



Roadmap for Reopening 2020-2021

Updated August 28, 2020





OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF BUILDING TORAH

TA's ROADMAP FOR REOPENING

These past number of months have been challenging for our TA *talmidim*, *Rebbeim*, teachers, and community. We continue to daven that Hashem bring an abrupt end to this pandemic, and that our Yeshiva, *talmidim* and community can fully return to the *limud Hatorah*, growth and success that TA experienced before any of us knew the word "COVID-19". **TA's Roadmap for Reopening** outlines our plan and *hishtadlus* for the continued operation of our Yeshiva during the COVID-19 pandemic. At its core, the TA experience is defined and shaped by the *rebbe/teacher* and *talmid* relationship. Our goal is to open the 2020-2021 school year on time and on campus, and we daven to Hashem that he grant us the *siyata dishmaya* to be able to do so.

ROADMAP PLANNING

How Did We Get Here?

Three separate areas of focus were considered and weighed as part of the development of TA's Roadmap. This plan recognizes all of these competing needs and attempts to find a reasonable and practical common ground upon which we can begin the new year. This will require shifting many of our routines, schedules, and systems to create a safe and healthy learning experience.



HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines

Baltimore County & Maryland State Health Departments

TA Medical Committee



CHINUCH & EDUCATION

Menahelim and Principals

Rebbeim and Teachers

Vaad HaChinuch



OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS

Facilities

Food Service

IT Dept

Budget

GUIDING PRINCIPLES



01 HEALTH & SAFETY

The overall health and safety of students and staff is paramount and supersedes all other considerations. That being said, we recognize that despite our best efforts to mitigate risk, it is impossible to eliminate it. We also recognize that risks of *talmidim* being in school must be weighed against equal or greater risks of them not being in school.

02 OPTIMAL CHINUCH AND EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT

TA is following the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) principle that the "all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school." In line with this principle, TA will strive to provide face-to-face learning over remote learning as long as it is safe to do so.

03 FLEXIBILITY

TA realizes that the nature and progress of the COVID-19 pandemic is fluid. Different models must be created to deal with different scenarios of safety and education. Face to face learning, hybrid learning and distance learning are all scenarios that must be planned for. TA's models must be flexible and nimble in responding to new information by having **the ability to move from different models on a weekly or even daily basis.**

04 ACCOMODATIONS

Special considerations and accommodations must be in place to account for our vulnerable populations, including those who are medically fragile, have developmental challenges, or have special health care needs or disabilities.

05 SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

In order to ensure the successful reopening of school, it will be critical that all members of our Yeshiva community (administrators, teachers, staff, students and parents) take responsibility for the care, health and safety of our community. This shared responsibility will require continual collaboration and communication.

HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGY



TA's **Health and Safety Strategy** focuses on two main components, **minimizing exposure and close contact** and **minimizing spread**. These two components will guide all health and safety decisions as school reopens in 2020-2021.



MINIMIZING EXPOSURE AND CLOSE CONTACT

Social Distancing

Face Coverings

Hand Washing & Sanitizing

Cleaning & Disinfection



MINIMIZING SPREAD

Screening & Temperature Checks

Separate Cohorts

Alternate Scheduling

Tracing & Exclusion

HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is considered a major mitigation measure against the spread of COVID-19. TA is implementing measures to encourage 6-foot social distancing to the greatest extent possible while in the school building and on school grounds. Schedules are being adjusted to avoid gathering, occupancy limits are being implemented in many areas, locker use is being discontinued, and cohorting of students will be in effect. Additionally, the use of polycarbonate shields and sneeze guards will be in place in areas where 6-foot social distancing is more difficult.

FACE COVERINGS

Wearing cloth masks properly has been shown to lower the risk of spreading COVID-19, especially when distancing 6 feet apart is challenging. **Therefore, all students ages 5 and above must wear self-supplied cloth or other CDC approved masks when indoors, and outdoors when safe and feasible, and where distancing is not possible.** Schedules will be revised to include structured mask breaks throughout the day while still preventing students from being in close contact. TA will follow the MDH/MSDE “Guidance for Use of Cloth Face Coverings in Child Care Programs” when considering the use of a cloth face covering in students below age 5 years. We encourage parents to purchase and test out comfortable masks that fit their child and begin accustoming children to wearing them so they are used to it prior to the start of school.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY (cont.)

HAND WASHING AND SANITIZING

The campus will be equipped with additional hand sanitizer dispensers in every classroom and in common areas, along with hand washing stations with soap and water. Students will be taught proper hand-washing techniques, and frequent hand-washing will be incorporated into the daily schedules.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Comprehensive sanitizing schedule and protocols will be implemented. The maintenance and cleaning policies have been updated to include vigorous disinfection on a routine basis. Modifications are being made to the campus to ensure that we maintain the highest standards of hygiene. We have hired additional staff for daytime school hours, as well as for our nighttime cleaning. All high-touch areas will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Examples of high touch areas include, but are not limited to doors/doorknobs, stair railings, sinks and soap dispensers, toilets etc. Shared items will be limited and for those that are shared, they will be disinfected between uses.



HVAC

Every classroom in TA is equipped with its own HVAC system so that the air that is circulating around that classroom is not mixing with other classrooms. Settings are being adjusted to bring in more fresh air from the outside as well as the implementation of HEPA filters where needed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY (cont.)

SCREENING AND TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Daily temperature and health screening for all staff and students will be implemented. Any staff or students who have indicated any COVID-19 symptoms or possible exposure will not be permitted to enter the school buildings. A copy of the daily screening questionnaire can be found at the end of this document.

SEPARATE COHORTS

A **Cohort** is defined as a group of people who could potentially have common exposure. Grouping students together for the year in cohorts, and not mixing cohorts, avoids potential cross-contamination. Using cohorts will be a primary component of TA's Health and Safety Plan. Every effort will be made to keep the size of cohorts as small as possible, based on factors such as educational concerns, logistics, staffing and scheduling.

ALTERNATE SCHEDULING

An alternate or modified scheduling of the school day will allow cohorts to remain separate and not mix, therefore decreasing the likelihood of cross-contamination. It will also allow for possible additional times for structured mask breaks.

TRACING AND EXCLUSION

TA will create strong policies for identifying signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and minimize potential spread through tracing and isolation of affected individuals or cohorts. TA's isolation plan is found at the end of this document.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY (cont.)

VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

No visitors will be permitted into buildings. Parents will be provided specific instructions on interacting with the office while on campus.

TUTORS & THERAPISTS

Tutors and therapists, who typically may be in close proximity to students, will utilize mask wearing and polycarbonate partitions, where distancing is not possible.

OCCUPANCY RESTRICTIONS

Certain communal areas, such as teachers lounges and conference rooms will have maximum occupancy restrictions, depending on room size and use, to ensure 6-foot social distancing while using those areas.

FOOD SERVICE

Meals during school will take place on a staggered schedule, in a variety of locations, for all divisions. The logistics of meal service are being planned to ensure maximum safety and ability to remain in cohorts during mealtimes. Some students will eat in classrooms, while others will eat on a staggered schedule, in their cohorts, in the cafeteria. Our hot lunch program will continue this year. All health department regulations with regards to the service of food during the COVID-19 pandemic will be adhered to.



HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY (cont.)

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

We strongly recommend that parents consider driving their own child to and from school. If you do carpool, students from the same cohort should carpool together. Please bear in mind that entire carpools will need to quarantine in the case of exposure of any of the students in the carpool. Additionally, masks must be worn by all occupants of the vehicle, and windows should be cracked open. Due to our cohort policy, we cannot accommodate early drop-offs.

MTA BUS

Since a key component of TA's safety strategy is the use of cohorts and not mixing of students, there will unfortunately be no MTA bus service to TA this year. While we realize this presents an inconvenience to our parent body, and it is not something we take lightly, we nevertheless feel that it necessary. Having a large group of students together, with no ability to monitor social distancing or face coverings undermines the cohort concept for the entire school and presents additional risks of exposure and spread.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Due to our cohort policy, we will unfortunately be unable to offer our planned STAY@TA after school program, which was slated to begin this September. Refunds will be issued to those who had preregistered.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Age-appropriate signs will be posted around campus and in all buildings and classrooms to encourage safe behavior and practices.





EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY

While TA is making every effort to open school fully in September, we also realize that the nature and progress of the COVID-19 pandemic is fluid. Different models must be created to deal with different scenarios of safety and education. We have identified the following three models: Face to face learning, hybrid learning and distance learning.

FACE TO FACE
LEARNING

HYBRID
LEARNING

DISTANCE
LEARNING

EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY

01 |

FULLY IN SCHOOL: FACE TO FACE LEARNING

This option is the optimal environment for learning and is what we hope school will look like for most of the year. All students will have regular classroom instruction, with appropriate safety measures in place.

02 |

HYBRID MODEL

This option can be used when some of the class is in school for regular classroom instruction, but some students are learning remotely. This can happen if based on local conditions, TA would increase restrictions to only allow smaller groups of students in school at once time, with others using distance learning (A/B Model), or in a case where certain students are quarantined or otherwise out of school for COVID-19 related reasons. In this scenario, Rebbeim and teachers will continue teaching in the classroom, with the ability for students at home to access the live classroom and all learning materials. Talmidim would use their Yeshiva-issued tablets (or Chromebooks for Mesivta) to access all classroom activities.

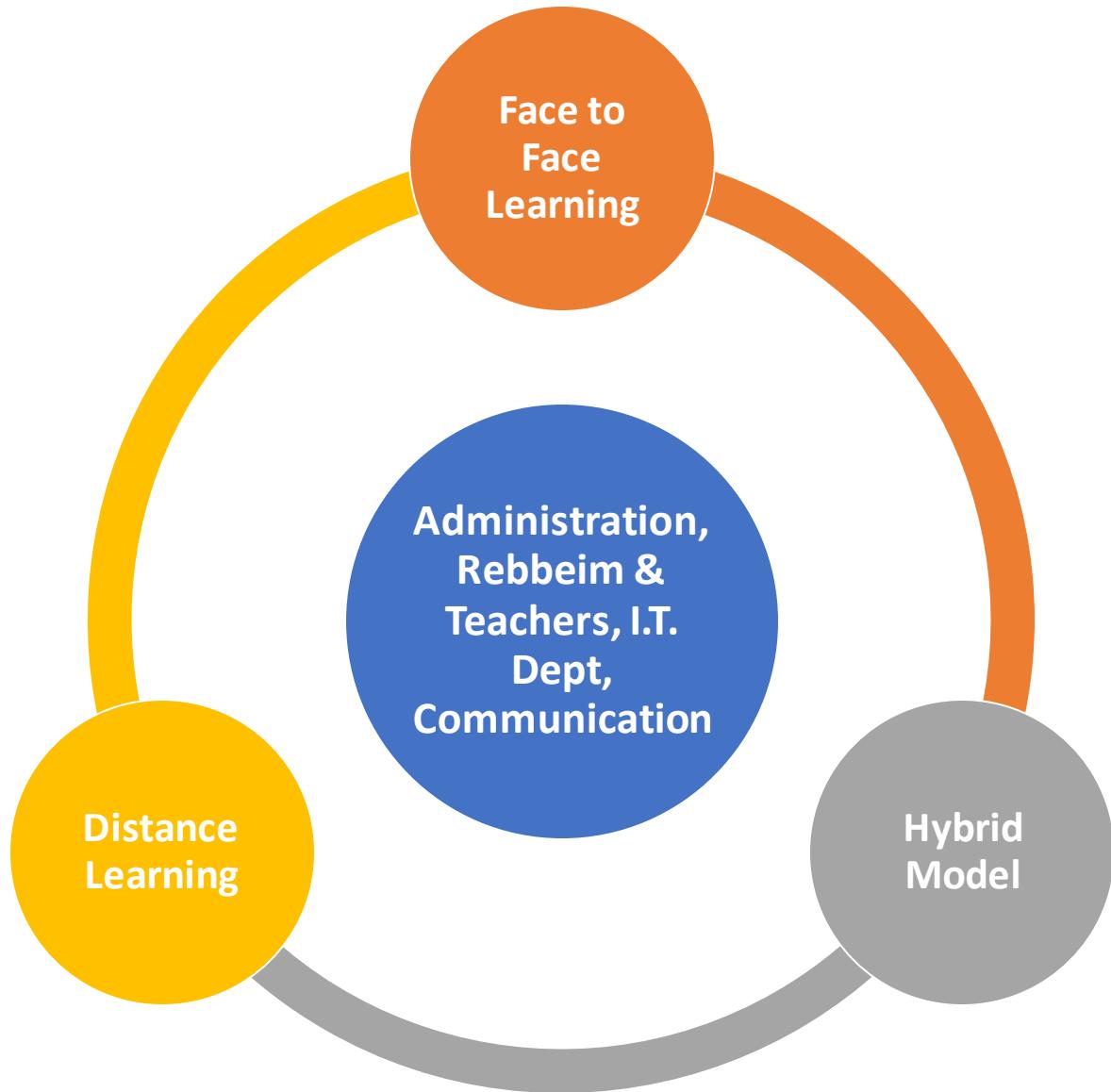
03 |

FULL DISTANCE LEARNING

In the unfortunate scenario where an entire class would need to be home, learning would continue from home via zoom on Yeshiva-issued tablets and Chromebooks. A possible scenario where this would take place would be in a case where a student or staff member within a cohort tests positive for COVID-19, and the entire cohort must quarantine or self-isolate for 14 days.

FLEXIBILITY

TA's models must be flexible and nimble in responding to new information by having **the ability to move from different models on a weekly or even daily basis.**



Extra-curricular activities, assemblies, fairs, and other events will be revamped for safety, and only take place if proper protocols can be followed. Each event will be planned and implemented on an individual basis, weighing the educational benefits vs. any potential risks involved.

2020-2021 School Policies

Based on the guiding principles, health and safety strategy and educational strategy, following are specific school policies for the 2020-2021 school year, by division.

EARLY CHILDHOOD



ELEMENTARY



MIDDLE SCHOOL



MESIVTA



| | Early Childhood | Elementary | Middle School | High School |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Cohorts | Cohorts will be by class and will not mix. | Cohorts will be by class and will not mix. | Cohorts will be implemented by grade and will not mix. | Cohorts will be implemented by grade and will not mix. |
| Face Coverings | Anyone age 5 and above, including students and staff, will be required to wear a face covering. | | | |
| Hand Washing & Sanitizing (keep the same) | <p>All staff and students should wash their hands/sanitize before leaving the classroom and when returning. Toys and materials should be wiped down between students when practical. When using public equipment, the teacher of the last class sanitizes before handing it over to the next group.</p> | | | |

| | Early Childhood | Elementary | Middle School | High School |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Visitors & Personnel | No visitors allowed inside the EC building at any time. Special accommodations will be made for student orientation. Tutors and therapists will wear masks. All teacher and parent meetings, including prospective parent tours, will be conducted on Zoom. Limit of 2 people in the elevator. | No visitors will be allowed inside the Elementary building at any time. Tutors, therapists and staff in the Lamdeinu Learning Center will wear masks and/or utilize partitions/sneeze guards. All teacher and parent meetings, including prospective parent tours, will be conducted on Zoom. | No visitors will be allowed inside the Middle School building at any time. | No visitors will be allowed inside the High School building at any time. |
| Indoor Recess and Gym | Outdoor playground time and indoor use of the fun room will be scheduled to allow cohorts to play separately. All areas will be sanitized between cohorts. Special activities will be arranged to encourage distancing | There will be no mixing of cohorts during the indoor recess or use of the gym. | | |
| Food Service | All meals and snacks will be in the classroom, with cohort. | Food service for Middle School will be in the Middle School cafeteria, with staggered schedules by cohort and | Food service for High School will be in the High School cafeteria, with staggered schedules by cohort | |

| | Early Childhood | Elementary | Middle School | High School |
|---|---|------------|--|-------------|
| Hallways & Lockers | Scheduling will be arranged to provide for cohorts to move through hallways without mixing. | | Scheduling will be arranged to provide for cohorts to move through hallways without mixing. Lockers will not be used. Books will be kept in backpacks and homerooms. same | |
| Assemblies & School Gatherings | Assemblies and school gatherings will be restructured and staggered so that cohorts do not mix. In many cases, students will stay inside their classrooms and assemblies will be livestreamed into the classroom. | | | |

HANDLING ILLNESS & COVID-19



TA is committed to keeping our students safe and healthy the entire school year. As parents ourselves, we understand that regular childhood illnesses are still occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic. Partnership between TA and our parent body will be critical this year to ensure the wellbeing of all our students. **Parental expectations** are outlined below to help keep all our students safe. Various **forms and procedures** for parents and staff will ensure that protocol is followed.



PARENT EXPECTATIONS

DAILY SCREENING

Parents will be required to screen their child(ren) each morning for symptoms and submit a screening form to TA before arrival. Parents must report any suspected or confirmed COVID-19 exposure.

FEVER AND MEDICATION

DO NOT give your child fever reducing medication prior to the school day (i.e. Tylenol/Motrin), for any reason. If you think your child may need medication for any reason, please keep them home and contact your doctor.

ILLNESS

If your child was diagnosed with a communicable disease (i.e. cold or flu), he must bring a doctor's note to allow him to return to class.

AVAILABILITY

A parent or emergency contact must be available to pick up your child as soon as possible, should fever or other signs of illness be detected.

PROCESS FOR PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

No parents are permitted inside the school buildings. When you arrive to pick up your child, please call the office and your child will be brought out to you.

COMMUNICATION AND MEETINGS

Until further notice, all parent meetings will take place via Zoom.

DAILY SCREENING FORM



Talmudical Academy

Parent/Guardian Certification: COVID Symptom Screening

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Please complete this form each morning before your child leaves for school. He will not be allowed into school without it.

| | | NO | YES |
|---|--|---|-----|
| Has your child been diagnosed with Covid-19 within the past 10 days? | | | |
| Student's current temperature: | | Did your child have a fever of 100.4 F within the last 24 hours or symptoms of new onset of cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of sense of taste or smell ? | |
| Does your child have at least 2 of the following: chills, shivering, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea), fatigue, and congestion or runny nose? | | | |
| Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) to anyone with suspected or confirmed Covid-19 within the past 14 days? | | | |
| Has your son participated unmasked, in a large gathering with people in close proximity (Most simchas fit this definition) in the past 10 days? | | | |

If you answer "Yes" to any of these questions, do not send your child to and call the school. Please do not write anything else on this form.

Parent/Guardian: I, parent/guardian listed below, certify the following information is true to the best of my knowledge as of:

Date: _____ Time: _____ Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian: PRINT: First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Next Steps If You Answer "Yes" on a Daily Health Screening Form

Next Steps If You Answer "Yes" on a Daily Health Screening Form

1. Have you tested positive with Covid-19 within the past 10 days?

Isolate at home, away from other family members if possible. Notify your healthcare provider. You can return to school 10 days from the start of symptoms or from the positive test, if symptoms are improving AND you have been fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications. Please fill out the **Notification of COVID-19 Exposure form** to file a COVID exposure report with TA.

2. Have you had a fever of 100.4 F within the last 24 hours or symptoms of new onset of cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing or new loss of sense of taste or smell?

Please call your doctor and let them know what symptoms you are experiencing. Once you are better, you can return to school IF you have a doctor's note attributing the symptoms to something other than COVID19, such as strep throat or an ear infection.

If COVID19 is suspected, you must isolate for 10 days and at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication OR provide a negative COVID19 test to return to school. If COVID-19 is suspected or you have a pending COVID test, please fill out the online form.

3. Do you have at least 2 of the following: chills, shivering, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea), fatigue and congestion or runny nose?

Please call your doctor and let them know what symptoms you are experiencing. Once you are better, you can return to school IF you have a doctor's note attributing the symptoms to something other than COVID19, such as strep throat or an ear infection.

Otherwise, you must isolate for 10 days and at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication OR provide a negative COVID19 test to return to school. If COVID is suspected or you have a pending COVID test, please fill out the online form.

4. Have you had close contact* (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) to anyone with suspected or confirmed Covid-19 within the past 14 days?

Quarantine for 14 days from the exposure. If symptoms develop, you can return 10 days from onset of symptoms if improving AND 24 hours and you have been fever (without fever reducing medication. Please note that you will not be able to return to school even if you receive a negative test during this time frame.

5. Have you participated, unmasked, in a large gathering with people in close proximity (most simchas fit this definition) in the past 10 days?

Large gatherings such as these have shown to contribute to the spread of COVID19. Therefore, we are requiring a 10 day precautionary period to identify emerging cases and prevent further spread. During this time period, you may not attend TA.

***For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.**

For all of the above listed scenarios, please fill out the online form called **Notification of COVID-19 Exposure** as soon as possible. This is necessary in order to identify close contacts as soon as possible and protect our staff and student body.

ONLINE FORM: Notification of COVID-19 Exposure

It is imperative that every parent or staff member fill out this form as soon as they are aware of an exposure or a positive test for themselves or a close contact. Please be aware that this information will be kept confidential and will only be used to protect other students and staff members by informing them of exposures. This information will be immediately sent to the nursing staff and appropriate division administrators (even outside school hours) so mitigation steps can be taken immediately.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Select those that apply:

I have received a positive COVID19 test.

I am under investigation for COVID19.

A member(s) of my household (non-student/staff member) is/are under investigation for COVID19

A member(s) of my household who is a TA student/staff member is under investigation for COVID19

Name(s): _____

I have been notified that a member of my household who is a TA student/staff member has tested positive for COVID19

Name(s): _____

I have had close contact with someone (non-student/staff member) who has tested positive for COVID19.

I have had close contact with a TA staff member/student who has tested positive for COVID19 or is under investigation for COVID19

Name(s) _____

ISOLATION SPACE PROTOCOL

Talmudical Academy

Isolation Area Protocol for COVID-19

CDC provides guidance on an isolation plan if someone arrives or becomes ill at school. The definition of **isolation** “separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick” (CDC, 2017).

Isolation Area

- The outdoor space adjacent to the health office offers optimal outdoor air and immediate exit availability without exposing any other parts of campus.
- School nurse (or trained staff) will be able to monitor those students in the isolation space.

Isolation Procedure

- Any suspected COVID case will be masked (if able to tolerate) and immediately brought to the isolation space. The nurse will be notified that there is a student there and will put on PPE and meet the student there. **THE STUDENT SHOULD NOT BE SENT TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.**
 - The following symptoms will be considered as needing isolation: (2 or more besides fever, cough, and SOB)
 - Cough
 - Fever >100.0
 - Chills
 - Nasal congestion/ Runny nose
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Diarrhea
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Muscle or body aches
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Signs and symptoms of MIS-C:
 - Rash. Red eyes. Cracked/swollen lips. Red/swollen tongue. Swelling hands/feet. Stomach pain.
 - If the school nurse deems that the student is in distress, based on the physical exam, the nurse or trainer will call Hatzolah or 911 immediately. Symptoms prompting a call to 911 include, but are not limited to:
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - SPO2 <95% in a student without an underlying respiratory condition

- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Confusion or change in behavior
- Altered level of consciousness
- Circumoral cyanosis or change in coloring to face and/or extremities
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Should the school nurse determine that the student should be sent home, they will contact the student's parent/guardian or emergency contact. Pick up will occur within 45 minutes of contact.
- Should the isolated student need to use the restroom, the room will not be available to any other employee or student until it has been disinfected appropriately. Notification will be posted on the restroom door stating that the restroom is currently closed. The sign will be removed after the restroom has been appropriately disinfected.
- Student exit via area of least exposure.
- The school nurse will provide the parent/guardian or emergency contact with written instructions regarding the need to home isolate and/or visit their primary health care provider.
- Remember that *schools are not expected to screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19*. If a school has cases of COVID-19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and will follow up on next steps.
- N95 masks are recommended for healthcare providers and must be fitted to ensure proper protection.
- If N95 masks are not available due to supply issues, surgical masks and face shields may be used.
- The chair used by the ill student will be disinfected once they leave.
- If multiple students are in the isolation space at the same time they will maintain a distance of 6 feet or greater from each other.

References:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html>

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NASN/3870c72d-fff9-4ed7-833f-215de278d256/UploadedImages/PDFs/03182020_NASN_Considerations_for_School_Nurses_Regarding_Care_of_Students_and_Staff_that_Become_Ill_at_School_or_Arrive_Sick.pdf



PARENT RESPONSIBILITY FORM/COVID POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Talmudical Academy has implemented COVID Policies and Procedures to reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during school and activities. We will continue to work closely with local officials and adhere to CDC guidelines and/or the Maryland Department of Health recommendations.

Federal and state health agencies recommend various measures to mitigate the risk of contracting COVID-19. Talmudical Academy has communicated the measures that it has taken and will continue to take to mitigate the risks of the virus. Some of these measures include policies for health screening (e.g., temperature and symptom checks), cohorting of classes, social distancing among students and faculty, use of personal protective equipment such as masks and barriers, and cleaning and sanitizing of equipment and facilities.

- I understand that Talmudical Academy has implemented protocols that require my child to adhere to certain practices designed to mitigate the risks of contracting the virus. These include (but may not be limited to) measures such as social distancing from other persons, the use of personal protective equipment, health screening.
- There are always risks when people congregate. I understand that while present in school, my child will be in contact with children, teachers, and other employees who are also at risk of community exposure. I understand that no list of restrictions, guidelines, or practices will remove 100% of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 as the virus can be transmitted by persons who are asymptomatic and before some people show signs of infection.
- I understand there is an inherent risk that my child may become infected with COVID-19 due to his or her attendance at school. The majority of children with COVID-19 will have mild symptoms. I acknowledge and assume the risk of my child becoming infected with COVID-19 at school, becoming either symptomatic or an asymptomatic carrier of the virus and potentially infecting other persons at school, home, or other settings.
- I have assessed our family's risk concerning the particular vulnerability of any member or members of our household. If I decide, or I am advised by my physician, that my child should not attend school in person, Talmudical Academy will offer support to continue the education of my children through a combination of distance and independent learning as appropriate for my child's age.
- I will monitor my child daily, and not send my child to school if they or anyone in the home exhibits any of the following symptoms: new onset of cough or shortness of breath, temperature of 100.0 F, runny nose, sore throat, achiness/muscle pain, headache, stomach upset, vomiting, diarrhea, or sudden loss of taste/smell.
- I understand that to attend Talmudical Academy on-premises, my child must be free of all symptoms of illness at the start of and continuing throughout the day. If, during the day, staff are concerned about the health of my child, I will be contacted and will endeavor to pick up my child within 45 minutes of being notified.
- I will immediately notify the School if I become aware that my child or other family member exhibits any of the symptoms of COVID-19 outlined above or tests positive for COVID-19.
- I will not send my child to school if they or a household member has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
- I understand that the school will inform parents if any student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19. The identity of the student or teacher will not be released, but the information will be provided for other parents to take necessary safety precautions.
- If I choose to carpool with another family, all members of the carpool, including the driver and passengers, will wear masks and the windows will be kept open.
- I understand that if my child is unable or unwilling to adhere to grade-level expectations established by the School to mitigate spread of infection, I will be contacted by the School to pick up my child.
- I will vaccinate my child, unless medically exempt, with the annual influenza vaccine prior to November 1, 2020 in order to reduce the spread of illness in school.
- I acknowledge our shared family responsibility to promote and adhere to these protocols to reduce the risks of contracting or spreading the virus at school. I understand that outside of school, to control my child's exposure in the community, I will follow the guidelines and recommendations from the CDC and/or County and City ordinances that limit my child's exposure. These include wearing masks in all public areas, social distancing, and travel advisories.
- I understand that Talmudical Academy does not take responsibility for any medical or other expenses or losses if my child or family gets sick during enrolled periods. I understand that I am fully responsible for tuition for my enrolled period, regardless of attendance or quarantine. I understand that I play a crucial role in keeping everyone in the School safe and reducing the risk of exposure by following the practices outlined herein.

By signing this document, I acknowledge:

I have thoroughly read the COVID Policies and Procedures for returning to in-person learning at Talmudical Academy and hereby acknowledge that this list is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with attending Talmudical Academy.

I understand that failure to comply with any of the policies and procedures set forth by the school may result in the immediate dismissal of my child from Talmudical Academy.

Despite all of these precautions, the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 cannot completely be eliminated. I agree that I will not hold Talmudical Academy, ITS EMPLOYEES, FACULTY, ADMINISTRATORS, OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, OR ANY OTHER AGENT OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOL, responsible or LIABLE IN ANY WAY, if my child or any other member of my family contracts COVID-19.

Student Name: _____
Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES FORM



STAFF RESPONSIBILITY FORM/COVID POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Talmudical Academy has implemented COVID Policies and Procedures to reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during school and activities. We will continue to work closely with local officials and adhere to CDC guidelines and/or the Maryland Department of Health recommendations.

Federal and state health agencies recommend various measures to mitigate the risk of contracting COVID-19. Talmudical Academy has communicated the measures that it has taken and will continue to take to mitigate the risks of the virus. Some of these measures include policies for health screening (e.g., temperature and symptom checks), cohorting of students, social distancing among students and faculty, use of personal protective equipment such as masks and barriers, and cleaning and sanitizing of equipment and facilities.

- I understand that Talmudical Academy has implemented protocols that require me to adhere to certain practices designed to mitigate the risks of contracting the virus. These include (but may not be limited to) measures such as social distancing from other persons, the use of personal protective equipment, health screening.
- There are always risks when people congregate. I understand that while present in school, I will be in contact with children, teachers, and other employees who are also at risk of community exposure. I understand that no list of restrictions, guidelines, or practices will remove 100% of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 as the virus can be transmitted by persons who are asymptomatic and before some people show signs of infection.
- I understand there is an inherent risk that I may become infected with COVID-19 due to employment at school. I acknowledge and assume the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 at school, becoming either symptomatic or an asymptomatic carrier of the virus and potentially infecting other persons at school, home, or other settings.
- I have assessed our family's risk concerning the particular vulnerability of any member or members of our household and have consulted with a physician if I have any concerns.
- I will monitor myself daily, and not come to school if I or anyone in the home exhibits any of the following symptoms: new onset of cough or shortness of breath, temperature of 100.4 F, runny nose, sore throat, achiness/muscle pain, headache, stomach upset, vomiting, diarrhea, or sudden loss of taste/smell.
- I understand that to attend Talmudical Academy on-premises, I must be free of all symptoms of illness at the start of and continuing throughout the day. If, during the day, I start to feel sick, I will let the nurse and/or an administrator know as soon as possible.

- I will immediately notify the School if I become aware that I or another family member exhibits any of the symptoms of COVID-19 outlined above or tests positive for COVID-19.
- I will stay home from school if I or another family member have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days or if I have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
- I understand that the school will inform parents and faculty if any student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19. The identity of the student or teacher will not be released, but the information will be provided for other parents to take necessary safety precautions.
- If I choose to carpool with another family, or drive other students for pay, all members of the carpool, including the driver and passengers, will wear masks and the windows will be kept open.
- I agree to receive the influenza vaccine before November 1, 2020, in order to reduce the risk of illness in school this year.
- I acknowledge our shared family responsibility to promote and adhere to these protocols to reduce the risks of contracting or spreading the virus at school. I understand that outside of school, to control my exposure in the community, I will follow the guidelines and recommendations from the CDC and/or County and City ordinances that limit my exposure. These include wearing masks in all public areas, social distancing, and travel advisories.

By signing this document, I acknowledge: I have thoroughly read the COVID Policies and Procedures for returning to in-person teaching/working at Talmudical Academy and hereby acknowledge that this list is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with working at Talmudical Academy.

I understand that I play a crucial role in keeping everyone in the School safe and reducing the risk of exposure by following the practices outlined herein. I understand that failure to comply with any of the policies and procedures set forth by the school may result in the immediate dismissal from Talmudical Academy.

Despite all of these precautions, the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 cannot completely be eliminated. I agree that I will not hold Talmudical Academy, ITS EMPLOYEES, FACULTY, ADMINISTRATORS, OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, OR ANY OTHER AGENT OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOL, responsible or LIABLE IN ANY WAY, if I or any other member of my family contracts COVID-19.

NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES FORM



TUITION AND REFUNDS

TUITION &
SCHOLARSHIPS

COVID-19
REFUND
POLICIES



TUITION and SCHOLARSHIPS

As was announced to our parents earlier this summer, TA will not be increasing tuition rates for the 2020-2021 school year.

The scholarship process has also been streamlined for this year. Any family whose income has not changed by more than 5% from last year, will receive the same scholarship this year, with no need to reapply. Any family whose income has changed by 5% $(+/-)$ will continue to go through the regular scholarship process and reapply to be assessed by the tuition committee.

COVID-19 REFUND POLICY

Early Childhood: TA recognizes that distance learning is not designed to meet the educational and social needs of our youngest Early Childhood students in the 3 and 4 year old nursery classes. Therefore, we have developed a refund policy relevant to those classes our Early Childhood division. In the event of a school or class shutdown, the following refund policy will apply:

- As stated as part of our Health and Safety Plan, staff and students will be required to quarantine at home for a specified 14-day period if directly exposed through close contact to a confirmed case of COVID-19. If an EC staff or student would have a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 during the school year, it is likely that the entire class or cohort would need to complete a 14-day quarantine period. If an EC class or cohort is required to close for a 14-day quarantine period, as per our Health and Safety Plan, and in accordance with CDC guidelines, no refund will be issued.
- If that same EC class or cohort would need to shut down a second time, consecutively or at a later date, or there is a general prolonged shutdown due to COVID-19, either division or school wide, EC families will receive a 90% prorated refund (per/student, per/school day, based on the amount of that family's signed tuition contract), from the 15th day out of school and on. The other 10% goes to a small portion of overhead that the school still incurs. This credit is per student for each day that that specific student missed due to COVID-19 related shutdown of class. Three and four year old nursery classes in our Early Childhood division will stop operation, with no distance learning program offered, and will resume once it is safe to return to campus.

Grades K-12: We recognize the importance of our children continuing their learning and have learned valuable insight into how to better meet their needs if distance learning is required. Our focus is on executing on the enhanced distance learning program and offering a robust learning environment for their continued studies. This includes set standards and expectations across each grade, enhanced and increased live instruction, and the full academic program of assessment and progress tracking that is expected of our regular program. We are providing teachers professional development and training and we are exploring creative avenues to support our teachers' ability to teach the full day with the resources they need. The school will not be offering a credit or refund for these grades in the event of a necessary quarantine or prolonged shutdown.

A photograph showing a group of Orthodox Jewish men and boys in a synagogue. In the foreground, a man in a blue suit and white prayer shawl is pointing at a large, open Torah scroll on a stand. Behind him, two young boys in black hats and white prayer shawls are looking on. The background shows wooden benches and a wall with Hebrew inscriptions.

We look forward to a great year!