



BLPS COVID GUIDELINES

Guidelines for Remaining Open

Please know that the safety of our children, staff, and families is our preeminent concern. Therefore, all safety measures will be strictly enforced for the wellbeing of all. The general guidance for BLPS is based on the CDC, Fairfax County Health Department, and the VA Department of Education.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school office.

BLPS GUIDELINES

Hours of Preschool Operation (beginning Fall 2021):

- Our preschool hours of operation will be Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hours of Kindergarten Operation (beginning Fall 2021):

- Our kindergarten hours of operation will be Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Drop-off/Pick-up:

- Drop-off and Pick-up will be conducted curbside only.
- A visible sign must be placed on the windshield (passenger side) with your child's name and classroom. These signs will be provided during your Meet the Teacher appointment.

- All parents are required to submit a daily digital wellness form prior to drop-off via the Brightwheel app. The wellness form must be submitted by drop-off, or your child will not be permitted into the building.
- All students will have their temperature checked before exiting the vehicle. Children with a temperature reading of 100 degrees or more will not be allowed in school that day (see below for further details on fevers).
- Teachers will escort your child to their assigned classroom. Classes will stay separated throughout the day, with the exception of outdoor play time.
- Children and staff must wash/sanitize their hands upon arrival.
- Pick-up will work the same as Drop-off. Your child and their belongings will be brought to you curbside. Preschool Pick-up will begin at 12:50 p.m. Kindergarten Pick-up will begin at 1:50 p.m.
- In order to promote stable groups and social distancing, additional children, family, friends, etc. will not be allowed in the preschool building, other than for their scheduled Meet the Teacher and Parent/Teacher Conference appointments.
- ALL individuals who enter the building must sign in and have their temperature taken. This is to help assist with contact tracing if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 at our center.
- Early pick-ups will be done curbside. Should you need to pick up your child early, please call the school office from the curb (703-765-8687) and a staff member will bring your child to you.

Social Distancing:

- Teachers will implement small group activities and encourage individual play/activities.
- All supplies will be sanitized daily.
- Each classroom will operate in a set pod. Pods are comprised of 2 classrooms. The playground will be limited to no more than one pod at a time.
- Chapel time will be scheduled weekly with each classroom pod.

- Children will remain with their “class pods” throughout the day to reduce possible exposure.
- The same teachers will be with each class throughout the day to reduce possible exposure.

Meal-Time:

- **Classroom lunch pods are suspended at this time. Classes will remain separate for lunch and may eat in their classroom, cafeteria or outdoor picnic area.**
- Snack time will take place in the classroom.

Cleaning and Sanitization Procedures:

- Hand sanitizer is available in all classrooms.
- The school will be professionally cleaned and sanitized daily.
- Increased hand washing and sanitization for children will be required.

Water Bottles:

- In order to reduce exposure, communal water fountains will no longer be used.
- Each child will be required to bring a water bottle, labeled with their name. Their water bottle will be available for them to use throughout the day. Water bottles are stored in individual compartments. All bottles must be taken home, washed, and returned daily.

Face Coverings:

- All children ages 2 and over are required to wear a face mask at all times, including recess. Mask will be removed during snack and lunch times only.
- Please make sure your child has their masks on properly (covering their mouth and their nose) at drop-off.
- BLPS Staff are also required to wear a face mask at all times.
- All fabric masks must be taken home and washed daily.
- Please send your child to school with (2) additional masks in their backpack.

Illnesses:

- Children must be symptom-free prior to entering the school. Symptoms include, but are not limited to: shortness of breath, coughing, fatigue, muscle pain, sore throat, rash of unknown origin, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, watering eyes, fever of 100 degrees or higher, runny nose, and chills.
- Should your child exhibit any of the above symptoms, they must stay out of school for at least 24 hours and may be required to have a signed “Safe To Return” waiver before returning to school.
- In case of a fever, your child must stay out of school for 24 hours, without fever reducing medication. Your child **MUST** be cleared by a doctor in order to return. **All fevers need to be reported to the school office immediately.**
- Children who develop the above listed symptoms while at school must be picked up within one hour and be cleared with a doctor’s permission to return to school.

Travel

- Students traveling internationally are **REQUIRED** to quarantine for 7 days upon return and have a negative COVID PCR test to return to school. COVID PCR tests can not be taken before day 7 of quarantine. BLPS requires a copy of the negative test result to return to school.

POSITIVE CASE PROTOCOLS

All positive cases (or COVID-19 like symptoms) should be reported to the office immediately.

The CRO (Covid Response Officer) is required to report all positive cases to the FCHD (Fairfax County Health Department), who will then conduct an investigation. The FCHD will contact trace and provide additional information to those who are considered “at risk”.

POSITIVE CASE WITHIN CLASSROOM

In the event that a classroom member tests positive for COVID, the classroom in question **may be** required to quarantine for **5-10 days** (quarantine dates/times and stipulations are determined by the Health Department). These students are considered a “close contact” and a negative PCR test, or doctor’s clearance, may be required to return to class.

POSITIVE CASES AND THEIR SIBLINGS

Students who test positive for COVID-19 are required to quarantine for **10 days**, regardless of vaccination status. Siblings of positive cases should follow the guidelines below (please see *Positive Case or Close Contact Within Your Immediate Household* for further information).

ALL POSITIVE CASE students are required to have a negative PCR COVID test in order to return to class. A doctor's not may be accepted, in lieu of a negative test, on a case by case basis.

POSITIVE CASE OR CLOSE CONTACT WITHIN YOUR IMMEDIATE HOUSEHOLD

If you have a close contact within your immediate household protocols are as follows:

Unvaccinated students in mask mandatory classrooms- should immediately quarantine for **10 DAYS**. After 10 days, a student must be symptom free, be able to properly wear a mask, and have a negative PCR COVID test (or doctor’s clearance) in order to return to class.

Unvaccinated students in Kindergarten classrooms- *should immediately quarantine and get a COVID PCR test on day 5 of quarantine.*

-If COVID PCR test is negative:

*student can return to school immediately and continue to monitor their symptoms.

*Student must be symptom free, and able to properly wear a mask, in order to return to class.

-If a students PCR test is positive or exhibiting symptoms:

*Student must continue to quarantine for 5 more days.

*After 10 days a student may return to class with a negative COVID PCR test. *A doctor's note may be accepted, in lieu of a negative test, on a case by case basis.*

*Student must be able to properly wear a mask in order to return to class.

Unvaccinated students in unmasked classrooms- must quarantine for 10 days, be symptom free, and have a negative PCR COVID test or doctor's clearance in order to return to class.

Staff and vaccinated students

Individuals who are considered a "close contact", and are vaccinated, are able to continue coming to school as long as the following apply:

-You are fever free and have not taken fever reducing medication.

-You have not been experiencing any COVID-like symptoms.

-You are able to wear your mask at all times while on school grounds.

If a vaccinated individual begins to exhibit symptoms they will be required to quarantine for 5-10 days. BLPS quarantine times and guidelines are determined by the FCHD.

Vaccinated individuals who have to quarantine may be required to have a negative PCR COVID test or doctor's clearance in order to return. The office will notify you of the necessary documentation.

CLASSROOM SHUT-DOWNS

A classroom may be required to close/quarantine due to a COVID outbreak. Classroom closures are determined by the FCHD and CRO. In this case, the following guidelines will apply:

Pre-k and Kindergarten classes - will move to virtual learning consisting of packets and virtual circle time.

Jr. Pre-k- will move to virtual learning consisting of packets and virtual check-ins.

3's, 2's, Toddler classes- Will move to recorded story-times and/or circle time.

COVID-19 Reporting:

- In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 at BLPS, all affected families will be notified, without breaking confidentiality. We will follow health department guidelines, which may include closure for an undetermined amount of time.
 - Confirmed cases will be reported to the Health Department and VA Department of Licensing to identify the close contacts who will need to quarantine. **The Fairfax County Health Department will determine required operational procedures (that may include a temporary school closure) as well as quarantine & testing time-frames.**
- In the event that there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the classroom (by a student, teacher or staff member) :
- *All families of that classroom will be notified.
 - *The entire classroom MAY BE required to quarantine for **5-10 days**, unless stated otherwise.
Quarantine dates/times are determined by the Health Department.
 - ***BLPS siblings of all confirmed positive cases** are also required to quarantine, regardless of the class that they are in.
 - *If a student is notified as having had “close contact” with a positive case, that child/will be required to immediately quarantine.

ALL POSITIVE CASE students and personnel must have a negative PCR COVID test in order to return to school after quarantine. All POSITIVE CONTACT students may also be required to have a negative PCR COVID test and/or doctor's clearance, in order to return to school. The office will notify all **POSITIVE CASES/CONTACTS of the necessary documentation in order to return.**

Student Name

Class

Parent Signature

Date