



BPC 6-8 COVID-19 Safety Plan for 2021-22 School Year (updated 9/1/21)

Daily Health Screening

- All families are required to complete a daily health screening for their student(s) using ParentSquare. For those new to Black Pine Circle, you should have received an email with instructions to sign up for ParentSquare. [Click here for instructions](#) to complete the health screening.
- If your student is not cleared to attend school after completing the health screening, they must stay home and parents/guardians should reach out to their medical provider.
- Black Pine Circle will complete daily verifications of health screening results in the morning after attendance is taken (not at drop-off). If your child(ren) are on campus and the school does not have a completed health screening on file for the day, a staff member will reach out. Our COVID-19 health team will be tracking the data to determine trends and protocols for symptomatic students.

Mask Requirements

- **All students are required to wear a mask indoors and outdoors, except when eating or drinking.** Students should arrive in the morning with an appropriate 3-ply mask (no gators, no valves), as well as a back-up mask.
 - [Example of 3-ply cloth mask](#)
 - [Example of disposable 3-ply disposable mask](#)
- Black Pine Circle will have disposable 3-ply masks available for students who need them.
- **All staff, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask indoors and outdoors when sharing spaces with students.**
- There will be no specific social distancing mandate, indoors or outdoors. Students will be distanced in the classroom as is feasible given the space.
 - *Per CDPH, "in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented."*
- Bathrooms will be open to all students, not limited to specific grade levels.

Meals

- Eating snacks and lunch will take place outside as weather permits.
- Students will be distanced to the extent possible while they are eating.

We strongly encourage that your student, if eligible, get fully vaccinated. Please know that they are considered fully vaccinated 14 days after their second shot. In order to be exempt from regular surveillance testing, the school must have proof of full vaccination.

COVID-19 Testing Requirements

- **All unvaccinated students will need to participate in frequent surveillance COVID-19 testing to attend school.** Black Pine Circle will follow the CDPH guidelines regarding frequency, guided by Alameda County and Berkeley case rates. **Black Pine Circle will be administering the [Abbot BinaxNOW Antigen Test](#), with support from CDPH. These tests deliver results in 15-30 minutes.**
 - BPC is prepared to do response testing in the event of a positive result.
- While there is no requirement for surveillance testing for vaccinated students at this time, Black Pine Circle may implement a testing strategy for these students dependent on community spread and guidance from CDPH and City of Berkeley.
- Additional testing may be required for unvaccinated students participating in higher-risk activities such as band and sports.

Hand-washing, Cleaning, and Ventilation

- Students will continue to practice frequent hand-washing/sanitizing throughout the school day.
- Students can share materials so long as they wash hands and/or sanitize before and after using shared materials.
- Per CDPH guidance, Black Pine Circle will clean and sanitize classrooms, common spaces, and surfaces once daily.
- The school will continue to implement our ventilation and filtering procedures including HVAC/MERV-13 air filters, air purifiers, and opening windows and doors whenever possible to increase air flow.

Quarantine, Close Contacts, and Case Reporting

- Staff and students with COVID-19 symptoms (regardless of vaccination status) must not return to school until they meet the following criteria:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since the resolution of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **and**
 - Other symptoms have improved, **and**
 - They have a negative COVID-19 test or a healthcare provider has provided documentation of an alternative diagnosis.
- **Quarantining: There are a number of changes to quarantine procedures for close contacts and vaccinated individuals.**
 - Vaccinated students: who are asymptomatic do not need to quarantine after close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual. (*this may change if we receive updated guidance from CDPH*).
 - Unvaccinated students: must quarantine after a close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual.
 - Quarantine scenario #1: when **both** individuals, the positive case and the close contact, were both masked in a school setting supervised by staff when the exposure occurred, the close contact may continue to attend in-person instruction if they:
 - Are asymptomatic, **and**
 - Continue to appropriately mask, **and**
 - Undergo twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine, **and**
 - Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.

- Quarantine scenario #2: when one or both individuals, the positive case and the close contact, were **not** masked when the exposure occurred, the close contact may discontinue quarantine under the following conditions:
 - After day 7, if a COVID-19 test taken after day 5 of exposure is negative, or
 - After day 10 from the last date of exposure without a negative COVID-19 test.
- To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following the last exposure, asymptomatic close contacts must:
 - Continue daily self monitoring for symptoms, **and**
 - Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask when around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through day 14 from last known exposure.
- Black Pine Circle is required to report positive COVID-19 cases to the Berkeley public health division.

These health and safety guidelines are subject to change throughout the year depending on updated guidance/mandates from state and local health authorities.