



Krieger Schechter Day School Health and Safety Fast Facts and Q&A

(As of August 10, 2021)

What is the policy regarding masks?

Masks are required in all public spaces in the building by all adults and students regardless of vaccination status.

Are there *Kevutzot* (pods) this year? No

Does that mean that there is mixing of students/classes within the grade? Yes

What about the mixing of students between grades?

Most of the mixing of students between grades takes place after schools (enrichment, sports, Playkeepers). There may be times during the school day where students are mixed between grades (example: assemblies, specific academic services). In general, the school will limit the mixing of students between grades indoors for the first few weeks of school.

So if we are outdoors, masks do not need to be worn? Correct.

***Our masking policy is likely to change during the course of the year and if we find ourselves able to liberalize, we will do so safely. Our aim is for consistency. Any decision regarding a change in mask policy will be fully vetted by both the Health and Safety Committee and the Chizuk Amuno Congregation & Schools administration.

Are there mask breaks?

There is a scheduled morning mask break for all grades K-8. Due to the fact that the middle school has the earliest lunch/recess block and dismisses 30 minutes later than the lower school, the MS will also have a brief mask break each afternoon.

Can students remove their masks in the classroom?

Yes, with permission from the teacher for brief periods of time. This may include drinking and on occasion, eating. The majority of snack time will be outdoors.

Daily Health Screening

There will be no daily health screening for students or employees this year. However, there will be a "Decision Aid" chart and any students experiencing symptoms, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, will not be permitted to enter school. The Decision Aid chart will be shared prior to the first day of school.

What if a student has a known exposure?

Any individual (students included), vaccinated or unvaccinated, who has a known exposure to COVID-19 (as defined by the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)) shall remain home and obtain a PCR test on the 4th or 5th day after the known exposure (with the date of exposure being day zero). The student may return to school after providing the negative result

to the nurse's office in writing. In other words, regardless of vaccination status, if you are indoors and unmasked and have a known exposure, you must stay home.

What if someone tests positive for COVID-19?

The person shall remain home for a period of at least ten days. The family should notify the school nurses and they will determine the date of return.

Will students be permitted to Zoom into classes this year?

Generally, no. Zoom will be permitted only for students who test positive for COVID-19. At that time, the teacher will reach out to the family to make arrangements for when it is possible for the student to join the class via Zoom; please note that it may not be possible to Zoom in for all classes during that required quarantine period. Clearly, in the event of a quarantine for a large group of students/class, arrangements will be made to hold classes virtually.

Do we need to adhere to any social distancing?

We will be keeping 3 feet of distance between desks/tables in classrooms. We will be limiting the number of students using certain spaces such as the chapel, gym locker room and youth lounge and ensuring proper distance between students when using those spaces.

Arrival, Dismissal and Carpools

Parents may walk up to designated areas for drop off and pick up if they choose. We ask parents to respect the personal space of others.

All students sharing rides (carpools) with other students are asked to keep masks on in the car.

What is the policy regarding visitors to the building?

Visitors are by appointment only, for fully vaccinated individuals.

What about parents who drop off late or pick up early?

Parents coming to the building to pick up early or drop off late should go to the security guard who will call down to the school. Aside from scheduled appointments, we are requesting that parents remain in the main vestibule by the security guard.

What about Back to School Night and Parent-Teacher Conferences?

Back to School night will be held on-campus for fully vaccinated parents/guardians only. Fall Parent-Teacher conferences will take place via Zoom.

Will there be substitute teachers?

Most subbing is covered internally. When an outside substitute is used, the individual will be fully vaccinated.

Gym and Middle School Sports:

Sports will be held primarily outdoors, except during inclement weather.

The locker rooms will be reserved for middle school student use for after-school athletics only. The coaches will adhere to a capacity limit and ensure ample time for all students to change.

Additional information regarding middle school sports will be shared by the athletic director including specific protocols for away games.

What about basketball?

No decision has been made yet regarding the winter basketball season. A meeting of the athletic directors will take place in early October after which a plan for the season will be reviewed by the Health and Safety Committee.

Field Trips

We intend to take scheduled field trips throughout the year. Details will be shared in advance.

Water Fountains

All water fountains are now updated to include a bottle filler. The drinking fountain portion will remain off for the entirety of the school year. Students should bring with them a refillable water bottle that is clearly labeled with the student's name on it.

Lunch/Hot Lunch

For the first trimester, all lunches shall take place outdoors, in one of the 7 designated tents. We will revisit the possibility of eating indoors again later this fall. Hot lunch will begin in October. Details will be shared after the start of the school year.

In the event of inclement weather, the school will use its discretion to move eating indoors with added distance between students (as we did last year).

Minyan, Singing, Morning Assembly, Choir

We will return to pre-COVID routine when it comes to singing of the National Anthem, *Hatikvah* and prayers during *t'fillah*, as well as LS and MS Choirs. Torah reading may be chanted and students may take an *aliyah*. It is understood that all of this is taking place indoors with masks on or outdoors with masks off.