

# **Health and Safety Plan Summary: Building Blocks Learning Center**

**Anticipated Launch Date: 9/1/2021 (8/17/21 updates are in RED) (9/3/21 updates are in GREEN)**

**Pandemic Team:** **Michele Burchell, M.Ed. (President, BBLC INC. and Director of Doylestown)**

**Denise Mokrynczuk (Director of Hilltown)**

These summary tables provide our school population with an overview of BBLC's Health and Safety Plan. It will be posted to our school's website. This plan is a working document, and subject to change at any time during the school year, depending on the evolving health status of our area and any future guidance from national, state, and local health officials. **The below plan has been crafted by following the most updated (8/17/2021) guidance from a combination of various sources including the Bucks County Health Department, the CDC, the AAP, the PA Department of Education and the PA Department of Health.** It was written with the realization that at the time of compilation, 100% of our student population is unvaccinated against COVID-19. Verbiage in green reflect the 8/31/21 Order from the Secretary of the PA Department of Health Directing Face Coverings in School Entities.

<b>Masking Requirements</b>	
<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Strategies, Policies and Procedures</b>
* <b>Use of face masks</b>	<p>*As per the 8/31/21 Order from the Secretary of the PA Department of Health, all students/staff/visitors will be required to wear masks while indoors during school hours. Staff members may lower masks when students are not present in the classrooms.</p> <p>*Masks will not be required while outdoors. If you would like your child to continue to wear his/her mask while outside, <b>please put this request in writing</b> to the school director and teacher.</p> <p>*An accepted face mask is made of multiple layers, has ear loops, and fits snugly over the nose and mouth. Gaiters/masks with valves/face shields are not acceptable. Face masks must be accompanied by an attached lanyard (provided by BBLC).</p> <p>*If/when the Secretary of Health's Order Directing Face Coverings in School Entities is lifted, BBLC will re-visit our masking policy by evaluating local metrics, examining guidance</p>

## Masking Requirements

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
	from local/state/federal officials, and referring to the CDC's "Risk of Transmission" level for Bucks County. Parents will be notified in advance if/when we move to a "mask-optional" status. <b>If a vaccine becomes available for our students, we will certainly re-visit this policy at that time, as well.</b>

## Facilities: Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting and Ventilation

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
* Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*We use CDC/EPA-approved cleaners (whenever possible) and have an ample amount of supplies. We will be utilizing a pump pressure sprayer to disinfect large areas regularly.</li><li>*School bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily.</li><li>*Toys and learning materials are cleaned and disinfected daily.</li><li>*Tables are cleaned and disinfected multiple times a day, including before/after snack and before/after lunch.</li><li>*Classroom windows are opened to circulate fresh air. Whenever possible, windows will remain open after students have vacated the space to further "air out" classrooms.</li></ul>

## Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p><b>* Social distancing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*We will encourage the concept of “personal space” when children are seated together for group lessons.</li> <li>*Socialization with peers using conversation, problem solving, compromise, sharing, and negotiation is an integral part of our age-appropriate curriculum. Children may play and interact with one another in closer proximity. We may choose to limit the number of students playing/working in one area.</li> <li>*Furniture will be on sliders to allow for easy space-making whenever necessary.</li> <li>*Staff will physically interact with students in closer proximity, reflecting sensitivity to the unique needs of our young students.</li> <li>*Throughout the regular school day, our classes meet with the same teachers and the same students in their dedicated classrooms (cohorting). In Doylestown, any add-on programs, like Lunch Bunch or Fun Frolics, may bring together children from several classes. <b>Every attempt will be made to sit children from the same class at the same lunch tables.</b></li> <li>*While eating (snack or lunch), students will be seated with at least three feet of social distance, to the maximum extent possible.</li> </ul>
<p><b>*Snacks/lunch/show-n-tell/birthday and holiday treats</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Staff will wear gloves and set snack for each child individually, not buffet- or family-style, within the classroom space. We utilize disposable napkins and cups.</li> <li>*Edible birthday/holiday treats for classmates (to be consumed in school) will be permitted, only if the items are store-bought (and do not contain colored frosting) and in the original,</li> </ul>

	<p>unopened package; nothing homemade. Non-edible take home treats (like pencils or stickers) will be allowed.</p> <p>*Our Lunch Bunch program (and add-on programs in Doylestown) will run on designated days, allowing children to extend their time at school.</p> <p>*Show-n-Tell items from home will be permitted, as long as they are clean and can completely fit inside of the zippered bags provided by BBLC.</p>
<b>* Hand Hygiene</b>	<p>* With direct supervision, children will clean hands multiple times a day (including at arrival, after toileting, before/after eating, and after recess) with a combination of hand sanitizer and soap/water. Parents will be responsible to clean children's hands after dismissal from the school.</p> <p>*Children are encouraged to not touch their eyes, noses, and mouths and to cover coughs and sneezes with the insides of their elbows.</p> <p>*At BBLC, it is our practice to have children blow/wipe their noses independently, with tissues. Staff follows up with hand sanitizer. Wiping noses with bare hands or clothing does not help to mitigate germ spread.</p>
<b>*School Visitors</b>	<p>*Planned visitors will be permitted into classrooms/school space during school hours. Visitors who are experiencing symptoms of any sickness will not be granted entrance.</p> <p>*Outside support personnel (IU or otherwise) need to notify the school in advance of their intended schedules.</p>
<b>*Parents' Responsibilities at Home</b>	<p><b>*Screening must start at home each school morning.</b></p> <p>Parents should fully evaluate their children for symptoms of any infectious disease or COVID-like symptoms before leaving for school. Fever-reducing medications should not be given before school.</p>

	<p>*Parents are encouraged to clean items being brought to and from school (like <b>masks</b>, backpacks, lunch boxes, and coats) on a very regular basis. Choose items which can be laundered/disinfected easily.</p> <p>*Understanding that contributing to the safety of our school population reaches far beyond our building, families are asked to be an integral part of our school's safety plan. Households are asked to remain COVID-aware and knowledgeable about COVID safety and changing national, state, and local guidance.</p>
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<b>Monitoring Student Health</b>	
<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Strategies, Policies and Procedures</b>
<p><b>* Symptoms of illness</b></p>	<p>*Parents are asked to alert the director <b>beforehand</b> of any student's symptoms. <b>The director will discuss how to proceed. Please do not bring an ill child to the arrival door.</b></p> <p>*Sick children should be kept home. Children who are demonstrating symptoms of illness including <b>fever, persistent/consistent cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle/headache, loss of taste/smell, overall fatigue, chills, or gastrointestinal issues</b> are not permitted to attend school.</p> <p>*Children need to be a full 24-hours fever-, vomit-, and diarrhea-free before returning to school.</p> <p>*A child may be present at school with a slightly runny nose IF this is the only symptom AND the discharge is clear AND the child can fully manage the discharge independently with tissues.</p> <p>*A child may be present at school with an <b>occasional</b> cough (NOT persistent, and not a "bark") IF the child can produce a negative COVID test result OR clearance from a doctor AND</p>

## Monitoring Student Health

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
	<p>cover the coughs with the inside of the elbow. These children will be required to wear a mask (accompanied by a lanyard) while indoors, to reduce the spread of common cold germs. If the cough lingers and no negative test result or doctor's clearance can be provided, the child may return to school after 10 days since the cough began.</p> <p>*The director is to be made aware of any child who experiences cough/runny nose due to seasonal allergies. Medical documentation may need to be provided.</p> <p>*The school director reserves the right to deny attendance or send home any person who is deemed not healthy enough to attend school. Pick-up should take place within 15 minutes. If a child is uncomfortable or cannot safely manage cold symptoms (i.e., wiping a runny nose on clothing), s/he will be sent home.</p>
<p><b>* Positive COVID result of student or household family member</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p><b>*Returning from isolation or quarantine</b></p>	<p><b>*If a student tests positive for COVID:</b></p> <p>The school is to immediately be made aware of any child testing positive for COVID. The student's class will be notified, while keeping the child's name confidential. The student may return to school after at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND symptoms have improved AND 24 hours have passed without fever (without fever-reducing medications).</p> <p>If the positive student was present at school less than 48 hours before the symptoms began, the students in the class will stay out of school for 10 days (or 7 days by producing a negative result from a COVID test being administered on day 5 or later).</p>

## Monitoring Student Health

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
	<p><b>*If a student's household member has tested positive for COVID:</b></p> <p>The school is to immediately be made aware. <b>The student may return to school, if completely asymptomatic, 10 days from onset of household member's symptoms.</b></p> <p>*If a student has had a one-time close contact (less than 6 feet, for more than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period) with a positive individual, the student may return, asymptomatic, after 10 days, or after 7 days by producing a negative test result (test performed on day 5 of exposure or later).</p> <p>*As of 6/19/21, the Bucks County Health Department is no longer involved with this isolation/quarantine/release process. <b>Transparency and cooperation from our school population are vital to keep our students, staff, and families healthy and safe. We ask that our school families are forthcoming with COVID-related information.</b></p>

## **Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc. has reviewed and approved this Health and Safety Plan on. This plan is subject to change, based on the evolving health status of our area and continued information on best and safest practices. Changes will be made upon recommendation of the school Pandemic Team, in following guidance from local, state, and federal health officials, and will promptly be communicated to the school community. Performing all listed precautionary procedures, of course, does not remove the risk of infection entirely. It is our aim, with this vast combination of safety measures, to minimize the risk of COVID infection to the extent reasonably possible.

Parents of BBLC students will receive this document electronically and are asked to make themselves familiar with the plan. By enrolling their child(ren) at BBLC for the 2021-2022 school year, parents acknowledge, accept, and agree to the outlined safety strategies/policies/procedures and understand that risk of an infectious disease cannot be completely removed in a public setting, such as a school.

**Original draft: 7/22/2021      Updated: 8/17/2021      Updated: 9/3/2021**

Affirmed on: 8/23/2021  
(9/3/2021)

By:

*Michele Burchell*

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*(Signature of Board President)*

Michele Burchell

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*(Print Name of Board President)*