

Brandywine Valley Christian Preschool

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March 1, 2022

Please find the revised guidelines attached. They have been updated to adopt a mask-optional policy and new guidance on quarantines. **Updated guidelines are highlighted in yellow.** Please review them carefully.

Blessings,

Kerri

January 28, 2022

Please find revised guidelines attached. They have been revised slightly to reflect BVCP's safety protocols. Updated guidelines are highlighted in yellow. Please review them carefully. Thank you in advance for your diligence in protecting our preschool.

Blessings,

Kerri

January 5, 2022

The Division of Public Health (DPH) has announced that DE is adopting the new CDC guidelines related to shortening quarantine times. Updated guidelines are highlighted in yellow.

Please review them as our guidelines confirm procedures for close contacts with positive family members. Again, the most important safeguard we can take to prevent the spread of illness is to keep students home when they (or anyone in their household) are sick. This helps to protect our whole school community.

Blessings,

Kerri

September 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

Following guidance from the CDC, Delaware Dept. of Public Health and the Office for Child Care Licensing, Brandywine Valley Christian Preschool will implement the following procedures to help mitigate the spread of any illness in our environment for the upcoming school year. As with all schedules for this year, this addendum is subject to change at any time and will be communicated through the proper channels. The most important safeguard we can take to prevent the spread of illness is to keep students home when they (or anyone in their household) are sick.

This helps to protect our whole school community.

Please carefully read these procedures for the upcoming school year. While we recognize that school will look different from years past, we are grateful for the opportunity to be with our students and learn together in person. We will ask that all families acknowledge that you have read and understand these changes to our handbook and policies moving forward.

Blessings,

Kerri Wozinski, BVCP Director

Arrival/Drop-Off Procedures:

- If a staff member is sick, they are advised to stay home.
- If a child is sick, they are advised to stay home.
- Hand sanitizer is located inside the main entrance. Parents can walk their child in on their 1st day of school but will need to use the carline for both drop off and pick up after that time. We will ensure that your child arrives at their classroom safely.

Health & Wellness:

- Anyone with a fever of 99.5 or higher, is to stay home. They may return when they are 24-hours fever free without the aid of medication. The normal sick policy from OCCL will be followed.
 - ~~HOWEVER, if there is a fever of 99.5 or higher and the child/staff member is otherwise symptomatic and considered at risk for Covid-19 exposure, they are to remain home for a total of 7 days after symptoms have resolved (defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms (i.e. shortness of breath); and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.~~
- If a staff member or child is awaiting COVID-19 test results for any reason (due to symptoms, precautionary for travel, etc), they are to remain home until test results are determined. If negative, they can return to school immediately. ~~This will lessen the time a classroom is forced to shut down if a child or teacher asymptotically tests positive.~~
- Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should isolate for at least 5 days from the date of your positive test (even if you do not have symptoms). If your symptoms resolve after 5-days of testing positive (without the use of medication), you can end isolation **as long as** the person wears a mask around others (inside school & outside at recess) for at least 5 additional days. If you do develop COVID-19 symptoms, isolate for at least 5 days from the date your symptoms began. If you test positive for COVID-19 after developing symptoms, you must isolate for a minimum of 5-days - you can return after day 5 once you've been free of symptoms (without the use of medication) for a minimum of 24-hours (as noted above, masking outside their home for an additional 5-days). If unable to wear a mask for the additional 5 days, the child must isolate at home for the full 10 days. ***Count the days from the first day after symptoms or the first date after a positive test, whichever is earlier. Return date must be at least 5 days after the start of any symptoms, with at least 24 hours fever-free without the use of medication.**
- For anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 - but **doesn't** have symptoms - the isolation period can be reduced from 10 days to 5-days from the date of your positive test **as long as** the person wears a mask around others (inside school & outside at recess) for at least 5 additional days. If unable to wear a mask for the additional 5 days, the child must isolate at home for the full 10 days.
- If your child develops symptoms that do not have a known cause (allergies, etc), please test them immediately. COVID-19 is contagious to others 48-hours prior to developing symptoms OR testing positive. ~~Testing quickly will help determine if your child's classmates need to quarantine, etc.~~ If you test with an at-home rapid test, please follow the manufacturer's instructions (most kits state to test twice, the second one being administered 24-36 hours after the first). Rapid tests are not always reliable in detecting antigens with initial symptoms. ~~Similarly, if anyone else in your household tests positive, please test your BVCP student quickly at the onset of their quarantine for their family member's positive test.~~
- ~~Unvaccinated students or staff who test positive for COVID-19 must quarantine at home. If you were asymptomatic, or symptoms develop while quarantining after the positive result, you must remain quarantined for 10 days after the first day of symptoms and be symptom free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication before returning.~~

- Contact tracing will discontinue for school-setting close contacts (household contacts are the **only** ones that sometimes necessitate a quarantine). Close contacts in our preschool setting (including Kindergarten) are defined as any child or adult within 6 feet sustained for 15 minutes or more *regardless* of mask use.
- For close contacts who are unvaccinated, or more than 6-months out from their second dose of Pfizer or Moderna or 2 months out from their single dose J&J (without a booster), quarantine has been reduced from 10-days to 5-days after the date of your exposure, followed by mask use for an additional 5 days (mask wear is required inside school & outside at recess).
- For close contacts who have received their booster shot, or are less than 6-months out from being fully vaccinated with Pfizer or Moderna or are less than 2-months out from their J&J vaccine (including vaccinated children who are ineligible for a booster), no quarantine is needed but these persons should wear a mask for 10-days after the exposure to the positive case (mask wear is required inside school & outside at recess).
 - ~~For vaccinated close contact children residing in the same home as the positive case (parent, sibling, etc) but are unable to isolate from the positive person, please quarantine for 5 days. If the positive family member is able to truly isolate away from the vaccinated individual, no quarantine is necessary.~~
- According to the CDC, all those exposed **should be tested** on day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not related to COVID-19.
- ~~Any unvaccinated individuals who have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19 must quarantine and watch for symptoms. If you do not develop symptoms, you can test between 5-7 days after exposure. If you receive a negative result and still do not have any symptoms, you may return after the 7th day since exposure. If you do not get tested and have developed no symptoms, you must continue to quarantine for a full 10 days before returning.~~
 - ~~Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine. However, you must wear a mask and self-monitor for symptoms. It is recommended that you be tested 3-5 days after exposure to confirm you are negative.~~
- BVCP is required to report any positive cases of COVID-19 to DPH. Additionally, BVCP will also report cases to our OCCL licensing specialist. Both reports are to be made within 24 hours of learning of a positive case.
- Any student needing to be sent home due to illness must be picked up ASAP after our phone call notifying their parent/guardian. We will have a designated area where the sick child is located to separate them from other students/staff. A staff member will remain with the child until he/she is picked up.

Hygiene/Sanitation:

- Effective 6pm on March 1, 2022, BVCP will be mask-optional for Kindergarten students, staff and visitors. You may choose to voluntarily wear a mask at any time. If a parent or guardian prefers their child continue to wear a mask, please communicate this with their teacher. We will happily support your decision and help to monitor and maintain individual requests (regarding reminders about wearing them properly, etc). Please note that DE will revisit whether to re-impose the mandatory wearing of masks or other policies if state/county COVID levels increase to a high level. ~~ALL staff and school-aged children (kindergarten and above) must wear cloth face coverings while inside the school. Staff and/or kindergarten students may remove their mask while outdoors. All children 2 years of age through PreK are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings if they can do so reliably in compliance with CDC guidance. Children under two years of age should not wear a face covering due to suffocation risk.~~
- Children and staff will be encouraged to wash hands and/or sanitize frequently throughout the day.
- Staff members are to wash their hands upon arrival, before and after snack, before and after bathroom/diapering, after sneezing, coughing, blowing their nose and any other time deemed necessary.
- ~~We will provide face coverings to anyone who does not have one before they can enter. Additionally, we will deny entry to anyone kindergarten and above who will not wear a face covering in compliance with DPH guidance, the State of Emergency and OGCL regulations.~~

- Children will be reminded throughout the day to refrain from touching their faces and to cough/sneeze into their elbows.
- We will adhere to the following additional cleaning and sanitation practices:
 - All hard surfaces will be sanitized at least twice a day and as needed.
 - ALL frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, handrails, faucets, etc) will be sanitized throughout the day.
 - ALL toys will be cleaned at the end of each school day.
 - Toys will be immediately separated for sanitizing after being placed in a child's mouth.
- Effective immediately, we will group children staying for lunch bunch (for soccer or gymnastics) by class. ~~This will limit the need to quarantine if another student (outside of their class but attending the same event) tests positive. This is because the children are able to be social distanced in the gymnasium while at their activity. Unfortunately, children who attend stay n play or enrichment cannot be social distanced from others attending those same events so quarantines may occur.~~
- Parents who choose to send in birthday treats should send in peanut & tree nut free items that are individually wrapped. The treats MUST be labeled from a peanut & tree nut free facility or they will not be served.
- The water fountain in our hallway will be used to fill pitchers or water bottles only. The drinking fountain portion remains closed. Children will be given water (or other liquids such as milk, etc) in individual cups for drinking in their classrooms.

Please print this page, sign & return as confirmation that you received & agree to the established COVID policies...

**Brandywine Valley Christian Preschool & Kindergarten
2021/2022 Covid-19 Handbook Addendum Parent Agreement**

I, _____, whose child, _____, is enrolled at BVCP for the 2021/2022 school year has received a copy of the current Covid-19 addendum. I have read & understand the policies/procedures and agree to abide by them.

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

(signature of parent/guardian)

(date)