

# Health and Safety Plan Summary: Building Blocks Learning Center

Launch Date: 8/29/22

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

Denise Mokrynychuk (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 consulting the guidance from a variety of sources including the Bucks County Health Department (May 2022), the CDC (August 2022), the AAP, the PA Department of Education, the PA Department of Health, and CHOP PolicyLab (August 2022).

<b>Strategies for Everyday Operations</b>	
<b>*Staying up-to-date on vaccinations</b>	*Staying up to date on routine vaccinations is imperative to prevent illness from many different infections. COVID-19 vaccines are readily available at local pharmacies, doctors’ offices, and Bucks County vaccination clinics. All BBLC students and staff are urged to stay up to date on all vaccines.
<b>*Ventilation</b>	*Classroom windows are opened to circulate fresh air during school time. Whenever possible, windows will remain open after students have vacated the space to further “air out” classrooms.  *We will have use of an “outdoor classroom” and prioritize outdoor recess as often as possible.
<b>*Hand Hygiene</b>	* With direct supervision, children will clean hands multiple times a day (including at arrival, after toileting, before/after

## Strategies for Everyday Operations

<p><b>*Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting</b></p>	<p>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.</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. Parents are urged to teach children how to properly use tissues.</p> <p>*Staff will wear gloves and set snack for each child individually, not buffet- or family-style. We utilize disposable napkins and cups.</p> <p>*We use CDC/EPA-approved cleaners (whenever possible) and have an ample amount of cleaning supplies. We will be utilizing a pump pressure sprayer to disinfect large areas when needed.</p> <p>*School bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily.</p> <p>*Toys and learning materials are cleaned and disinfected daily</p> <p>*Tables are cleaned and disinfected multiple times a day, including before/after snack and before/after lunch.</p>
<p><b>* Social distancing</b></p>	<p>*We will encourage the concept of "personal space" when children are seated together for group lessons.</p>

## Strategies for Everyday Operations

### \*Items from Home

\*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 close proximity. We may choose to limit the number of students playing/working in one area.

\*Furniture will be on sliders to allow for easy space-making whenever necessary.

\*Staff will physically interact with students in close proximity, reflecting sensitivity to the unique needs of our young students.

\*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.

\*Store-bought birthday/holiday treats for classmates will be permitted. Items are to be sent in the original, unopened package; nothing homemade. Non-edible take home treats (like pencils or stickers) will be allowed.

\*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.

\*Parents are encouraged to clean items being brought to and from school (like backpacks, lunch boxes, coats, and hats) on a very regular basis. Choose items which can be laundered/disinfected easily.

## Strategies for Everyday Operations

### \*School Visitors

\*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 without a negative test result.

\*Outside support personnel (IU or otherwise) need to notify the school in advance of their intended schedules.

### \*Parents' Responsibilities at Home

\*Understanding that contributing to the safety of our school population reaches far beyond our building, families are asked to be mindful of our school's safety plan.

\*Transparency and quick/timely action and cooperation from our school population are vital to keep our students, staff, and families healthy and safe. We respectfully ask that our school families are forthcoming with COVID-related information.

**\*Health Screening must start at home each school morning.** 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.

\*Parents are urged to have a supply of at-home Covid antigen tests on hand.

### \*Staying Home When Sick/Symptoms of Illness

\*Sick children should be kept home. Children who are demonstrating symptoms of illness including **fever, vomiting, shortness of breath, overall fatigue, body aches, chills, unexplained rash, or gastrointestinal issues** (ex. nausea or diarrhea) are not permitted to attend school.

## Strategies for Everyday Operations

	<p>*Children need to be a full 24-hours fever-, vomit-, and diarrhea-free before returning to school.</p> <p>*Children may attend school with mild, improving symptoms of illness (such as coughing or runny nose) only if a negative Covid test result or a doctor's clearance for school is produced. In this case, children need to be able to cover all coughs/sneezes and manage runny noses independently. Students will be sent home if respiratory etiquette cannot be reasonably maintained.</p> <p>*If a student develops symptoms while at school, a parent will be contacted. If symptoms are mild, the parent may administer a Covid test and if negative, the child may remain at school.</p>

## Masking

<b>*Masking</b>	<p>*If Bucks County is rated as being in the "Low" or "Medium" Covid-19 level, as determined by the CDC, masks for students/staff/visitors will be optional. Individuals who are immunocompromised or have any underlying health/special conditions or concerns are encouraged to mask at any time. Upgrading from a cloth mask to a disposable or a KN95-type is recommended.</p>

	<p>*If Bucks County enters the "High" Community Level, as determined by the CDC, masks for students/staff/visitors will be STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.</p> <p>*BBLC may decide to temporarily suspend or alter any add-on programs (like Lunch Bunch or special events), based on the metrics in our school community.</p> <p>*BBLC may choose to instill a targeted temporary masking and/or testing requirement if we experience three or more connected positive Covid-19 cases in one classroom (through in-school transmission).</p>
--	---

Covid Cases/Exposure	
Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>* <b>Positive COVID result of student/staff member</b></p>	<p><b>*If a student/staff member tests positive for COVID:</b></p> <p>*The school is to immediately be made aware of any student/staff member testing/presumed positive for COVID. If the positive individual was at school less than 48 hours prior to symptom onset/positive test, the class will be notified, while keeping names confidential. The positive individual may return to school after at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset (or positive swab taken, if asymptomatic), which is counted as day zero, AND symptoms have greatly improved AND 24 hours have passed without fever (without fever-reducing medications). A negative test is not needed to return. The positive individual will be required to wear a mask while indoors (except for eating and drinking) for an additional 5 days. If two negative antigen test results are obtained 48 hours apart, then the mask may be removed earlier.</p>

## Covid Cases/Exposure

### Requirement(s)

**\*Exposure**

### Strategies, Policies and Procedures

**\*If a student/staff member (regardless of vaccination status) has had exposure to a positive individual outside of the school setting:**

The student/staff member may continue to attend school, if completely asymptomatic and masked while indoors for 5 days after the exposure (except while eating/drinking). A negative test result is required to end masking after the 5 days.

If the exposure is on-going (household member who cannot isolate), then the vaccinated student/staff member must be completely asymptomatic and masked while indoors for 10 days from the positive individual's symptom onset (except while eating/drinking). A negative test result is required to end masking after the 10 days.

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc. has reviewed and approved this Health and Safety Plan on 8/17/22. 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 2022-2023 school year, parents acknowledge and accept 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.

Affirmed on: 8/17/2022

By:

*Michele Burchell*

---

(Signature of Board President)

Michele Burchell

---

(Print Name of Board President)