

## Covid-19 Guidelines

Updated September 21, 2020

These guidelines are from the State of Connecticut, Department of Health (DPH), and Office of Early Childhood (OEC). These guidelines will be in effect until Governor Lamont has released the current state of emergency. This document will be in addition to all other Birch Mountain Day School Handbooks and Policies.

These guidelines are to help reduce the risk of spreading any infectious disease while attending BMDS. These guidelines are based upon medical advice from the CDC, DPH and the Governor's Office.

All parents and staff will wear face masks while in the building.

Parents should take notice of the front hallway area and maintain a 6 foot distance from all other parents. The staff will sign in all parents after they are reviewed the Health Questions on the front podium. Parents in the TOT room, Preschool Prep room, Pre-Kindergarten room and School Age may enter thru the front door and exit thru the side door. Parents in the larger Preschool room will enter and exit to and from the front door.

All children shall remain in their classroom area for the duration of the day. Playground times have been staggered so each class will have their own time outside.

There are extra masks and hand sanitizer for adults in the front office on top of the filing cabinet. Adults may also use any of the sinks in the building. There are sinks as you enter each side of the building when entering a classroom. There are 4-bathroom sinks in the front area and a kitchen sink. All sinks have liquid soap and paper towels available.

All staff and children have increased their hand washing. All will use soap and water for 20 seconds each time. Children will be asked to wash their hands upon arrival. Children will wash their hands before and after using the playground.

All staff and children are screened for any observable illness, including cough or respiratory distress. The staff will use an infrared thermometer to take temperatures. Any temperature over 100°F are not permitted into the program.

All children who may be ill should be kept home. If children become ill during the day, they will be kept in the front office until they are picked up. Children will need a doctor's note to return after having a temperature of 100°F.

If Covid-19 is diagnosed in a child or staff member, the State of CT, DPH and the Town of Manchester, DPH will be notified. The Eastern Highlands Health District will help with contact tracing. The Eastern Highland Health District will make recommendations on how to proceed (closing the entire school or the classroom for 10-14 days).

If a child or staff member is exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 they will remain home until a negative Covid test result is reported.

If children need to quarantine at home, BMDS will continue to provide resources for learning. The staff will deliver materials to your home as well as send videos of the class, videos of the teacher reading and other materials.

All surfaces and toys used daily will be routinely cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected frequently. This will also include doorknobs. (All other areas, such as cots, tables, counters, sinks, etc. have always been cleaned daily.)

Where cots / cribs are used for naptime the children will be placed head to toe and as far apart as possible.

All items that cannot be thoroughly cleaned will not be used. Play-dough, rice table, sand play, dress up, dolls, puppets, dolls, stuffed animals, etc. have all been removed. This also includes art smocks that the children wear when painting! We always use washable paint.

Travel outside of Connecticut: Parents, Children and Staff are requested to self-quarantine for 14 days if they travel to one of the States listed by the Governor of CT. The below website has an updated list. Please inform us if you travel outside of Connecticut.

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/Travel-In-or-Out-of-C>

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All parents need to sign a "Consent Form" upon arrival of their first day of Summer Camp.

It is important to note that BMDS has remained open during this pandemic.

The staff has been given in depth training on safe practices.

(Things are constantly changing, I will inform parents and staff as soon as I am notified of changes.)

Update September 21, 2020

All children over the age of 3 will be required to wear a mask during the school day. We are going to do our best to follow thru with this guideline. We will encourage children to wear them and not play with them. If any child needs a break from the mask they will be immediately given a break.

I have read and understand the BMDS Covid-19 Guideline.

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Child's Name

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Parent's Printed Name

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Date

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Parent's Signed Name