** enter the building as follows:
 - ES & HS students will use the MAIN ENTRANCE
 - PS & MS students will use the PRESCHOOL ENTRANCE
- Upon arrival students should go DIRECTLY to their CLASSROOMS
- We understand that these guidelines might cause students to arrive to class a bit later than usual and plan to be lenient in this regard.

TAKING TEMPERATURES

- PS & ES school students will have their temperature taken and recorded by their teacher.
- MS & HS students will take their own temperature via a touchless device and will be supervised by a staff member.
- ANY STUDENT WITH AN ELEVATED TEMPERATURE WILL BE SENT TO THE MAIN OFFICE FOR FURTHER EVALUATION.

COVID SYMPTOMS

- Any students or staff members who exhibit **any** of the following symptoms, which may be an indicator of COVID, may **NOT** come to school:
 - Fever above 100.4
 - Chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Gastrointestinal issue of any type
 - Sudden loss of taste and/or smell
- If you have any questions about your symptoms, please contact your personal doctor and consider not sending your child to school until you are confident your child is well.
- **NEGATIVE CORONA TEST:** If the person experiencing symptoms tests negative - they should remain home until:
 - No fever for **3 days and**
 - Symptom-free for 3 days
- **POSITIVE CORONA TEST:** If the person experiencing symptoms tests positive - they must remain home for **10 days** since the first symptom and must be symptom and fever-free for a minimum of three days before returning to school.
- If your child tests positive for corona, please notify us immediately via email: covid@bnosvisroel.org

EXPOSURE:

- EXPOSURE is defined by the CDC is defined as within 6 feet with no mask.
- Students who have been **EXPOSED** to an immediate family member person with COVID symptoms, but they themselves have NO symptoms, may come to school.
- Students who have been exposed to a person who tests **POSITIVE** for COVID, and that person **HAS** symptoms, the student may not come to school:
 - for either 10 days from symptom onset
 - or until they provide a negative corona test.
- Students who have been exposed to a person who tests POSITIVE for COVID, and that person **HAS NO** symptoms, the student may come to school **BUT MUST** be tested for

COVID within 2 days. Please email covid@bnosyisroel.org to notify us of exposure to someone who tests positive.

MASKS & PPE:

- Students in grades K-12 will need to wear masks at all times when in the building. Masks need to cover mouths and noses.
- Students in daycare and JN & SN do not need to wear masks, but their teachers and assistants must wear masks at all times.
- Masks can be any color, but should not include characters, words, or pictures. Masks with small patterns (dots/squares, etc.) are allowed.
- We have ordered Plexiglass shields for every student and teacher desk and they are set to arrive in Mid-September. Once the shields arrive, this policy will be updated if changes are possible.
- Each student will be given a fanny pack with her name on it. Fanny packs should be worn during the day and be kept in school each night. Each fanny pack will be prepared with: 2 disposable masks and 1 small packet of tissues. The girls should put their personal hand sanitizer (from the supply list) in their fanny pack as well. By wearing these, we will cut down on the need to share basic items in and out of the classroom. Extra masks and tissues will be available division offices should a student run out of supplies.

CLASSROOMS:

- Students must wear masks while in the classroom.
- Aside from the supplies in the fanny packs, there will be hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes in every room. These supplies will be replenished frequently.

TENTS:

- Tents will be set up for every division. When outside in tents and socially distanced, masks may be removed.
- Teachers will be encouraged to allow for frequent mask breaks and increased outdoor learning to benefit all students.

RECESS & GYM

- The playground schedule has been adjusted so that there are fewer students outside during breaks.
- The playground has been divided in half so students can stay in their own section while allowing **two** grades to enjoy the playground without interacting.
- When outside for recess and gym, and socially distanced, masks may be removed.
- Gym will take place outdoors, weather permitting, and will be modified so there are no contact sports.

LUNCH & SNACK:

- Cups will be distributed for students to label and keep with their supplies and should be used for personal washing.
- Lunch and snack will be distributed directly to the classrooms.
- Due to the fact that not all Elementary classes have sinks, Elementary students will not be **required** to wash for lunch, as they usually are, but can wash at the main sinks, with the cup provided, if they wash.
- Middle School & High School students are not required, but may wash for lunch.

BUILDING:

- Water fountains are touchless and can still be used to fill up water bottles.
- We have planned a more intense cleaning schedule, including specific cleaning regimens after bathroom use.

VISITORS:

- Please note that we will uphold a strict "NO visitor" policy and only paid staff members and outside support specialists will be allowed in the building. Please work hard to ensure your child/ren come with all necessary supplies.
- Our GUARDS will enforce this policy to minimize potential exposure from non-staff members.
- Parent meetings, when necessary, will take place via ZOOM.

DISTANT LEARNING

- If a student has a positive COVID test, or is living in a house of someone with symptoms and a positive test, they are required to stay home for an extended period. In this situation, we would provide a combination of ZOOM and other distant learning options. We are not able to promise ZOOM all day, as there are many variables that must be taken into consideration.
- There are a limited number of students who are in a situation where they cannot attend school, and we have communicated with them privately to set them up for success.
- We will not be providing ZOOM learning for students with regular absences (planned, sick but not with Covid, etc.).
- Once you determine that your child is REQUIRED to stay home for an extended period of time, please EMAIL covid@bnosyisroel.org and someone on our staff will be in touch with you to discuss distant learning.
- Different divisions will have different Distant Learning plans, so please email us so the proper divisions are notified and will communicate with you.

COVID MEDICAL HOTLINE & EMAIL

- We will have a **COVID Medical hotline** open each morning from **7:30 - 8:30 AM**. Once you have read and understand the policy, if you still have specific questions about sending your child that day, please call the **HOTLINE at 443-228-6755**. This hotline will be covered by a nurse or a trained nursing student each morning. If there is no answer, please leave a message and **DO NOT** send your child until your concern has been addressed.
- If you have general COVID questions that are not time sensitive, or if you want to advise that your child or someone in your family has symptoms and tested positive, and will be home for an extended period, please EMAIL covid@bnosyisroel.org.

COVID 19 TUITION POLICY UPDATE:

Bnos Yisroel follows the direction of our Vaad Harabonim and Board of Directors for exceptions to school policies.

- Bnos Yisroel will consider your signed tuition contract as a commitment to pay the full tuition and fees the entire year. If a Covid 19 building shut down is required, grades K-12 will continue school through distance learning and refunds will not be offered.
- **Exception: Junior and Senior Nursery OPT-OUT option:** We understand that for some 3 and 4 year old children distance learning is not possible. Therefore, should circumstances necessitate closure of the building, Bnos Yisroel plans to offer a zoom option for these grades, however Bnos Yisroel will give parents the choice of NOT PARTICIPATING AND RECEIVING a 90% refund of the tuition assessed for 20-21 (detailed below) while pausing their daughter's enrollment during that time period. If a nursery student joins the shortened, modified zoom program they will be asked to pay regular tuition.
 - For those requesting a refund for JN or SN ONLY: Bnos Yisroel agrees to refund/stop payment on a maximum of 90% of Junior or Senior Nursery tuition assessed for 20-21, prorated after a closure of 14 consecutive days. This refund will be calculated based on 90% of the tuition owed during the days that the school building is closed (after the 14 days) and tuition payment will resume once the building can open safely.

The health and safety of every student and staff member in Bnos Yisroel is our foremost priority. We are working tirelessly to ensure that school can open, and stay open, in a safe and meaningful way.

Thank you again for being our partners. Please feel free to email us with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ahuvah Heyman, School Director
Mrs. Sara Itzkowitz, Principal
Rabbi Yochanan Stengel, High School Principal