

The Bucket School Health and Safety Plan 2020/2021

These plans may continue to evolve as new information and guidelines become available. Our director will be responsible for updating this plan in coordination with guidance from the CDC and PA Department of Education. These plans are our interpretation of guidelines as to how they would best fit our school's mission.

Goals:

1. The health of Bucket School students, staff and families will be the first consideration in all decisions.
2. In-person interaction among the students and staff is of the utmost importance to our mission of fostering the social-emotional, physical, and academic development of our students in preparation for their future schooling.

How staff and families can help keep our Bucket School community safe:

1. Children and staff stay home if they are sick and ALWAYS err on the side of caution in the best interest of the school community.
2. Report all absences to the classroom teachers and director by phone or email (preferable) so we can track the possible spread of illness.
3. Parents should be easily accessible by phone and have a plan in place to pick up your child if we decide they are ill. This information will be on the emergency contact list that we require from parents found in our parent handbook.

Bucket School Procedures:

Morning Arrival:

- Staff will arrive by 8:30 am to allow time for screening and classroom set-up.
- All drop offs and pick-ups will happen in the alley this year unless otherwise notified.
- Please adhere to your child's class' designated time so that we are not causing traffic jams.
- Parents and staff members will be required to wear masks at the time of drop off.
- Parents will take their child out of the car and hand over to a staff member after a staff member has taken the child's temperature.
- Parents and visitors will be barred from entering the school building.
- Students must come to school on time. We will not accept late arrivals.

Screening Procedures:

- Each staff member will be screened daily with a temperature check.
- Staff members and parents will sign off on a waiver (to be handed in the first day of school) that they understand that they will not come to school if they answer yes to any of the COVID questions listed below.
- At drop off, we will require parents or caregivers to wear masks.
- A staff member will come to your car, you can roll down the window for us to take your child's temperature. Then we will ask you if anything has changed since you signed your waiver.
- At that point if the child is deemed well enough to come into school their parent/caregiver will take them out of the car and hand them over to a staff member.

1. Is anyone in your immediate family awaiting results for COVID or COVID positive?
2. In the past 14 days, has anyone in your immediate family had close contact with someone who has COVID?
3. Does your child have a sore throat?

4. Does your child have a cough?
5. Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?
6. Has your child received fever medication within the last 24 hours?
7. Does your child have any shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
8. Does your child have chills or repeated shaking with chills?
9. Does your child have a headache or muscle pain?
10. Has your child experienced nausea/vomiting/diarrhea in the past 24 hours?

- Any child or staff member answering “yes” to any question or displaying a fever at or above 99.5 F will not be admitted to TBS that day and may not return until fever-free for a minimum of 48 hours without the use of fever relief medication.
- Any child or staff who displays other visible symptoms of illness will not be accepted into school that day. This includes but is not limited to coughing, sneezing, runny nose, rash, and lethargy. A doctor’s certification is required for children with ongoing allergy symptoms to be admitted to school.

Cleaning of The Bucket School:

- Classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms will be cleaned nightly, in accordance to CDC guidelines.
- Staff will be asked to clean and disinfect toys, tables, etc. within their classrooms on an ongoing basis with supplies provided and per CDC guidelines.
- All high touch areas such as doorknobs, light switches, etc. will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.

Classrooms:

- Students and staff will wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds when entering the classroom and often throughout the day. In rooms where a hand washing sink is not available, hand sanitizer will be provided.
- All children and staff will be required to wear masks as mandated by the state. We highly suggest buying your child some type of clips or lanyard so that their masks don’t fall to the floor.
- Students will be given mask breaks throughout the day.
- All students will have two changes of clothes and 2 extra masks to be kept at school in a zip lock baggie labeled with their name on it.
- Student and staff groupings will be kept as static as possible. Classes will always remain a cohort with two teachers. Obviously if a staff member is absent, we will need to have a sub in the classroom.
- Students and staff will maintain social distancing as much as possible. We know that children, by nature, are unable to distance. However, we will keep children within their groups/cohorts and will not share common space.
- Three’s and Pre-K students will be given a pencil box for their use only. Included will be crayons, scissors, golf pencil, glue stick, and any other items the classroom teacher would like the children to have for individual use. All other materials such as paintbrushes, etc. will be disinfected between uses.
- Efforts will be made to limit the sharing of toys with other classes. Toys will be disinfected between uses and will be rotated in and out of the classroom for disinfection or time out from rotation.
- Centers will remain at 2-3 students per group. Materials and toys will be wiped down between usage or children will have their own individual items to use at the center.
- Disposable paper cups will be used for snack time to minimize items coming into the school.

- No toys will be brought to school at this time. If teachers decide to have show and tell, the children can bring pictures of their items because paper is very low risk.
- Lunches will be kept in buckets until lunch bunch time when we feel it safe to have lunch bunch.
- The library will not be used for classes as we will use this as our isolation room since it is next to the director's office. Teachers will choose and bring books to the classroom as needed and book exchange will occur each week. We will isolate books brought back to school for a period of 3 days.
- Use of shared spaces will be limited and used by one group at a time with proper cleaning afterward.
- We will limit one class per time in our outdoor play space.
- If we are fortunate enough to have mini worship and music, it will take place in each classroom instead of a big meeting area.

End of the Day:

- Car lines will resume as normal. In the alley. Parents or caregivers who are picking up must have a car tag.
- We will distance children as much as possible as they are waiting to be dismissed.

Lunch Bunch and Enrichment (When we feel it is safe to resume):

- Lunch bunch and enrichment will be held in rooms 9 & 10 as usual. Tables and chairs will be wiped down prior to coming back into the rooms.
- We are limiting our numbers to 20 children each day so that we can split them into groups of 10 or less in each room.
- Children will be distanced as much as possible when eating.
- We will try to take the children outside to play as long as we can.
- If we stay indoors, we will have designated toys for lunch bunch children to use and these will be cleaned daily.
- We will have one staff member per room with a floater in between.
- Enrichment students will use materials chosen for them that afternoon. They will all be clean prior to use and will be cleaned after use.

Sick Policy/Reporting Absences

It is critical that all families adhere to the sick policy of our school. In addition, we ask that if your child is ill, you call the school to report the absence. While leaving a message, please leave the reason for the absence (if illness) and when the symptoms began. This will help us with tracking.

Guarding the health of all the children is a big responsibility for the staff and one which makes it imperative that we have the cooperation of each parent. Parents should not knowingly send a sick child to The Bucket School. It is our policy to check all children to see that they are healthy. The staff will use its authority to send home any child exhibiting a fever or other symptoms of ill health. Parents are asked to inform their child's teacher immediately of any changes in a child's health or physical appearance, e.g., burns, bruises, skin rashes, constipation. Parents will be notified if the child becomes ill during the day and needs to be picked up from school. We will use the emergency contact information you provide on the Emergency Contact Form. Please use the following guidelines to assist in determining whether your child is well enough to attend school:

Immunizations

The Bucket School complies with the health and immunization regulations of the Pennsylvania State Board of Private Academic Preschools and is required to keep immunization records on file for every child who is enrolled. Families opposed to immunizations due to religious or moral beliefs must sign a waiver indicating their objection.

Fever

Children with fevers of 100 degrees or above should not be sent to school. The child should not return to school until fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours.

Vomiting and Diarrhea

Children should remain at home for 24 hours after vomiting or experiencing diarrhea.

Undiagnosed Rash

Children with an undiagnosed rash should remain home until the rash is gone or until your pediatrician determines it is not of a contagious nature.

Colds

Children with a cold should remain home until the symptoms are gone. The reason for this common sense rule is that not only should other children be spared the contact with the common cold in its most contagious form, but the whole school must be guarded against the possibility that this is not a simple cold at all.

Head Lice

Children with a suspected case of head lice should remain home until they have received proper treatment and after which careful and thorough combing with a nit comb shows no evidence of nits or lice. Families must notify the school immediately even if it is only a suspected case so the school community can take necessary precautions and all families can check their children. Lice can spread rapidly through a school; every family in the Playschool community shares the responsibility to prevent the spread of lice throughout the classrooms.

Antibiotics

Children placed on antibiotics should be kept home for at least 24 hours. Medicine Policy No medicine or treatment, except emergency first aid, shall be given to any child without a medical order or prescription from a licensed physician and the written consent of the parent or guardian. Any medicine so ordered or prescribed shall be clearly labeled as to the name of the child, the name of the medicine, the dosage, and the name and telephone number of the child's physician.

Medical Condition Policy

It is the parents' responsibility to notify the school of any medical, physical, or behavioral condition affecting their child. A meeting with the Directors and classroom teacher(s) may be scheduled to discuss the child's needs. Parents may be asked to sign an agreement listing your and The Bucket School's respective duties regarding your child. The Bucket School reserves the right to refuse admission to any child for whom reasonable accommodations cannot be made. In such an event, all deposit monies will be refunded. A child with life threatening allergies* must have an Emergency Care Form completed by a physician and provided to the school prior to the first day of school.

Sickness Reporting Policy

Per CDC guidelines, the director will report to parents if a child or staff member in a class has tested positive for the flu, strep, or has any other communicable disease such as hand, foot, and mouth, etc.

Sickness Procedures During Hours of Operation:

- When a staff member or child becomes sick during school, the staff member or child will be sent home immediately. Children will be safely isolated out of the classroom, in our library which will become our new isolation room, while parents are called to pick up their child.
- Parents will be required to pick up their child as soon as possible. We will call emergency contacts if we cannot connect with you. Parents need to call the school upon arrival, remain in your vehicle, and a staff member will bring your child out to you.
- Staff members or children who are sent home with a fever may not return until fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever relief medication.
- Staff and families will be notified by email if we feel the class has been exposed to any possible case of COVID-19 or any other highly communicable disease.
- All areas used by staff members and children of a suspected case of COVID-19 will be closed off until they have been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Sick staff members or children are asked not to return until they have met CDC criteria to stop home isolation (see Appendix).
- Those who have close contact to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay at home and self-monitor for symptoms. If symptoms do develop, CDC guidelines for home isolation should be followed. If symptoms do not develop, CDC guidance should also be followed.

In the event of COVID Exposure In the unlikely event that someone who has entered our school tests positive for COVID 19, we will follow the following health/safety guidelines from the Children's Hospital of PA. PLEASE READ THE GUIDELINES IN THEIR ENTIRETY:

CHOP POLICY FOR RE-OPENING.

#1 Symptomatic individual/child with test positive:

Exclude for 10 days from symptom onset AND at least 3 days after fever resolution (if present) AND improved respiratory symptoms

#2 Symptomatic individual/child not tested:

Exclude for 10 days from symptom onset AND at least 3 days after fever resolution (if present) AND improved respiratory symptoms

#3 Symptomatic individual/child who is determined to have an alternate cause or illness by their primary medical doctor:

Exclude until symptoms resolve

#4 Symptomatic individual/child with test negative:

Exclude until afebrile for 24 hours (if fever present) AND improved respiratory symptoms

#5 Exposed and asymptomatic:

Exclude for 14 days from last exposure if remains asymptomatic OR Exclude until meets criteria/guidance #1/#2 above if becomes symptomatic

Procedure:

1. All children and staff in the same classroom or who have come in close contact with (defined as greater than 15 minutes of interaction less than 6 feet away) should quarantine at home for 14 days, unless given alternate guidance from health department officials. Anyone who develops symptoms during that time should contact their health care provider and schools should follow guidance #1/2 above.
2. CDC recommended cleaning will take place. PLEASE NOTE, the school would be closed for 24 hours for this emergency cleaning.
3. Those who are not quarantining at home may return after the 24 hour cleaning takes place.

If a Confirmed Case of COVID-19 Has Entered the School:

- Chester County Department of Health (610-344-6225) will be contacted immediately.
- Students and most staff will be dismissed for 2-5 days-this initial short-term dismissal allows for local health officials to help us determine next steps.
- Staff, students, and families will be discouraged from gathering and socializing anywhere during this time.
- TBS will follow all guidance from local health officials.

Bucket School Health and Safety Plan Acknowledgement Form

The Bucket School is committed to doing all that we can to protect our community from the spread of illness, including Covid-19. TBS's Health and Safety Plan explains how our school and community will be impacted by new routines in the 2020-2021 school year. This plan is a living document that will be updated as needed.

It is very important that all families read the Health and Safety Plan carefully. We also ask that families support measures that prevent the spread of Covid-19 in our greater community. These measures include wearing a face mask when leaving home, avoiding areas with high rates of infection, and staying home when sick.

After you have read the school's plan, we ask that one person from your family complete this Health and Safety Acknowledgement Form. We will need this form completed and in our hands on the first day of school for your child.

_____ (Your Name)

_____ (Your Childs' Name)

Please sign in the space below to certify the following: I have read The Bucket School's Health and Safety Plan. I understand that the school may revise its policies in keeping with public health guidance at the time.

Please sign the space below to certify the following: I understand that in order to control my child's exposure in the community, I will be aware of, and follow to the best of my ability, state, county, and local safety orders, recommendations, and precautions. I will pay close attention to the DCD and State of PA guidance around travel to specific regions. If my family travels to these regions, I will follow CDC guidance for quarantining my family before returning to The Bucket School.

Please sign below to certify the following: I understand that for my child to attend school, my family must be free from Covid-19 symptoms. During the day, if any of the below symptoms appear, my child will be isolated, I will be contacted, and my child must be picked up within 30 minutes of being notified. If I cannot pick up in time, I will designate someone who can and communicate this to the school immediately. Symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, lack of smell or taste (without congestion), sore throat, chills, muscle aches or pain, headache, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

Please sign the space below to certify the following: I will immediately notify the director of The Bucket School if I become aware of any person with whom my child or I have had contact who is advised to self-isolate, quarantine, or has tested positive, or is presumed positive for Covid-19.
