

FUCHS MIZRACHI SCHOOL

COVID-19 POLICY HANDBOOK

2020

These are certainly trying times. Virtually no aspect of our lives has gone untouched by the pandemic we are experiencing now. Schools are no different. The Fuchs Mizrahi School, with the guidance of our Medical Advisory Committee, has made the determination that though there are health risks in returning to school in-person, it is still in the best interest of the students to do so. The two primary factors driving this decisions are:

- The benefits of in-person learning for our students
- The ability we have as a school to mitigate health risks

Make no mistake - the decision to return to school isn't because there is no longer a risk. We are returning to school despite there being a risk. Doing so requires increased vigilance on the part of every member of our community and tremendous adherence to all elements of transmission prevention - both in school and out of school.

In returning to school, we have had to revisit every aspect of the school day, taking into account the impact of COVID-19. What follows is a handbook of our policies and procedures, all of which require our full attention while we still deal with this pandemic. We have collaborated with our Medical Advisory Committee, the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, and with other local Jewish day schools, and have coordinated with local and national health agencies to ensure we are following best practices. It is our hope that the need for this handbook is short-lived. In the interim, we thank you for partnering with us in minimizing the health risks our students, faculty, and staff are exposed to.

TEMPERATURE TRACKING AND SYMPTOM SCREENING POLICY:

- **No one - student, teacher or staff - who is feeling sick should enter the Mizrahi school building.**
- All students and staff will have their temperature checked with a no-touch thermometer before entering the Mizrahi building in the morning.
 - *Care should be taken to maintain social distancing while lining up for pre-entry temperature checks.*
 - *Multiple entrances, each with a dedicated screener, have been designated to save time and decrease crowding.*
- Anyone with a fever (>38.0 C or 100.4 F) will be sent home, but can remain in a separate, designated area until transportation arrives. Parents should be prepared to pick up a symptomatic or febrile child within 30 minutes of notification.
- Regular screening for symptoms is important to prevent potentially infected individuals from entering the building. Nobody - whether student, teacher, staff, administrator or parent - should enter the building if they had any of the following within the past 3 days:
 - *Fever (temperature greater than 100.4 F/38.0 C), or suspected of having had a fever and took a fever lowering medication like Tylenol or Advil*
 - *Fatigue, chills or muscle aches*
 - *New cough, chest tightness or shortness of breath*

TEMPERATURE TRACKING AND SYMPTOM SCREENING POLICY CONTINUED

- Sinus pain or nasal congestion
 - Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
 - Loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Close contact with any presumed or confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Individuals with symptoms may return to school after they are symptom free (and have not developed any new symptoms) for at least 72 hours.
 - A symptom screening should be performed regularly for all students and staff.

HOLDING AREA

- Areas have been designated for isolation of students or staff who, during the course of the school/work day, are found to have fever, symptoms or close contact with a COVID-19 case.
- The area will:
 - Be easily accessible and well ventilated
 - Have easy access to a bathroom
 - Include:
 - Chair or cot
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Bottled water
 - Bucket in case of vomiting
 - Tissues
- When someone is sent to this room:
 - Document name, contact # and time of entry/exit
 - Adults will be available to supervise the area from outside of the room
 - As soon as the individual leaves the area, all surfaces will be cleaned carefully, doors/windows will be opened and/or fan turned on and there will be a 15-minute wait before anyone else is allowed in that space.

CHILD PRESENTS TO SCHOOL NURSE

- Difficulty breathing?
- Sweaty hands/feet - cool to the touch?
- Confused or difficult to arouse?

NO

Any of the following?

- Fever (>100.5F)?
- Cough, wheezing or persistent chest discomfort?
- Chills or muscle aches?
- Nasal congestion or sinus pain?
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea?
- Severe abdominal pain?

YES

- CALL EMS
- Isolate child with adult supervision until EMS arrives.
- Contact parents once child has been evaluated by EMS

YES

- CALL PARENTS
- Isolate child
- Child will need to leave school within 30 minutes
- Follow-up with Pediatrician prior to return to school

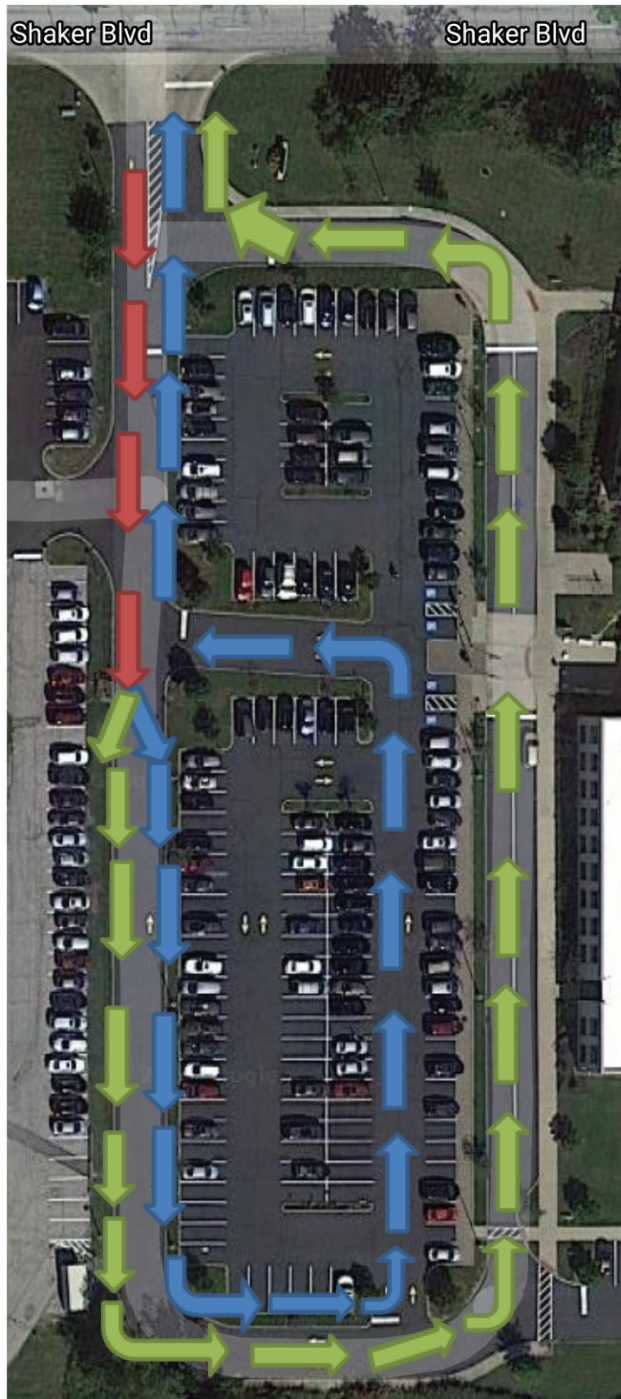
NO

- Standard treatment

ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

- Prior to arrival, please make sure that you have filled out and submitted the online health assessment symptom check.
- There are no staff members to supervise children prior to 7:45 am. Therefore, students should NOT be dropped off at school prior to this time. They will not be allowed into the school before 7:45 am.
- **Designated Entrances:**
 - North Entrance (a.k.a. ECP Entrance) - Genshaft Early Childhood Students
 - West Main Entrance (a.k.a. Front Entrance)
 - RIGHT SIDE (next to the security booth) - Lower School - grades 1-3
 - LEFT SIDE (next to the staircase) - Junior High - grades 6-8
 - West Side Entrance (to the right of the main entrance when facing the school) - Lower School - grades 4-5 only
 - South Entrance (a.k.a. Athletic Entrance) – Stark High School - grades 9-12
- **Carpool Zones** - please review the diagram below
 - Families with ECP students (even if there are also students in other divisions) will follow the green arrows and stay in the right/outside lane upon entry.
 - Parents should unbuckle their children once they have pulled up.
 - ECP teachers will meet the students at their car, take their temperatures, and escort them into the building.
 - All other families (dropping off Lower School, Junior High School, and Stark High School students) will follow the **blue arrows**, will turn into the parking lot prior to reaching the front of the school, and will stop at the flagpole to drop off the student.
 - Teachers will assist students in crossing the lanes in front of the school.
- **Alternatives:**
 - Parents may park and walk their children to their designated entrances.
 - Please DO NOT park and leave your car in the drop-off-zones.
 - High School students may only park by the athletic entrance.
 - Any siblings who arrive with them will walk to their designated entrances
 - Nobody else should park in that section of the parking lot.
 - Buses will drop students off directly in front of the school, where they will be directed by staff/faculty to the appropriate entrance.

CARPOOL ZONES



↓ = if there is
at least one
ECP child
in your car

↓ = no ECP
children in
your car

OR

If you plan
to park and
walk to the
door

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

- ECP and Lower School dismissal will begin @ 3:20 PM.
 - *To help manage the flow of traffic:*
 - *If you are also picking up Junior High or High School students, please do not arrive before 3:40 PM.*
 - *If you are only picking up ECP and Lower School students, please do not arrive after 3:30 PM.*
- Junior High and High School dismissal will begin @ 3:40 PM.
- Students in all divisions will be dismissed directly from their classrooms to the buses.
- Buses will depart school at 3:45 PM.
- Student pickup will use the same zones and lanes as the arrival process.
 - *All families will be provided car signage with the family's last name to be placed in the windshield. The signs will be distributed on the first day of school at drop off or sent home with students. During pickup please make sure the car signage is visible.*
 - *Students will be called and escorted by staff members while parents (caregivers) remain in their car.*
 - *Faculty/staff and High School students who are taking children/siblings home should come to the front desk where the students will be called from their classrooms. They will then walk together to their cars.*

Please note: traffic will become one way after the last *red arrow* (see diagram above)

FACE COVERING POLICY

○ General Guidelines:

- A face covering should be in place prior to entry and should not be removed until the individual leaves the building.
- Students should not share face coverings .
- Hand sanitizer should be used whenever the face covering is put on or taken off.
- Mizrahi should keep a supply of disposable masks on hand near the entrance. However, students are responsible for bringing their own masks and should not rely on the school's supply.

○ Acceptable Face Coverings :

- Not all face coverings provide the same degree of protection. Students and staff are encouraged to review the available information before purchasing a face covering. The CDC website provides a good starting point: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>. More detailed information, particularly concerning homemade cloth masks, is available from the WHO: [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)-outbreak](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak).
- Any face covering must provide coverage of both the entire mouth and nose. It should be a barrier to transmission for both the wearer and all those around him or her. For that reason, masks with a one way exhalation valve or vent are not acceptable.
- Individuals who desire the highest possible level of protection should consider using a medical grade N95 mask (properly fitted) along with eye protection.
- A 3 ply, disposable “surgical” mask is an acceptable face covering, but should be thrown away at the end of the day and not re-used. If a mask of this type becomes wet or soiled, it should be replaced immediately.
- A cloth face mask is acceptable if it covers the entire nose and mouth and is firmly secured with ear loops or ties. A 3-layer cloth mask provides the best protection for both the wearer and those around him or her. Single layer coverings, such as a bandana, are not recommended. Cloth masks should be washed regularly and should be discarded if excessive wear prevents them from functioning appropriately.
- **Face Shields**
 - According to some experts, clear plastic face shields are an alternative to cloth face masks. At this time, however, neither the CDC nor the Ohio Department of Health endorse plastic face shields as a substitute for masks.
 - Both national and state organizations do recognize that, in special educational circumstances, face shields are an acceptable alternative. According to the Ohio Department of Health, this includes:
 - When interacting with students, such as those with disabilities, where communication could be impacted.
 - When interacting with English-language learners or when teaching a foreign language.

- Settings where cloth masks might present a safety hazard (i.e. science labs)
 - For individuals who have difficulty wearing a cloth face covering
 - If a face shield is used, it should originate at the forehead with no gap, wrap around the sides of the face, and extend well below the chin. It should be cleaned at least twice daily with disinfectant wipe or cleaning spray.
 - Students and staff members are welcome to utilize face shields to provide supplemental eye protection in addition to a mask.
- **Who is Required to Wear a Face Covering:**
 - All adults - teachers, staff, contractors and visitors – are expected to wear a face covering while in the Mizrahi building, except while alone in a closed room or office.
 - Older Mizrahi students will be expected to wear face coverings throughout the day while inside the building, with the following qualifications:
 - ECP students and children under 6 years old will not be expected to wear a face covering.
 - For families with children in that age range who do want their children to wear a face covering, teachers and staff will do their best to encourage this during the school day.
 - Consistent with the State mandate, students from Kindergarten through 12th grade will be expected to wear a face covering.
 - **Face Covering: Indoors, Outdoors and Special Situations:**
 - Students do not need to wear a face covering during outdoor recess if appropriate distancing is maintained.
 - During most physical education and sports activities, students involved in active play do not need to wear a face covering.
 - If there is a situation where a student or staff member can tolerate neither a mask nor a face shield, this should be discussed with the division head.

HAND HYGIENE

- Frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer is essential for infection control. Students and staff will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer at regular intervals.
- **At a minimum, hand sanitizer will be used:**
 - Upon entering the Mizrahi building (including after outdoor mask break or recess)
 - After using the restroom
 - After touching door handle, light switch or opening door into classroom
 - When entering/exiting the Bet Midrash or other public area
- No-touch dispensers have been placed around the building, and will be inspected several times per day to ensure that they are full.
- Additional hand sanitizers have been placed in every classroom and office.

CLEANING / DISINFECTING CHECKLIST

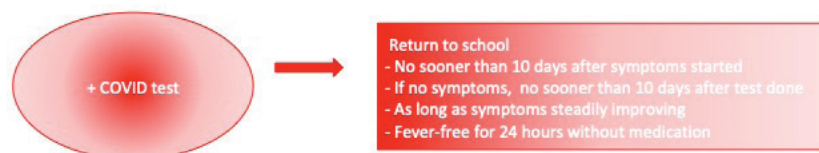
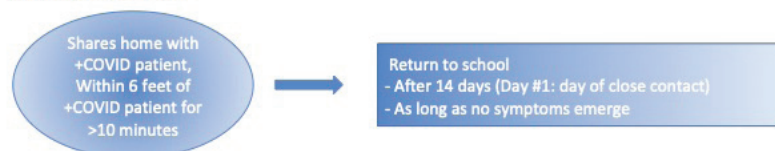
- ☐ All classrooms and meeting spaces:
 - ☐ Every time room is used:
 - ☐ Empty room for a period of time
 - ☐ Empty room for at least 10 minutes
 - ☐ Wipe down with standard disinfectant wipes or spray
(wipes can be placed in regular trash)
 - ☐ Door handle
 - ☐ Light switch
 - ☐ All desktop surfaces that have been occupied
 - ☐ All chairs that have been occupied
 - ☐ Plexiglass shields
 - ☐ Wash hands after wipe down
- ☐ Equipment that only needs to be cleaned between uses:
 - ☐ Computer keyboards
 - ☐ AV equipment
 - ☐ Wipe board markers
 - ☐ Cabinet handles
- ☐ Restrooms: clean 2x / day:
 - ☐ All door handles
 - ☐ Sink faucets
 - ☐ Outside of paper towel dispenser
 - ☐ Toilet flusher

INFECTION, CONTACT AND QUARANTINE

- Important Contact Information:
 - Cuyahoga County Board of Health COVID Call Center: 216.201.2000 COVID.
 - Email questions for County Board of Health: Suzanne Hrusch MPH, RS: shrusch@ccbh.net, cc_physicians@ccbh.net.
- Definition of Terms:
 - In day to day conversation and in the lay media, many terms are used interchangeably for “a person with COVID-19 who is capable of spreading the disease to others.” The terms used in public health, which we have adopted as Mizrahi policy, are:
 - **Confirmed case** : this is a person who tests positive for SARS-COV-2, the virus that causes COVID 19.

- **Presumed case:** *this is a person who, in the judgement of a physician, has symptoms that strongly suggest infection with COVID 19, usually after other explanations (influenza, strep etc) have been ruled out.*
 - **Close contact:** *following the guidelines of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, is defined as being within 6 feet of a confirmed or presumed case, for 10 minutes or more at a time, without a face covering. In most situations, this also includes siblings, parents and others who share a household with a confirmed or presumed case.*
 - **Exposure** is a less specific term; it is usually understand it to mean contact that falls short of the above criteria.
- **Symptoms:** *(are defined as any of the following)*
 - *Fever (temperature greater than 100.4 F/38.0 C), or suspected of having had a fever and took a fever lowering medication like Tylenol or Advil*
 - *Fatigue, chills or muscle aches*
 - *New cough, chest tightness or shortness of breath*
 - *Sinus pain or nasal congestion*
 - *Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain*
 - *Loss of sense of taste or smell*
- **Symptoms during school:** *If a student in the school develops symptoms or is found to have had close contact with a confirmed or presumed case of COVID-19:*
 - *Student should immediately be separated from rest of class and moved to a designated area within the school.*
 - *Parent should be contacted, and are expected to take the student home within 30 minutes.*
 - *Chair, desk and any other frequently touched surfaces should be cleared and wiped down with disinfecting wipe, then left for at least 15 minutes before being used by others.*
 - **Students who are sent home or kept home for symptoms must be symptom free for 72 hours before returning to school.**
 - **Note:** *Being in the same classroom as a student or staff member with symptoms does not count as a close contact unless the criteria above are met.*
- **Out of school cases or close contact may include:**
 - *Positive test for SARS-COV-2 based on PCR or molecular testing done at an accredited lab.*
 - *Close contact with a presumed or confirmed case (see above).*
 - **Note:** *Families and staff are responsible for notifying Mizrahi if they, their child or any member of their household has been exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19.*
- **Quarantine Policy:**
 - *Any known positive test or close contact should be reported to the appropriate state and/or county agency within 24 hours. See CCBH contact information above.*
 - *Mizrahi policy is to cooperate with all state and county officials, including contact tracing personnel, when investigating a potential outbreak.*

- All presumed, confirmed and close contacts of COVID 19 cases must self quarantine at home.
 - They are expected to have no contact with other members of the school community during that time.
 - Teacher should be prepared to adapt lesson plans and school work for virtual learning by students in quarantine.
- Return to school criteria (see diagram):
 - For confirmed or probable cases:
 - **Positive test and no symptoms**, they may return to school 10 days after the date the test was performed.
 - **Positive test and the presence of symptoms**, they may return to school no sooner than 10 days after the symptoms began. Before returning to school, their symptoms should have substantially improved and they should be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever lowering medications.
 - For individuals who are **close contacts** of individuals who are confirmed or probable cases: must quarantine at home for 14 days, with day #1 being the last date of contact.
- Notifications
 - It is important that we share information related to COVID-19 positive cases while respecting the privacy of the individual.
 - After making sure the appropriate health agencies are informed of any COVID positive case, we will notify parents of students who might have been in close contact with that student/ teacher/staff member.
 - At that point, please speak with your child to determine if he or she has had close contact with the person known to be infected.
 - Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a confirmed or presumed case, for 10 minutes or more at a time, without a face covering.
 - If your family is contacted by the local or state department of health, we ask that you provide them with complete and accurate information regarding your child's degree of contact with the case.

Confirmed COVID-19 infection:**COVID-19 close contact:**

- Confidentiality and privacy are both a legal mandate and a moral imperative, and we will only disclose identifying information concerning the affected individual on a need-to-know basis.
- **Additional information:**
 - At this time, a “negative test” for COVID-19 does not have a role in the return to school decision.
 - Mizrahi does not have an official policy regarding travel to a high incidence area. However, families are expected to adhere to State of Ohio guidelines regarding travel and isolation on return.
- **Physical education and competitive sports:**
 - Physical exercise and sports are educationally, developmentally and physically necessary for students of all ages. We will provide the broadest possible range of sports and physical education options for students, and we are committed to doing that safely.
 - Sports that take place outdoors and do not involve extensive physical contact can be considered low risk. This means that, as a general rule, we are comfortable with sports like soccer, softball/baseball and track/cross country are excellent options (as long as masks are not required outdoors).
 - We are uncomfortable with sports that involve a high likelihood of extended, close contact, such as tackle football or wrestling.
 - For all athletic activities, we will still minimize the risk of disease transmission. At a minimum, this means:
 - Students with symptoms should not participate.
 - Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes should be widely available and students should be cleaning their hands at regular intervals.
 - There is no sharing of water, towels, or athletic equipment.
 - We take steps to avoid crowding on benches, sidelines and dugouts.
- **Other aspects of the school day might differ from division to division, such as lunch, bathroom use, and locker use. Those details and others will be shared by each division separately.**