

Updated 5/8/2023

OZ's updated COVID-19 policies are consistent with the updated CDC guidelines. We agree that the risk of contracting severe illness by attending synagogue services and OZ events is low for most individuals due to the high vaccination rate, vaccine efficacy, treatment options and good availability of COVID testing.

1. **Masking:**

Due to currently low COVID-19 levels in Chittenden county as determined by the Vermont Department of Health and the CDC, mask use will now be **optional** but we encourage you to use a mask if you feel at risk.

Ohavi Zedek Synagogue is supportive of anyone who chooses to mask at services and events. We will continue to attempt to provide masking sections at services and events.

OZ reserves the right to change this policy based on any changing and updated CDC masking guidelines.

2. Vaccination: Again, we strongly urge members of our congregation to be fully vaccinated including boosters.

3. Please do NOT come to Ohavi Zedek if:

- You feel sick or have symptoms consistent with COVID.
- You test positive for COVID-19

4. If you have been exposed to COVID-19, please follow the updated CDC guidelines below. These guidelines currently strongly urge masking with an N-95 mask or similar for 10 days following exposure and testing on day 5.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html>

5. Singing is allowed during services and Hebrew School/Preschool. Masking is optional for singing.

6. Food preparation and eating is allowed at the synagogue without restrictions. Seating areas will be provided at OZ events for those who wish to maintain physical distance when eating.

7. Group size for gathering will not be limited. This includes events, services, parties, OZ tours, and school events.

8. OZ may reopen to outside groups without additional safety restrictions, with the usual permissions of the OZ leadership.