



BPC Community Health Agreement 2021-2022

9/3/21

Dear BPC Families,

As Black Pine Circle School continues with careful, intentional, and thoughtful steps for in-person learning on campus this year, each constituent in our community—faculty, staff, students, and families—will need to be vigilant and persistent in protecting our own health and the health of others, both on campus and in the greater community. This requires a level of trust and mutual compassion from all.

As the new school year gets underway, it is essential that we recognize and commit to this shared responsibility and do everything in our power to create a safe, equitable, and supportive environment for all members of our community. BPC is rooted in the principle of caring for others, and there is no time like the present to live this principle in its truest form.

Before acknowledging that you have read this document, we ask that all parents and guardians carefully review the School's recently updated [COVID-19 page on our website](#) and discuss the School's protocols with their child(ren). Children will need to understand what is being asked of them. We have put together [BPC COVID-19 Testing & Quarantining FAQs](#). Parents and guardians should also become familiar with the requirements of the [Alameda Department of Public Health](#), [Berkeley Public Health Division](#), and the [California Department of Public Health](#).

Please carefully read the Community Health Acknowledgement of Expectations by clicking the green [Complete and Sign Form](#) button below this email. We require every member of the parent body to sign this document in order to ensure we are all in agreement on school expectations **NO Later than Friday, September 10.**

Thank you from the entire administration, faculty, staff, and board of directors.

John Carlstroem
Head of School
jcarlstroem@blackpinecircle.org

Peter Wong
Board Chair

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

COVID-19 Information and Commitment to Our Community

- Our family understands and acknowledges that public health officials have concluded that COVID-19 (a coronavirus) is a disease that spreads easily through person-to-person contact, and may be spread by persons who are not exhibiting any symptoms. Despite mitigation efforts taken by the School and others, attending in-person classes at the School or accessing School facilities increases the risk of contracting COVID-19. Our family understands that COVID-19 infection is possible if attending in-person classes at the School, participating in extracurricular activities, or accessing the School campus or facilities.

- Our family has read this School's Community Acknowledgement of Expectations and has discussed the content with our Student/s. We plan to comply with the guidelines in the [K-5 COVID-19 Safety Plan for 2021-22 School Year](#) and/or [BPC 6-8 COVID-19 Safety Plan for 2021-22 School Year](#), and we agree to use our best efforts to cause the Student/s to comply with the policies.

- Our family will respect all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances relating to COVID-19 including orders of state and local public health departments, and we further agree to use our best efforts to make sure our Student/s to comply with such laws. I understand these laws currently include requirements for wearing face coverings in public places.

- Our family understands that physical distancing is encouraged wherever possible.

Preventative Daily Health Screenings and Regular COVID-19 Testing:

- Our family will complete a [daily health screening via Parent Square](#) prior to our child/ren coming onto campus, wear a 3-ply mask, and practice physical distancing as much as possible while on campus, including while waiting at the entrance during arrival and departure.

- Our family understands that the School will require students to be regularly tested at school for COVID-19. Additional information regarding BPC's testing strategies can be found at here: [BPC COVID-19 Testing & Quarantining FAQs](#)

Symptom and Quarantine Protocol:

- Our family understands that we will not send our Student to School if the Student exhibits any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19, and we will arrange for our Student to be picked up from School as soon as practicable if the School informs us that the Student exhibits any of the symptoms while at School. Health experts have currently identified the following COVID-19 symptoms:
 - Fever of 100.0° F or higher

- Chills, including repeated shaking with chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For further information, please review the [*Alameda County Public Health Department Protocols*](#) and [*Berkeley Public Health Division*](#) recommendations.

•Our family will notify the campus health coordinator, Lauren Cates immediately at healthhub@blackpinecircle.org if our Student, or anyone with whom the Student has had close contact, tests positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19.

•Our family understands that the School will require the Student to stay home for a period of time if the Student tests positive for COVID-19. Likewise, the School may require the Student to stay home if the Student has had close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. If the Student is at home, due to COVID-19, the School will permit the Student to return for in-person instruction only after satisfying the School's requirements for returning, which will be based on then-current guidelines of state and local public health officials.

•Our family understands that the School may need to take precautions by moving some students to distance learning in response to COVID-19-related circumstances. In the event of such a need, the School will communicate the reasons for quarantine, the expected timeline for return to campus, and the plan for instruction. We will ensure that our Student/s continue to comply with School policies and applicable laws relating to COVID-19.

Flu Vaccine

•Our family understands that the School strongly recommends all Students and community members be vaccinated against seasonal influenza prior to the start of flu season, to further protect our community against illness.

COVID-19 Vaccine

•Our family understands that the School strongly recommends all eligible Students be vaccinated against COVID-19 and submit proof of vaccination to our registrar, Mulan Bartholomew, at mbartholomew@blackpinecircle.org

Travel Guidelines for Black Pine Circle School Families and Employees

Bus Transportation:

•Our family understands that students traveling to and from school on the bus will stay masked throughout the ride.

State-to-State CDPH Travel Guidelines can be found [here](#).

During this unprecedented time, the school recommends limiting unnecessary travel to protect our employees and students and families. Holidays present an unusual challenge as family members and friends may be returning home or traveling to see others during this time. Being open and transparent with the school allows us all to stay healthy.

- Our family understands that the School strongly recommends that we delay travel (domestic and international) until fully vaccinated.
- If you are not vaccinated and you do travel out of state/country, please **get tested for COVID-19 within 1-3 days before travel and 3-5 days after travel. Even if your test is negative, stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.**
- I/we will wear face coverings and distance as much as is feasible if we attend large gatherings or other activities that do not allow for physical distancing in public.

Please sign this Community Acknowledgement of Expectations

I/We have read and understand the community practices recommended and outlined above. We recognize that if we do not adhere to these recommendations it can create risks to those in the BPC community. We acknowledge that attending in-person classes at the School, participating in extracurricular activities, or accessing the School campus or facilities creates a risk of contracting COVID-19 for the Student and others even if such practices are adhered to.

I/We understand and agree to follow the expectations described above.