



COVID-19 POLICY

Revised January 27, 2023

KAM Isaiah Israel values the health and safety of our staff, clergy, tenants and community. During this unprecedented time, in collaboration with our COVID-19 Task Force, we continue to reassess our policies and protocols depending on the situation on the ground relative to COVID-19. As we monitor COVID-19 cases in Chicago, we are updating our policies and protocols on a regular basis.

Metrics

KAM Isaiah Israel monitors the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 Community Levels](#) on a weekly basis (Thursdays or Fridays). As long as Chicago remains in the “low risk” or “medium risk” categories, mask wearing and other restrictions will be lifted. If Chicago moves into the “high risk” category, we will return to our more strict COVID-19 protocols including resuming universal masking. Announcements will be made to the community if changes to the COVID-19 policy are required.

As of Friday, January 27, 2023, Chicago's risk level is “LOW”

Masking

- Wearing a mask is encouraged at KAM Isaiah Israel, but not required.
- If you choose to wear a mask, the CDC continues to recommend that you wear the most protective mask you can, that fits well and that you will wear consistently.
- The temple office has a limited supply of disposable protective masks available in large (adult) and small (youth) sizes for anyone who would like a mask.
- We are mindful that many children remain unvaccinated. Keeping those families in mind, masks will still be required for all congregational events and programming for young children (eg. Tot Shabbat).

Meals / Eating / Drinking

In March 2022, KAM Isaiah Israel lifted restrictions placed on food and beverage.

Vaccination

KAM Isaiah Israel expects all people participating in services, programs, or other activities to be fully vaccinated when eligible.

According to the CDC, “fully vaccinated” means a person has received their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines. We are not requiring a booster at this time but encourage those that are eligible to receive a booster dose/third dose, as recommended. This may change based on CDC guidelines as to what “fully vaccinated” means.

All KAM Isaiah Israel clergy, staff, teachers, and independent contractors are confirmed to be up-to-date with vaccinations and boosters.

Policies/Protocols Still in Place

- In general, if you are not feeling well in any way, you should stay home and get tested for COVID-19
- The temple office has a limited supply of rapid antigen tests. Please feel free to contact the office if you or your family needs a test
- Hand sanitizer stations are provided
- Medical grade air purifiers clean the the air throughout the synagogue
- Our sanctuary, sanctuary lobby, and sanctuary lobby restrooms are temporarily closed for renovation as part of the *Mishpacha: Our Family. Our Future.* capital campaign. Shabbat services are held in the Stone Chapel.

Shabbat Services and Other Events

All Shabbat services, meetings, and programs have resumed gathering in person at the synagogue. Services and special events are also LiveStreamed online with links available in the “This Week at KAM” weekly newsletter.

If you need assistance accessing our services and programming online, please email: kamii@kamii.org or call the office at 773-924-1234.

Remaining Flexible

In a diverse community like KAM Isaiah Israel, we must respect the comfort level of all who enter our doors. Some will gladly rid themselves of masks. Others will not only be far more reticent to do so but will be hesitant to come to the synagogue as a result. We have a responsibility to ensure that KAM Isaiah Israel remains a place where everyone can feel comfortable as we move forward into a new phase. Those in the building may choose to continue to wear a mask for a variety of reasons, which we encourage and support. Reasons why one may continue to mask include: their own health, protecting the health of others, being around those who are unvaccinated or immunocompromised, the number of people at a gathering, and comfort.

Please do not hesitate to contact Scott Nelson, Acting Executive Director, at snelson@kamii.org or 773-840-2641 for any reason.