

## BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

The BEPC Preschool Board meets monthly, or when necessary, to make decisions regarding rules, regulations, and potential closures. We rely on the latest information provided by the NC Department of Health and Human Safety and the Local Health Department to guide our decisions. Thank you!

\*Currently, the CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to Preschool, K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Masks will be optional for BEPC Preschool staff and students. This is subject to change as we keep a close eye on COVID.

---

### **Drop-Off/Arrival to Preschool, Pick-Up/End of day Procedure:**

Before arrival: Parents/Caregivers, please be on the alert for any symptoms of COVID-19 and keep your child/children at home if they show any possible symptoms. Take your child's temperature at home before leaving for preschool. If their temperature is above 100.4F, please keep them home to observe for illness. Practice the 3 W's-Wear a face cover, Wait 6 feet apart when dropping your child off, Wash your hand using designated hand sanitizer. Avoid having family members that are "high at risk" dropping your child/children off and picking them up.

- \* Please walk your child to meet their teacher at the assigned entrance.
- \* Parents/Caregivers will not be allowed to use preschool facility, such as bathrooms or kitchen. The staff member greeting the children at drop off will wear a face cover and sanitize hands in between greeting children.
- \* Temperature of 100.4F or higher will not be permitted to stay at the preschool.

To ensure social distancing during the busy drop off and pick up times, we will have a staggered drop off and pick up with designated stations:

#### **Drop-off procedure:** 9:00am

**2-year-old class:** At the Main Preschool Entrance (facing the Bell Tower).

**3-year-old class:** At the Second Fellowship entrance.

**4-year-old class:** At the First Fellowship Hall Entrance.

#### **Pick-up procedure:** 1:00pm

**2-year-old class:** At the Main Preschool Entrance (facing the Bell Tower) or Playground.

**3-year-old class:** At the second Fellowship entrance.

**4-year-old class:** At the Fellowship Hall Entrance.

## BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

As the pandemic evolves, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) is applying the most effective and appropriate public health tools for the current phase of the pandemic. As the United States and North Carolina emerge from the latest surge, the COVID-19 landscape looks different today than it did two years ago or even two months ago. More has been learned about the virus and effective tools to reduce the risk to people. Based on the emerging science and evidence, NC DHHS is adapting its guidance to allow North Carolinians to get back to the people, experiences, and places they love. Please adhere to the following guidelines as BEPC Preschool works diligently to keep our children and staff safe while upholding our commitment to creating a positive and nurturing learning environment for our students. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together through the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Transmission and Symptoms:** of COVID-19: COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough or sneeze. Symptoms may appear 2-10 days after exposure to the virus. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of specific and non-specific symptoms of the illness.

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19. Individuals with the virus that causes COVID-19 may experience any, all, or none of these symptoms.

- Fever or chills (body temperature of 100.4F or higher is considered a fever)
- Shortness of breath and difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- New cough
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Diarrhea

***A note from a medical practitioner or health department will be required to confirm a positive or negative COVID-19 test to appropriately follow BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines.***

**Diagnosis:** People who are presumed to have or are diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home until they meet the criteria for return to childcare. Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keeping COVID-19 infections out of childcare settings and preventing spread to others.

► All rules and regulations have been adapted through the guidance of the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). Updated *March 29th, 2022*.

## **BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines**

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

- Please understand that this policy and guidelines are subject to change at any time.

### **Monitoring for Symptoms at BEPC Preschool:**

People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of specific and non-specific symptoms. Regular screening for symptoms will be completed at the start of every day and monitored throughout the day to reduce exposure. If a child develops symptoms during the day, they will remain isolated under the supervision of an adult and return home safely as soon as possible.

BEPC Preschool is required to immediately notify our local health department of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among children and staff. If your child is experiencing symptoms, please follow the guidelines below before returning to preschool. All COVID-19 test results, negative or positive, should be reported to the Preschool Director so they can follow health department protocol with the preschool.

### **Closures due to COVID-19 Exposure:**

There may be no need to close the preschool if the Local Health Department and BEPC Preschool Board determines that close contacts are excluded, child/teacher ratios are appropriate, and there is sufficient space to continue normal/daily operations. The LHD or BEPC Preschool Board may in some situations determine that closure of the preschool or a classroom is necessary; this will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### **Preventing Spread in the Preschool Setting:**

We will only allow children and staff who are required for daily operations and enrolled in our preschool program inside the classrooms. Snack/lunch tables will be spread out in the King Fellowship Hall. We will limit nonessential visitors and activities for now. All staff members will have the option to wear a face covering during preschool hours. Bathrooms, classrooms, and snack/lunch areas will be cleaned/sanitized throughout the day and at the end of EVERY DAY! We will incorporate frequent handwashing and sanitation breaks into classroom activity. Toys and other items that cannot be easily cleaned will not be used. We will allow time in between activities for proper cleaning and disinfection of surfaces between class use (music room, bathrooms, playground). If a class has been exposed to a positive tested child, there will be an assessment as to whether the classroom will be shut down. BEPC Preschool will only use EPA-Registered cleaning products. Linens and towels used in the preschool setting will be replaced every day. It is up to each family to use their own judgement on what is best for them.

Please be respectful to everyone's health and safety. There will be no tuition refunds if you decide to keep your child at home. Please allow for 14-day notice if you decide to withdraw your child's enrollment from BEPC Preschool.

## BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

### **Suggestions to Keep Everyone Safe & Healthy:**

- Practice your W's every day; Wait 6 feet away from people, Wear a face covering in public areas or where you can't social distance, Wash your hand for 20 seconds frequently with warm water and soap.
- If your child is not feeling well and you are unsure of their health, keep them at home to monitor their symptoms.
- Keep your child's spare clothing in a sealed zip-lock bag labeled with their full name in their cubby.
- Sanitize or wash your and your child's hands upon arrival and departure of the preschool every day.

### **Testing:**

**Testing for individuals who have symptoms:** Children and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and contact their healthcare provider or other available testing sites for diagnostic testing for COVID-19 and **care**.

**Testing for individuals who have been exposed:** Individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 should get tested 5 days after the last exposure unless they had tested positive for COVID-19 with a viral test within the previous 90 days and subsequently recovered.

**Monthly Tuition and Preschool Fees:** All BEPC Preschool fees, registration fee and monthly tuition, will remain as stated to maintain preschool fees and staff salaries. No tuition breaks or discounts will be given due to vacation time, illness, or required quarantine or absence due to COVID-19.

### **Childcare programs are required to:**

- Exclude children and adults from childcare facility who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Immediately notify the local health department if they have reason to suspect that a person within the childcare facility has COVID-19.
- Exclude children if:
  - The child has a fever taken by any method, including at armpit or orally 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
  - Has two or more episodes of vomiting within a 12-hour period or has more than two stools above the child's normal pattern and diarrhea is not contained by a diaper or when toilet-trained children are having accidents.
  - Is unable to participate comfortably in activities.
  - Has symptoms that result in a need for care that is greater than the staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.

## BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

### Returning to BEPC Preschool after exclusion

Situation(s) determined by daily health screenings:

Childcare programs are required to follow the recommendations of the local public health department if someone at the childcare facility has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed to COVID-19.

**Exclusion** for people with COVID-19. People with COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 without a test must be excluded from childcare for 5 days after the first day of symptoms or day of specimen collection if no symptoms. People may return to childcare after 5 days if they have no symptoms or symptoms are improving and have been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medications but must continue to wear a mask for an additional 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others. The mask can be removed during sleeping, eating, and drinking. People who are unable to wear a mask, including children under the age of 2, must be excluded for 5 days after first day of symptom or date of specimen collection if no symptoms.

**Exclusion for people who are exposed to COVID-19.** NC DHHS recommends childcare facilities no longer exclude individuals after an identified exposure to COVID19 (regardless of location of exposure) unless they develop symptoms. Although exclusion from childcare is no longer recommended following an exposure, when an individual with COVID-19 is identified in the childcare setting:

- Childcare staff should notify staff and families of children who have been exposed so they can receive appropriate public health guidance, testing, and access to any resources that might be needed.
- Individuals who have been exposed should:
  - Wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after the last known exposure unless an exemption to mask use applies.
  - Be tested on day 5 after exposure unless the person tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days. oo If the exposed person develops symptoms, he/she should stay home and get tested immediately, of The exposed person may also choose to test immediately upon notification of exposure to start isolation period sooner if the test is positive.

**Recent infection:** Person has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19, has no symptoms, and had COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a viral test). Individuals in this group do not need to be excluded or get tested after exposure but should still wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days from the date of last close contact (the date of last close contact is considered day 0).

## Recommendations for People with COVID-19

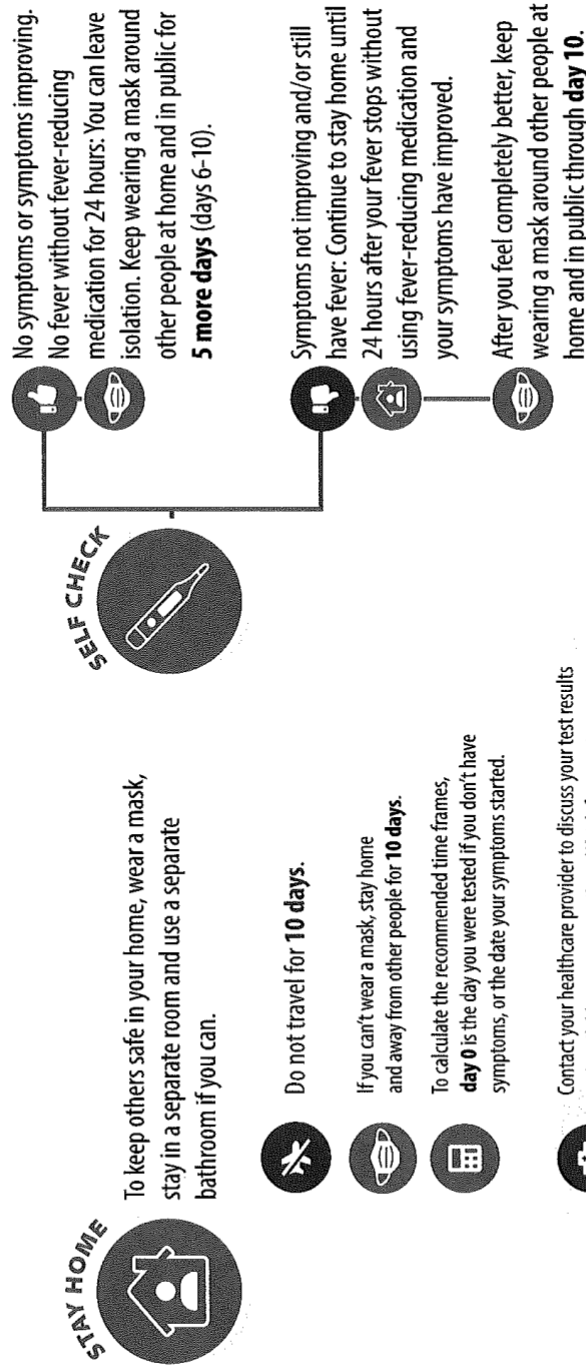
Have you tested positive for COVID-19 or have mild symptoms and are waiting for test results?

### Here's What To Do:

#### Isolate. Stay at home for at least 5 days.\*

#### Day 6: Do a self-check. How are you feeling?

*You could have loss of taste or smell for weeks or months after you feel better. These symptoms should not delay the end of isolation.*



Do not travel for **10 days**.

If you can't wear a mask, stay home and away from other people for **10 days**.

To calculate the recommended time frames, **day 0** is the day you were tested if you don't have symptoms, or the date your symptoms started.

Contact your healthcare provider to discuss your test results and available treatment options. Watch for symptoms, especially fever. If you have an emergency warning sign, such as trouble breathing or persistent chest pain or pressure, seek emergency medical care immediately.

\*If you are moderately or severely ill (including being hospitalized or requiring intensive care or ventilation support) or immunocompromised, please talk to your healthcare provider about when you can end isolation. Please refer to [COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation](#) for guidance on isolation in healthcare settings and high risk congregate settings (such as correctional and detention facilities, homeless shelters, or cruise ships).





# BEPC Preschool COVID-19 Policy & Guidelines

Updated: **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

## Recommendations for COVID-19 Close Contacts

Have you been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19? You were a close contact if you were less than 6 feet away from someone with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (excluding K-12 settings).

### Here's What To Do:



#### Protect Others

Take these steps to keep others safe.



**Quarantine** if you are not up to date with COVID-19 vaccines or didn't have COVID-19 in the past 90 days. Stay home and away from other people for at least **5 days**.

If you are up to date or had COVID-19 in the past 90 days you do not have to quarantine.



Avoid travel through **day 10**.



**Wear a mask** around other people for **10 days**.



Watch for symptoms of COVID-19 for **10 days**.

*Up to date means a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible.*



To calculate the recommended time frames, **day 0** is the date you last had close contact to someone with COVID-19.



If you can't wear a mask, **stay home** (quarantine) and away from other people, and do not travel for **10 days**.



#### Get Tested

Get a COVID-19 test on or after **day 5** or if you have **symptoms**.

*People who had COVID-19 in the past 90 days should only get tested if they develop symptoms.*



You tested **negative**. You can leave your home.



Keep **wearing a mask** in public and when traveling through **day 10**.



You tested **positive** or have **symptoms**.



**Isolate** away from other people. Stay home for at least **5 days** and follow steps for isolation.



Do not travel for **10 days**.

If you are unable to get tested, you can leave your home after **day 5** if you have not had symptoms. Keep wearing a mask in public and avoid travel through **day 10**.



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

Please refer to COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation for guidance on quarantine in healthcare settings and high-risk congregate settings (such as correctional and detention facilities, homeless shelters, or cruise ships).