

**OZ Covid Task Force
updated April 17, 2022**

Covid-19 Close Contact and Illness Safety Protocol Updates

Updated protocols for Ohavi Zedek Full Circle preschool, Hebrew School, staff and volunteers utilizing the Vermont Department of Health and CDC guidelines

Conditions have changed in our State as there is a rise in Covid cases, and we feel it is necessary to make adjustments to our protocols in order to keep families, children, and teachers safe. **Test to Stay is no longer an option at the preschool if your child becomes a close contact to anyone living in their household. However, Test to Stay protocols remain an option for all children except infants, if a child becomes a close contact of anyone living outside of their household.**

Because the State has decided to phase out the Tests for Tots program, it will no longer be providing Covid Testing Kits. Full Circle will continue to provide kits to families as needed until our supply runs out. When our supply is depleted, it will be the responsibility of the family to acquire antigen tests if they would like their (non-infant) child to attend school while considered a close contact.

A. CHILDREN WHO ARE CLOSE CONTACTS

You will be notified immediately if your child becomes a close contact at school.

Children (non-infants) who are a Close Contact to a Covid-19 positive household member:

If a person living in the same household as a child at Full Circle tests positive for COVID, and the child has not had a documented bout of Covid during the preceding 90 days, then the child must:

- Quarantine at home for 5 days or until the household member is out of isolation.
- Children two and older must have two negative antigen tests no earlier than days 4 and 5 of quarantine
- OR a negative PCR or LAMP test no earlier than Day 5.
- AND no symptoms.

- Children under two must have a negative PCR test no earlier than Day 5.

Children (non-infant) who are a Close Contact (not from a household member):

You will administer an antigen test every day prior to your child's arrival at Full Circle for 5 days.

- If the daily test comes back negative and your child is symptom free, your child can attend childcare.
- If you choose to opt out of Test to Stay, your child must quarantine at home for 5 FULL days and may return to school if they are symptom free and have received EITHER:
 - Two negative antigen tests no earlier than days 4 and 5 of quarantine
 - OR a negative PCR or LAMP test no earlier than Day 5

If your child tests positive, they need to stay home and follow [Vermont Department of Health Guidance](#) for both isolation and return to child care.

Infants who are a Close Contact (from household or non-household members)

Since antigen tests are not as reliable for children under 2, these tests may not be used when an infant becomes a close contact of someone with Covid-19. Therefore, **they must remain home for a 5 day quarantine per the current [CDC Guidelines](#)**, and must receive a negative PCR test no earlier than Day 5 before returning to school.

- **AGE 5 - 17 years old**
Per the Vermont Agency of Education

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-are-close-contact#guidance>

1. If you are up to date on your vaccinations you should get tested if you develop symptoms.

Up to Date means you:

- Had your booster shot OR

- Completed your Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series within the last 5 months OR
- Completed your Johnson & Johnson vaccine within the last 2 months

2. If you are not up to date on vaccinations you should:

- a. No earlier than day 4, take two antigen tests 24 hours apart (or longer) OR
- b. On or after day 5 take a PCR or LAMP test
- c. If you develop symptoms at any time get tested.

B. STAFF WHO ARE CLOSE CONTACTS

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-are-close-contact#guidance>

If you are up to date on your vaccinations you should get tested if you develop symptoms.

Up to Date means you:

- Had your booster shot OR
- Completed your Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series within the last 5 months OR
- Completed your Johnson & Johnson vaccine within the last 2 months

If you are not up to date on vaccinations you should

- a. No earlier than day 4, take two antigen tests 24 hours apart (or longer) OR
- b. On or after day 5 take a PCR or LAMP test
- c. If you develop symptoms at any time get tested.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

If you are a close contact, you might choose to take extra precautions such as **wearing a mask**, which helps protect you and the people around you from getting or spreading COVID-19.

If someone you live with tests positive and you are not vaccinated or up to date on your vaccines, you may choose to get tested after their positive test and again every 2 to 3 days during their isolation.

C. STUDENTS AND STAFF WITH COVID-19 INFECTIONS

Children in the Young Toddler, Older Toddler, Preschool, and Pre-K Rooms, and Staff with COVID-19:

- All children in the Young Toddler, Older Toddler, Preschool, and Pre-K rooms, and staff who contract COVID-19 may return to school after 5 days of isolation with day zero being the first day of symptoms, or day of test if no symptoms. In order to safely return to Full Circle, everyone must have :
 - A negative antigen test after 5 full days of quarantine
 - AND no fever for at least 24 hours without needing fever reducing medication
 - AND significantly improved symptoms.

*If the antigen test is still positive after the 5 days, OR symptoms have not subsided, the individual must continue to test and may return to school once they have received a negative test with significantly improved symptoms.

Infants with COVID-19:

Children in the Infant Room who contract COVID-19 may return to school after **5 full days of isolation and must have:**

- no fever for at least 24 hours without needing fever reducing medication
- AND significantly improved symptoms.

*If symptoms have not subsided, children must remain home until their symptoms have improved. While it is not required, we encourage you to antigen test your infant before returning to school to be sure they are covid free.

*For any adult or child who has been hospitalized with Covid-19, they should have clearance from a health care provider for return to school in addition to meeting the above guidelines. Often hospitalized patients are advised to isolate for longer.

STUDENTS AND STAFF OVER AGE 5:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-test-positive-covid-19>

Stay home and **isolate** for 5 days.

- **You can leave your home after day 5 if your symptoms have improved AND you have had no fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fevers.**
- For any adult or child who has been hospitalized with Covid-19, they should have clearance from a health care provider for return to school in addition to meeting the above guidelines. Often hospitalized patients are advised to isolate for longer.
- The CDC guidelines offer additional guidance encouraging masking for a full 10 days. Those guidelines are here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS WHEN YOU HAVE COVID-19:

If you still have symptoms after completing isolation, you might choose to take extra precautions such as **wearing a mask, which helps protect you and the people around you from getting or spreading COVID-19.**

Additional information and education:

OZCTF is following the guidelines from the Vermont Department of Health and the Burlington School District to make masks optional in all departments and events at Ohavi Zedek including the Full Circle PreSchool, Hebrew School, and sanctuary.

We are very excited about this decision, but at the same time, we realize that this pandemic is likely not over and in the near future, we could experience case surges and new variants and our

course of action could change. We encourage that each and everyone of you still continue to take precautions to prevent spread of illness despite this new and exciting change. Our decision to lift the mask mandate does not mean that masks are discouraged. In fact, masks are strongly encouraged. Here are some recommendations to help you take precautionary measures.

You should consider wearing a mask when you are:

1. Older, immunocompromised, or in close and continuous contact with a person who is unvaccinated and is at risk for COVID- 19.
2. If you are a close contact to someone who has COVID-19
3. If you are still recovering from illness (COVID or non-COVID) and have returned to work . If you are recovering from COVID, we recommend that you wear a mask until 14 days have passed from when you tested positive or when you started to develop symptoms.

Here are other ways to stay safe:

1. Stay up to date on your vaccinations.
2. Stay home and get tested if you're feeling sick. Do not return to work or school until you test negative and you are feeling better. .
3. Consider choosing outdoor versus indoor activities
4. Continue maintaining good ventilation in rooms by keeping windows and doors open if possible
5. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after prolonged contact with people.
6. Do not share food from the same plate, utensils or drinks