



TEMPLE BETH EL
PRESCHOOL

Parent Handbook

**COVID-19 ADDENDUM
2020-2021**

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2020-2021 Parent Handbook Addendum

We are so excited to welcome our new and current families to Temple Beth El Preschool!

Temple Beth El Preschool wants to ensure that we have a plan in place to protect staff, children and their families from the spread of COVID-19. This addendum includes everyday preventive actions recommended by CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and other actions that we believe are necessary to control the spread of COVID-19.

According to the medical professionals, the virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Knowing these facts, Temple Beth El Preschool has implemented new safety measures for families, children and staff to follow so that we are an important part of reducing the spread and keeping everyone as healthy as possible.

The following information has been added or temporarily replaced in the 2020-2021 Parent Handbook and because of the very fluid situation, changes may continue to be made as deemed appropriate.

Parent Precautions Before and After Coming In to School

- Take and record your child's temperature before drop-off each day. Anyone with a fever of 100.0 or above must be excluded from school. Fever reducing medications do NOT qualify your child to enter school premises.
- LEAVE YOUR CHILD HOME IF ANY SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF ANY ILLNESS EXIST WITH YOUR CHILD OR A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER.
- (If possible), have the same parent drop off/pick up daily.
- Bathe your child immediately after coming home from school.
- Dress your child in clean clothes each morning.
- Bedding will be sent home on Friday or on last day of school and MUST be washed before sent back
- As a family commit to social distancing.

Weekly Shabbat and Holiday Programs

For the time being our weekly Shabbat will be celebrated by each classroom individually.

Open Door Policy

Only staff members and children will be allowed in the building after temperature checks.

Parent Volunteers

A parent's participation in the classroom is a special treat for the children and teachers. You will be invited to help out once CDC guidelines permits.

Hours of Operation for the Preschool

The Preschool is open Monday through Friday.

Full-time attendance is from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Part-time attendance is from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

VPK only is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We might offer extended care if we have sufficient interest from parents.

Emergency Closings

If one of our students or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19 Temple Beth El Preschool will do the following:

- Notify families and staff of the exposure.
- Close the program and re-open after deemed fit by Broward County Health Department. Strict guidelines will be followed by the Health Department.
- Determine who was in close contact with the child/staff member at the program.
- Exclude the children and staff members who are determined to have had close contact with the affected/child/staff member for 14 days after the last day they had contact with the affected child/staff member.
- Perform a thorough cleaning and disinfecting of the facility.

Arrival

Drop-off will be carpool only. Parents are requested to remain in the car. Upon arrival, a staff member will perform a quick health check including recording your child's temperature. Please take and record your child's temperature before you arrive each day. Anyone with a fever of 100.0 or above must be excluded from school. (See Symptoms and Exclusions below.) Any special instructions or information regarding your child can be verbally communicated to the teacher and the information will be noted on the Health and Safety Screening Form.

We are requesting that parents drop off and pick up each day. If you need to assign a different consistent pick up person, it should be someone who lives in your home. If possible, older people such as grandparents or those with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children, because they are more at risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Parents will not enter the building, so communication between staff and parents will be conducted through Tadpoles, email, phone calls, texts, and written notes.

Drop off begins at 8:45 am and will take longer than usual. We ask for your patience.

Departure

Children will remain inside the Preschool for pick up. A designated staff member will radio children's names and one of the classroom teachers will escort the child to the carpool line. Before departing the room, each child will wash their hands. This pick-up procedure will take longer than usual and we ask for your patience

Illness policy - Symptoms and Exclusions

We are required to report any symptoms present in people in the school community to Broward- County Public Health and they will provide guidance regarding exclusion time. Any one of the following symptoms require children or staff to stay home and inform us as soon as possible.

- A fever of 100.0F or above
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Stomach cramping
- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Fatigue
- If any family member living within your home has any one of the above symptoms

If a child or staff member presents with any combination of the symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (fever of 100.0F or above, cough, shortness of breath, stomach cramping, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, fatigue), the child or staff member must self-isolate at home until documentation of negative COVID-19 test results are provided to the school and all of the following are true:

- The child or staff have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fever)
- Other symptoms have dissipated and child's condition greatly improved (for example, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, etc.)
- At least 72 hours have passed of being symptoms free
- Children with pre-existing health conditions that could make them more vulnerable to COVID-19 will need verification from a doctor to return.
- Per the health department guidelines, we need to be able to get in touch with a parent or guardian within 30 minutes in case of emergency pick up. Your phone number must be up to date with the school.

Nutritious Meals and Snacks

Families of children who bring lunch should use a large Ziploc bag (no lunch boxes) clearly labeled with child's name or you can order a hot lunch from our monthly menu in advance for **\$5.50/per lunch**. If ordered on the same day, the price will be **\$6.00/per lunch**.

Toys from Home

Children are often eager to bring interesting items, books, stuffed animals, etc. from home to school. We are asking you to please refrain from bringing in any items from home with an exception of the essentials in order to minimize exposure and/or spread of viruses.

Outdoor Play (Use of Playgrounds)

- Only one group of 10 can be on any individual playground area at the same time.
- Playground equipment will be cleaned and sanitized prior to each use with a focus on the slides and handrails.
- There will be no mixed age groups on the playground
- Water fountains will not be in use.
- Personal water bottles/sippy cups will be brought to the playground.

Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are an especially happy and exciting time for young children. They will be acknowledged in a simple fashion in the classroom with the children from his/her class only. All in-school celebrations are cancelled.

Masks

Staff members are required to wear masks at all times. Children over the age of 3 years old may wear a mask if requested by parents. Staff will make every effort to ensure the mask is worn. Parents must provide a clean mask for children each day. Children 2 years of age and younger are not permitted to wear masks as it is a suffocation hazard.

Ratios of Staff to Children

- Class sizes will be adjusted to accommodate the CDC recommendation of 10 or less in each classroom including staff members.
- Children and child care providers will not move from one group to another.
- Each class will remain in their respective classrooms and not change classes during the day.
- Outside play will be limited to one group at a time in each designated area.

Implemented Social Distancing

- Only essential staff will be allowed in the building.
- All our staff at Temple Beth El Preschool will be screened daily according to the CDC guidelines
- Parents or outside visitors will not be allowed in the building.

Intensified Cleaning and Disinfection

- We have been continuously cleaning and disinfecting the school while the kids have been out. During this time, all classrooms have been emptied and thoroughly cleaned.
- All toys, shelves, tables, cabinets, carpets have been cleaned and disinfected.

- We will continue to implement a higher standard of sanitizing and increasing times for hand washing for both children and adults.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the campus.
- A nightly cleaning and disinfecting will take place.
- Additional hand washing times for minimum of 20 seconds has been updated and added to classroom routines.
- If your child remains for nap – all nap mats, blankets will remain in the school in a jumbo zip-loc bag provided by the parents until Friday. All nap items must be returned cleaned on Monday or on the first day back to school.
- Children cannot bring toys from home.

Hand Washing

All children and staff should engage in hand hygiene at the following times:

- arrival to the facility and after breaks.
- before and after helping children with food or drinks.
- before and after eating or handling food, or feeding children.
- after diapering.
- after using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom.
- after coming in contact with body fluids.
- after playing outdoors.
- after handling garbage
- after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- after using the restroom.
- after touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated.
- after using shared equipment like toys, computer keyboards, mouse, scissors, pens.
- all staff and children must adhere to regular hand washing with soap and water for at least 20
Seconds.