

Dear AABJ&D Family,

We are all aware of the recent uptick in COVID cases in the area, as well as several positive cases within our community. We are thankful everyone is doing well and are only experiencing mild symptoms.

We would like to remind the community of our policies regarding COVID prevention and exposure and share a few updates related to the recent changes.

1. The shul policy is for all non vaccinated individuals to wear a mask while indoors.
2. Fully vaccinated individuals who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 should be **tested 5-7 days following the date of their exposure** and wear a mask indoors for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. If you are living in a household with someone who tests positive for COVID, please consider this a close contact.

Close contact is defined by the CDC as someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. For example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes.

3. Do not come to shul with COVID symptoms; Isolate for 10 days if you test positive.

Policy Updates

After discussions with the COVID task force, the executive committee and based on CDC and NJ Department of Health guidance, we are implementing the following changes to our policy:

1. The shul strongly encourages masks to be worn throughout the building out of concern for each member of our shul, especially when in close proximity to other individuals, and in public spaces such as hallways and the social hall.
2. All weekday and Shabbat minyanim which take place in the Main Sanctuary will require masks for all participants, regardless of vaccination status. Other minyanim will continue unchanged, with masks being required only for those who are not vaccinated.
3. In order to reduce the transmission of COVID within our community, we will be suspending indoor kiddush and seudah shlishit for the next two weeks. Private events which are already scheduled may continue as planned at this time.

Note: Youth groups and events will continue to require masks for youth participants, regardless of vaccination status.

These guidelines will be in effect for two weeks and will be re-evaluated then or sooner as circumstances dictate.

We thank everyone for their continued cooperation as we balance the evolving COVID situation with the needs of our membership.

Rabbi Eliezer Zwickler
Rabbi Yosef Sharbat
Ilan Rosenrauch, President