



## Black Pine Circle School AQI Policy

(updated August 2024)

In the event of poor air quality (i.e. pollution, fires, etc.), the school will make the determination, **based on the Air Quality Index (AQI) for Berkeley, CA**, whether outdoor activities (outdoor lessons, P.E., recess, and lunch) can continue, and when the BPC school campus will need to close and distance learning will resume.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) for Ozone for the Berkeley, CA area will be determined using the AirNow program's website ([www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)). The guidelines for outdoor activities/indoor-only activities/school closure will be determined by Spare the Air's "Recommendations for Schools and Others on Poor Air Quality Days Air Quality Index (AQI) Chart for Ozone" chart below:

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Color	Description	Recommendations
0 - 50	Green	Good	Air quality is satisfactory and air pollution poses little or no risk. All outdoor activities can continue.  Classroom windows should be left open to allow for natural air ventilation.
51 - 100	Yellow	Moderate	Air quality is acceptable; all outdoor activities can continue, however exceptionally sensitive individuals with respiratory illnesses should limit intense activities and be monitored for respiratory symptoms.*  Classroom windows will be left open to allow for natural air ventilation if allowable.
101 - 150	Orange	Unhealthy for sensitive groups (children and teenagers are considered at-risk/sensitive groups).	All students should move to indoor-only activities.  All windows and doors will be closed, all HVAC and air purification systems will be utilized.
151 - 200	Red	Unhealthy	All students should move to indoor-only activities.  All windows and doors will be closed, all HVAC and air purification systems will be utilized.
201 - 300	Purple	Very unhealthy	School campus will close and school will communicate plans for learning to continue.
> 300	Maroon	Hazardous	School campus will close and school will communicate plans for learning to continue.

\*Air pollution can make asthma symptoms worse and trigger attacks. Symptoms of asthma include coughing, wheezing, difficulty breathing, and chest tightness. Even students who do not have asthma could experience these symptoms. If symptoms occur, the student might need to take a break, do a less intense activity, stop all activity, go indoors, or use quick-relief medicine as prescribed. If symptoms don't improve, get medical help.