



## BPC Community Health Agreement 2022–2023

8/17/22

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 \(& Other Infectious Diseases\) K-8 Safety Plan for the 2022-23 School Year](#), and the [CDPH Public Health Guidance for K–12 Schools](#), and discuss the School's protocols with their child(ren). Children will need to understand what is being asked of them. Parents and guardians should also become familiar with the requirements of the [California Department of Public Health](#), [Alameda Department of Public Health](#), and the [Berkeley Public Health Division](#).

**Please carefully read the Community Health Acknowledgment of Expectations by signing at the bottom of the form. 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 Tuesday, August 23.**

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

John Carlstroem  
Head of School  
[jcarlstroem@blackpinecircle.org](mailto:jcarlstroem@blackpinecircle.org)

Shalini Sharp  
Board Chair

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGMENT 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 via airborne particles and droplets, 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 [COVID-19 \(& Other Infectious Diseases\) K-8 Safety Plan for the 2022-23 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.

### **Preventative Daily Health Screenings and Regular COVID-19 Testing:**

Our family understands that we should monitor our child(ren) daily for symptoms of infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

Our family understands that the School will require students who exhibit symptoms related to COVID-19 to be tested prior to returning to school.

### **Symptom and Quarantine Protocol:**

Our family understands that we will not send our student to School if the student exhibits any new or unexplained symptoms associated with COVID-19 or other infectious diseases (including the Monkeypox Virus), 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 100.4° 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 Office Manager (Lucy at [lmorris@blackpinecircle.org](mailto:lmorris@blackpinecircle.org) or Sonam at [sgonsar@blackpinecircle.org](mailto:sgonsar@blackpinecircle.org) depending on which grade your child is in) immediately if our Student 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 (See [policy](#) for details). 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.

### **Vaccinations**

- Our family understands that the School strongly recommends all eligible Students be vaccinated against COVID-19, remain up to date on boosters, and submit proof of vaccination to [vaxx@blackpinecircle.org](mailto:vaxx@blackpinecircle.org).
- 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.

### **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 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.