# **BarrieSchool** 2020/2021 Health and Safety Reopening Plans

Revised January 8, 2021 Submitted by: Kirstie Abernathy MS, RN, CPN Barrie School Nurse

#### **Introduction:**

The Barrie School Leadership Team, in consultation with the School Nurse, Kirstie Abernathy MS, RN CPN and the consulting School Physician Dr. Kevin Creamer have been actively working together in planning for reopening in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This work includes the specially created task force known as the Barrie 8.

The members of the Barrie 8 continue to meet on a weekly basis and include:

Jon Kidder - Head of School Hanh Nguyen - Chief Financial Officer Emily Lund- Head of Lower School Kristin Arndt - Head of Middle and Upper School Hilary Green - Director - Barrie Institute for Advanced Montessori Studies Kirstie Abernathy - School and Camp Nurse Kitty Jones - Director of Communications Dr. Natosha Speight - Director of Student and Family Services

Additional Essential Administrative Team contacts: Kenny Tullis - Director of Facilities

Dr. Kevin Creamer - Consulting School Physician

Jaguar Technology - IT Support

Bill Robinson - DBA/ Filemaker Developer

This Health and Safety Reopening Plan is designed to provide guidelines to help protect the health and safety of the entire Barrie community -- students, families, faculty, staff and visitors. It was developed through the collaborative work of the Barrie 8 team, and aligns with guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), Maryland Department of Health, Maryland Department of Education and Office of Childcare, and the Montgomery County Department of Health.

In addition to these health agencies, we have also been receiving guidance from national and regional school associations, the National Association of School Nurses, as well as first-hand wisdom from a network of international nurses across the world whose schools re-opened prior to summer break.

The goal of this plan is to guide a safe reopening of the Barrie School campus. **This plan reflects our current knowledge and will be updated as new information is made available.** Barrie will send out communications in the upcoming weeks related to health and safety updates and more details on reopening plans to keep the community informed.

## **Guiding Principles:**

- Protect the health and safety of students and staff
- Follow the guidelines set out by CDC, state officials, local health department
- Provide students with some familiarity of school routines for social/emotional/academic learning
- Provide clear expectations for students, families, and faculty/staff during this COVID-19 pandemic

# **Essential Questions Related to Reopening:**

#### What conditions would allow Barrie School to open in-person, on-campus?

Barrie School will follow all CDC and Maryland Department of Health guidelines for opening in-person, on-campus for the 2020-2021 school year. According to the latest guidelines outlined in the <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools</u> released on August 28, 2020, each local school system and nonpublic school, in consultation with the local health department, should review the school reopening metrics to make reopening decisions and to adjust in-person educational offerings, as necessary, when the metrics indicate an increased level of risk.

Barrie will make the decision to proceed with in-person instruction only if and when local health officials agree that it is safe to do so based on community transmission data at the proposed start date. We are prepared to open safely and will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic closely.

# What conditions would cause Barrie School to close facilities and move to all-school remote learning?

Barrie will transition to 100% remote learning if mandated by the Governor or recommended by the CDC or Montgomery County Department of Health. There may be scenarios that call for one class or division to move to remote learning while allowing the rest of the school to remain safely open if there is a case within a particular class or division.

Unless mandated by the State or otherwise advised by health officials, or if the school's administrative team determines it is unsafe to open, Barrie will remain open for on-campus instruction. Barrie will follow all CDC and Health Department protocols to send infected or exposed individuals home and close and sanitize any at-risk areas of the school. The Health Department will guide decisions regarding closure of a classroom, an office or the school.

# **Classification of Barrie School's Learning Villages:**

Barrie has created Learning Villages in order to decrease the risk of germ transmission between various divisions and classrooms on campus. While we understand that we are not able to completely isolate "pods" of students due to siblings being in various classes or teachers and specialists having to travel to various locations, we have done our best to create Learning Villages to keep divisions separated during on campus instruction.

The Learning Villages are outlined below:

- Toddler Learning Village (12m-T2):
  - 5 separate classes (4 classes in Founders Building and 1 class in Neubert)
- Primary Learning Village (P3-P5/Kindergarten):
  - 3 separate classes (2 classrooms in McDermott Building and 1 class in Neubert Cottage)
- Lower Elementary (2 separate classes consisting of first, second and third graders)
  - In Rothschild Building no other students use this building
- Upper Elementary (1 class of 4th and 5th graders)
  - In Upper Elementary Building no other students use this building
- Middle and Upper School (one large Learning Village consisting of 6-12 graders)

\*\* We have an Extended Day program in which we keep Toddler, Primary, Lower Elementary and Upper Elementary students within divisional pods but acknowledge that there may be students from classes within the same division who will interact with each other during these specific times during morning and afternoon care. We are not able to make modifications to this situation at the present time due to staffing limitations during the extended day hours. \*\*

# Barrie School's Reopening Decision-making Guidelines:

#### Barrie's decision making guidelines for in-person vs virtual learning

As you all know, the ideal situation would be for all students to engage in in-person, on campus instruction; however, the health and safety of the students and staff are our priority and will be the driving force behind the decision to move between in-person and distance learning once school reopens. Any decision made by Barrie's COVID-19 Taskforce to return to in-person learning will be dependent on the prevailing health conditions and community-wide trends that would make on campus instruction possible.

#### • a

See Barrie's decision making guidelines based on phases

### Health and Safety Measures:

#### Use of SNAP health portal for daily symptom screening:

School-wide screening of students will be done using the SNAP health portal. The <u>SNAP</u> health portal is a secure online tool that allows parents/guardians secure access to review, update and submit student health and medical information directly into their school health record. The COVID-19 screening questionnaire must be completed **PRIOR** to arrival to school, and students will not be permitted to enter the classroom without proper completion of the questionnaire. *Repeated failure to comply with these guidelines will result in a student having to remain home for the day to maintain the health and safety of our campus and community.* 

\*\* Staff must also complete daily COVID-19 screening questionnaires using the internal TEMPMON app - explained later in the reopening plan document \*\*

#### Temperature checks and screening:

- Toddler and Primary students (T1-K):
  - Daily temperature screenings must be done on site to meet OCC regulations.
  - Temperatures will be checked at the classroom door parents and students must socially distance themselves from other students while awaiting their temperature check.
  - Temperature check fanny packs have been organized and stocked for on site temperature checks includes infrared non-contact thermometer, alcohol wipes, gloves and extra surgical masks.
    - Temp check app used for 2 and 3 year old "Stepping Stones" this summer will be used for Toddler and Primary students.
    - Nurse receives real time notifications from the electronic SNAP Health Center of completion of form.

#### Lower Elementary and Upper Elementary:

- On-site temperature checks will be conducted for the first two weeks of school.
- Temperature checks will be done at their respective car circle prior to exiting the car.
- Bus riders will have their temperatures checked as soon as they exit the bus.

• After the first two weeks of school, parents will need to check temperatures at home **prior** to leaving for school and record in the SNAP health portal along with the screening questions.

#### Middle and Upper School:

- On-site temperature checks will be conducted for the first two weeks of school.
- Temperature checks will be done at their respective car circle prior to exiting the car.
- Bus riders will have their temperatures checked as soon as they exit the bus.
- Parents of students who walk, take public transportation or drive to school will complete the screening forms **prior to the student leaving hom**e, and students will have temperature checked by a staff member at the car circle.
- After the first two weeks of school, parents will need to check temperatures at home **prior** to arrival to school and record in the SNAP health portal along with the screening questions.

Staff temperature checks:

- Staff members will need to check in with the supervisor or division assistants to have temperature checked and recorded in Barrie's TEMPMON App (see details below).
- Screening questions will need to be completed using the screening questionnaire app prior to arriving to campus.

#### \*\* Late arrivals will need to check in with the Office Administrator for Lower or Middle/Upper School and have their temperature checked prior to proceeding to class. \*\*

#### Temperature recording app for on site checks:

Barrie's TEMPMON app provides a quick and easy way to record temperatures of students and fac/staff. Use of the application requires minimal effort on the part of the user. Recording a temperature is done in 2 clicks: adding the name and the temperature. From there TEMPMON provides the user with an immediate recommendation whether to allow the student/fac-staff to remain on campus and go to class or work or to return home. For those previously affected by COVID-19 but cleared by their physician, TEMPMON provides a cleared list that overrides the SEND HOME message and a daily printable and PDF ready report.



11:18 🕫				
Heal	lth stionnaiı	. <sub>e</sub> BarrieSchool		
	Name Kirstie Al Division Fac/Staf	Date / Time		
1. Are you currently experiencing, or have you experienced in the past 24 hours, any of the following symptoms? (Please take your temperature before you answer this question.)				
Yes	✓ No	Fever		
Yes	✓ No	New onset cough		
Yes	✓ No	New onset shortness of breath or difficulty. breathing		
Yes	✓ No	Sore Throat		
Yes	✓ No	New loss of taste or smell		
Yes	✓ No	Chills		
Yes	✓ <sup>No</sup>	Head or muscle aches		
Yes	✓ No	Nausea, Vomiting, diarrhea		
	•	••		
		+ Done		
		Done		

•				
Contract     Contract       11:06     Thu Aug 20       Image: Contract     Image: Contract	× SY Temp_Monitor (gofm.bar	ය ● දිකා ය - 4 90% —) rrie.org)		
COVID- 19 Health Questionnaire BarrieSchool &				
	Name Kirstie Abernathy Status Fac/Staff	Date 8/19/2020 9:28:56 AM Self Reported Temp. Temp Time		
By my signature I hereby certify that the responses provided are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. By clicking "I Agree" and typing your name below or physically signing on an IOS device, you consent to use your electronic signature to sign this document or communication and to receive electronic delivery of any document or communication. You understand that your electronic signature is legally binding, just as if you had signed a paper document.				
✓ I Agree	Kirstie Abernathy	8/19/2020 9:31:53 AM		
iPad Signature	jur .			
<ul> <li>If your answer is NO to all questions or are listed on the cleared list by the Barrie Health Team - Check this box</li> <li>If you answer YES to any of the questions and you are not on the Cleared List - Check this box, STAY HOME and contact your supervisor and school nurse at nurse@barrie.org</li> </ul>				
	••			
		Exit		
Previous Next		$\pm$ Done		
	$\bigcirc$			

#### <u>Changes to On-site Temperature check protocols</u> Effective January 11, 2021

The COVID-19 Taskforce has been continuing to review and update health and safety protocols based on the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Maryland Department of Health. A recent review of the CDC recommendations for schools suggests that school-wide temperature screenings are unlikely to screen out infected students and staff due to the inaccuracy of the temperature readings -- especially as the temperatures

outside in the mornings grow colder. The screening is done in an uncontrolled setting and, as a result, can be affected by the device used, location of temperature check and environmental temperature fluctuations.

In response to these accuracy concerns, the Office of Child Care (OCC) recently aligned with the latest <u>Guidance for Schools from the Maryland Department of Health</u> which recommends that

"...daily temperature checks and symptom screening of all students and staff [be completed] prior to the start of the school day. This may be done onsite or <u>by staff and parents</u> <u>at home</u>. <u>Schools should identify and choose the most feasible strategy to conduct these</u> <u>activities</u>.

If a school or school system chooses to have parents and staff conduct daily screenings at <u>home, schools should send frequent reminders to do so.</u> Parents/staff should be asked to identify: 1) symptoms, and 2) close contact/potential exposure as outlined in MDH "Guidance for Temperature and Symptom Screening in Schools." Students, educators or other school staff should not enter a school if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (even if not tested or confirmed) or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 or with someone suspected of having COVID-19 in the last 14 days."

Given the inaccuracy of continuing to check temperatures during the winter months due to environmental variables, we felt that having parents take the temperature at home and self report using SNAP (which is already used for the daily screening) will be a more accurate way to screen students for a possible fever. We will require parents to complete the screening questionnaire AND input their child's temperature in the <u>SNAP health portal</u> each morning PRIOR to arriving to class. **Students will not be allowed to enter the classroom without verification by a staff member that the SNAP form has been completed. A staff member at car circle, your student's teacher or the School nurse will be verifying that this has been completed prior to you dropping your child off.** If your child carpools, rides the bus, or is dropped off by another caregiver, be sure to complete it prior to leaving home to avoid delays in entering the classroom due to failure to complete the SNAP form ahead of time.

The new procedure begins Monday, January 11, 2021. Please help us in continuing to adhere to our health and safety protocols by remembering to take your child's temperature daily **AND** recording the temperature in the required questionnaire **BEFORE** arriving at school. Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in this process to help keep everyone safe.

#### Social distancing practices:

- All staff and students will practice feasibly modified social distancing while on campus
  - Barrie will have a NO visitor policy. Those essential visitors defined as vendors and other personnel who must come to campus for continued campus maintenance and operations will be asked to wear a mask, complete a health screening attestation form indicating that they are illness/symptom free, and have their temperatures taken upon arrival. <u>Visitors questionnaire webpage to complete screening form</u> - visitors will be given a username and password to access the form.
  - No field trips until it is deemed safe for the students to travel into the community.
  - Minimizing of cross-divisional student interactions will be restricted. Lower School will not mix with Middle School and Upper School. Further restrictions within divisions will limit the total number of students that any one student will mix with during the day, creating student Learning Villages groupings.
  - Limiting gatherings, large group events and field trips: .

See Guidance on in-person gatherings

- Desks will be spaced 6 ft apart to allow for social distancing in the classroom.
- In the Middle and Upper school, desks will be spaced six feet apart
   Community spaces in the building will be modified to serve as either additional classroom space or break-out space for classes.
  - In the Lower Elementary (Grades 1-3) building students will use the Art room and Library spaces as an extension of the classroom space to maximize social distancing.
  - In Upper elementary (4-5th grade) students will be able to use the library area just outside of their classroom space to increase social distancing if necessary
- Outdoor space will be utilized to its full potential for instructional and social purposes.
  - Outdoor classrooms and learning spaces have been created for each toddler classroom.
  - Primary classes have spaced learning materials out to increase social distancing within the classroom - including using the previous "nap room" as additional classroom space.

#### Guidelines for class group size and cohorting

- Class group size will be determined by the ability to maintain physical distancing in the designated classroom space, which could be indoors or preferably outdoors.
  - In Toddler and Primary classes, group sizes are limited to 13 students and 1 adult to comply with Office of Child Care regulations.
- Video conferencing will be encouraged for larger group meetings.
- Students should remain with the same group as much as possible.
- Lower school will function in "Learning Villages" to avoid intermingling within the divisions.
- Extended Day cohorts will be developed.

#### Cleaning and disinfecting:

- Adequate supplies will be provided for proper hand hygiene (soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes and spray).
- Hand sanitizer stations have been placed at all building entrances as well as in various classrooms throughout the campus.
- Lower School tables (Toddler, Primary and Lower Elementary) will be wiped down after each use by the teacher using a CDC-approved cleaning solution.
- Upper Elementary School desks/tables/chairs will be wiped down by students with disinfecting wipes before and after lunch (with teacher supervision). All disinfectant is approved by the CDC for fighting COVID-19 and meets EPA standards.
- All desks/tables/chairs in the Middle and Upper School classrooms will be wiped down with disinfecting wipes by the students at the end of each class. All disinfectant is approved by the CDC for fighting COVID-19 and meets EPA standards.

#### Enhance ventilation systems:

Increase outdoor air ventilation

- Bring in more fresh outdoor air encouraging staff to open windows for at least 10 minutes every 60-90 minutes weather permitting.
- Holding class outdoors provides the freshest air and most effective dilution of any infectious airborne SARS-CoV-2.

Filter indoor air based on ASHRAE standards for evaluating our HVAC systems

- Increase the level of the air filter to MERV 13 or higher on recirculated air.
  - Our maintenance team upgraded all building filters this summer to meet

this standard.

- Inspect filters to make sure they are installed and fit correctly. All buildings on campus have had filters upgraded and changed.
- Check that sufficient airflow can be maintained across the filter.
- Maintain and change filters based on manufacturer's recommendation.
- Eliminate or minimize air recirculation (thus maximizing fresh outdoor air) to the extent possible during this period.
- HEPA air purifiers have been purchased for Lower school classrooms as an added layer of protection since they are currently in person and will be spending more time indoors during the Winter months

Safe community practices:

# Travel precautions for staff and students as required of all Maryland residents:

The Maryland Department of Health strongly recommends that all Maryland residents refrain from nonessential travel outside of Maryland due to the recent increase in COVID-19 infections in other states. Any Maryland resident returning from out-of-travel should get tested for COVID-19 promptly upon arrival in Maryland. Any Marylander who travels to a state with a COVID-19 test positivity rate above 10% should get tested and self-quarantine at home until the test result is received. The District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia are exempt from this recommendation.

A list of state COVID-19 test positivity rates can be found using the <u>Johns</u> <u>Hopkins positivity rate tracker</u>. Essential workers are exempt from the quarantine recommendation if they are returning or traveling to Maryland to perform essential work, as well as employee commuters who leave/enter the state on a daily basis and have work-based COVID-19 screening procedures. Please refer to the <u>Maryland travel</u> <u>advisory guidance</u> document for details.

CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential international travel because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Persons returning from international travel should follow CDC guidance regarding quarantine following travel. Travel advisories will be updated per the Governor's Executive orders and per the recommendations of local health officials.

#### Travel Advisory Update 12.18.20

Now that the much anticipated Winter Break is here, I know that staff and students may have plans to visit family and friends during this extended time off. I am writing to urge each of you to remain "Home for the Holidays" in order to keep your family and the community safe. On Thursday, Governor Hogan issued an <u>amended emergency order</u> requiring anyone who travels outside the state to be tested or self quarantine for 10 days once they return. The Governor also said that out of state travel should happen only if necessary - therefore, non-essential travel is discouraged. This does not apply to those traveling to DC or the bordering states of Delaware, Virginia or Pennsylvania. Click here to view the <u>Governor's order</u>.

#### What does this mean for Barrie Staff and Students?

Any staff member or student who travels out of state MUST abide by the the Governor's order and do the following:

- You must get a test it is recommended that you **wait at least 3-5 days after returning home** to get tested. Testing immediately after returning may result in a false negative due to testing too soon after a possible exposure
- Quarantine at home until results are back
- If you choose not to test, you will need to quarantine for 10 days

# What to Expect Regarding Campus Operations:

#### **General Expectations:**

- Students, faculty, and staff will follow all health and safety guidelines according to CDC, the Maryland Department of Health and local health officials.
- All students and staff must participate in a screening questionnaire prior to arrival on campus. This survey needs to be completed daily prior to arrival to school each morning.
- Students, faculty, staff, and visitors are not to be on campus if they show any symptoms of illness AND must be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning.

- Temperature checks (on site for Toddler and Primary students AND for the first two weeks for all other divisions campus-wide)
  - Will be done upon arrival to school for staff and students (at morning drop off).
  - Temperatures will be recorded using Barrie's Temp Monitor app.
  - If a student or staff member has a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or above, they will be sent home immediately and must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- If diagnosed with COVID-19, students, faculty, staff and visitors must be fever free for 24 hours AND must remain at home for 10 days since they first experienced symptoms before being cleared to return to campus.
- Students may not enter the building before their scheduled arrival time.
- All staff, visitors, and students over 5 years old must wear a face covering while on campus. Students ages 2-5 years old are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.
- Social distancing should be maintained at much as possible as noted by signage throughout campus (when waiting to enter classroom, awaiting temperature checks etc)

#### Expectations of parents regarding campus operations:

- Parents of all Toddler students must escort student to the door no drop-offs using car circle for this age group
- Parents must drop students off outside of the classroom or building at designated drop-off areas. Parents may not enter the classrooms/buildings.
- Parents will remain in the carline for pick-up. No walk-ups will be allowed without prior notification (excluding regular Extended Day procedures)
- If a student is to be dismissed early for an appointment, parents will notify the school and wait for the student to be escorted to the pick-up area outside of the Lower School office or Commons Building - for Middle and Upper School. Younger students will be escorted out and observed being secured in a parent's car.
- <u>Acknowledgment of Risk Statement</u> posted on website.

#### Drop off and Pick up procedures:

#### Up the hill (Lower School Procedures):

• Toddler students may not be dropped off in the car circle. They must be escorted to their classroom by a parent for temperatur check and

verification of online COVID-19 screening completed (must be completed before 7:45am).

- Parents will need to say goodbye at the door. No parents allowed in classrooms
- Students and parents must remain 6 feet apart while in line awaiting temperature check
- Primary students may be dropped off at the car circle after temperature check and verification of online screening form.
- Bus riders:
  - will receive temperature checks upon arrival at school.
  - should complete the health screening before boarding the bus.
  - can attend school once health screening has been verified by staff member.
- Contactless drop-off and pick up (as much as possible)
  - Parents and students must wear a mask at drop off and pick up.
  - Staff members may only open car doors, but may not unbuckle or buckle students in car seats or booster seats.
  - Staff members should sanitize hands or wear gloves between each student if assisting with doors, belongings or hand holding.
  - Staff members may escort student safely to the car (pick-up) but parent must secure their student in the seat or car seat.

#### Down the hill (Upper Elementary, Middle and Upper School procedures):

- Parents and students must wear a mask during drop-off and pick-up
- Students need to wait in car until temperature checked (if applicable for these students) and verification of online form completed by nurse/staff member (must be completed by 8am daily).
- Students who walk to school need to check-in with staff member at car circle or with Middle and Upper School Office Administrator to have their temperatures checked (if applicable for these students) and verification of online form completed by nurse/staff member (must be completed by 8am daily).
- Bus riders:
  - $\circ$   $\,$  will complete screening form prior to boarding the bus.
  - will have temperatures checked upon arrival to school by staff member in car/bus circle,
- will have screening form verified by nurse Students must stay 6 ft apart with mask on at all times while waiting to be picked up

#### **Expectations for students:**

Students will be allowed in the building at the assigned entrances:

 Toddler/Primary: outdoor check-in area or at classroom door
 Lower Elementary: using one Primary entrance at each classroom (door closest to the classroom)
 Upper Elementary: classroom doors only (side doors)

 Middle and Upper School: use classroom doors (in Commons Building), main doors in RLL, Learning Studio, Language Building, Art House

- Students will enter buildings without parents.
- A mask or face covering must be worn as outline in the school's <u>Barrie Mask</u> <u>Policy</u> (see details related to age of student and special considerations)
  - Under the age of 2 years:no masks
  - Ages 2-5 years: a mask is strongly encouraged and parents are expected to provide at least 2 masks daily for students to wear at appropriate times when social distancing is not possible
  - Ages 5 and up: students will be expected to consistently wear masks throughout the day
- Students must sanitize hands when entering the building.
- Students must adhere to the social distancing practices as best as possible when moving throughout the buildings and in common areas
- Students must wash hands before and after snacks and meals, after restroom use, and upon returning to the classroom during the day.
- Students who arrive late must check in with Office Administrators for the Lower or Middle/Upper School for temperature check and verification of clearance to proceed to the classroom.

#### Movement through buildings

- Move on the right when moving up and down the stairs and through the hallways.
- Stay five steps apart on the stairs.
- Limit the number of students at a time in multi-stall bathrooms.
- Follow the designated flow of foot traffic in each building.

#### Exiting and entering the classroom spaces:

- Students may not use lockers.
- Students must wash their hands upon entering the classroom, before and after snacks and meals, after restroom breaks, and upon returning to the classroom during the day.
- Students should sanitize their hands before walking out the door at dismissal.

#### Classroom hygiene procedures:

- Tabletops, doors handles, backs of chairs, and other frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected by teachers using school-supplied EPA approved disinfectant multiple times daily.
- Toys and other manipulatives used in the classroom will be disinfected between uses throughout the day by faculty and staff using an EPA approved disinfectant.
- All areas will also be disinfected nightly by a contracted cleaning service.
- Doors to the outside and windows will be kept open as much as possible weather permitting. Staff are encouraged to open windows for at least 10 minutes every 60-90 minutes to allow for increased ventilation.
- If a faculty member, staff member, or student has been sent home because they are exhibiting symptoms, the room and the objects and surfaces they touched will be disinfected. If symptoms are suggestive of COVID-19 the area in which they were in will be closed off and cleaned thoroughly according to CDC guidelines.

#### Classrooms and use of materials:

- Teachers will maintain the sanitizing of the classroom and materials using provided disinfectant spray bottles or wipes
- All classroom toys, supplies, materials and manipulatives must stay in that classroom.
- No sharing of supplies between classrooms.
- Each student will use pens, pencils, scissors, and other supplies designated for their sole use OR sanitized between student use.
- All school materials stay at school; no home materials are brought to school.
- All materials and manipulatives need to be washed or sanitized each day.

#### iPads, laptops and mice:

- Must not be shared..
- Need to be wiped before and after use with electronic safe wipes.
- Students must wash hands before and after use.

#### Considerations for other materials:

- White boards and markers wiped down between uses and at the end of the day.
- No play dough/plasticine/clay.
- Classroom libraries and shared libraries
  - Class books should be placed in a box for isolation after it is used unless it is only being used by an individual student or teacher for a specified period of time.

- Hand hygiene should be performed before and after using classroom materials.
- Library books should be returned and placed in a box for 72 hours of isolation before being entered into recirculation.

According to the latest CDC guidance from August 21, 2020 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-chil dcare/guidance-for-childcare.html

"Children's books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes, are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfection procedures."

• Still practice good hand hygiene before and after the use of materials Have student place in "time out" to remain out of circulation for at least **72 hours**.

#### Expectations for staff:

#### Staff precautions and reminders

- Staff will be required to wear a mask or cloth face covering throughout the school day. Staff will be responsible for providing his/her own mask daily.
- Staff may enter through the entrance of their choice.
- Staff must sanitize hands or immediately wash hands when entering the building.
- Staff need to use the 6 feet distancing when entering and leaving the building.
- Staff will provide additional support at arrival and dismissal doors to enforce proper hygiene and unnecessary contact.
- Staff will maintain 6 feet from students and other staff as best as possible and wear mask at all times when around other students and staff members.

#### Staff responsibilities:

- Staff should sanitize their computer, iPad, mouse, phone, etc. between uses if shared with others.
- Use Zoom meetings as much as possible for meetings of 2 or more, depending on space.
- When working in the same room, adhere to 6 feet distance guidelines, spread out in meeting rooms, and wash hands before entering the room and after leaving the room.
- Staff members should wear masks even when 6 feet away from another staff member if in the same room i.e. Think Tank, classroom, shared office spaces.
- Use of staff workrooms is allowed only if adults wash hands when entering and exiting the staff room and apply physical distancing expectations.

• For staff members who have office spaces on campus, please reference the <u>COVID-19 Office Space Precautions Policy</u>.

#### Specific considerations for staff caring for our toddlers:

#### The CDC states:

It is important to comfort crying, sad, and/or anxious infants and toddlers, and they often need to be held. To the extent possible, when washing, feeding, or holding very young children: child care providers can protect themselves by wearing an over-large button-down, long sleeved shirt and by wearing long hair up off the collar in a ponytail or other updo.

- Child care providers should wash their hands, neck, and anywhere touched by a child's secretions.
- Child care providers should change the child's clothes if secretions are on the child's clothes. They should change the button-down shirt, if there are secretions on it, and wash their hands again.
- Contaminated clothes should be placed in a plastic bag or washed in a washing machine.
- Infants, toddlers, and their providers should have multiple changes of clothes on hand in the child care center.

# Changes to the way we do things:

#### Lunch and snack procedures:

- All students and staff wash their hands before and after eating snack or lunch.
- No sharing of food or potlucks.
- Lunches should be brought from home. No pizza or food vendors are allowed on campus.
- Staff will use the provided disinfectant and paper towels to thoroughly clean the classroom tables after students have eaten.
- Water fountains will be closed. Only water bottle refilling stations will be used. Teachers of younger students may want to schedule water bottle refill times during the day so that the water can be dispensed for the class (or group of students) and wiped down afterward.

#### Specific precautions for Toddler and Primary:

- Students will continue to eat in classrooms with tables spaced out to provide distancing.
- There will be a covered outdoor area for additional seating.

- There will be no heating of student lunches in Toddler and Primary classes to help decrease cross-contamination of students' food containers.
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Parents are encouraged to use a thermos to keep food warm.
  - Refrigerators will still be used.

#### Specific precautions for Lower Elementary:

- Students will continue to eat in classrooms as well as use the Library and Art Room to spread out and adequately distance themselves
- No heating of student lunches in the classroom to help decrease cross-contamination of students' food containers
  - Parents are encouraged to use a thermos to keep food warm.
  - Refrigerators will still be used.

#### **Specific precautions for Upper Elementary:**

- Students will eat in the classroom.
- Students will continue to eat in classrooms as well as use the Library and Art Room to adequately distance themselves
- No heating of student lunches in the classroom will be allowed to decrease cross contamination of students' food containers.
  - Parents are encouraged to use a thermos to keep food warm.

#### Middle and Upper School:

- No microwaves will be in use for Middle and Upper school students. Staff can use the microwave in the Think Tank, but must disinfect the handle, keypad, and inside of the microwave after use.
- Tables and chairs for Middle and Upper school students will be distanced 6 ft apart and plexiglass barriers will be used to help decrease risk of droplets being spread during lunch
- Socially distanced outdoor seating with plexiglass barriers will be available

#### **Outdoor Activities:**

- Students must play only with their classmates and not mix with other Learning villages.
- If playground equipment is used, classrooms may only use it at a specific time and students must perform hand hygiene before and after use.
- If balls or other sports equipment is used, materials must be wiped down after playing and students must perform hand hygiene before and after use.
- Maintenance crew has agreed to "hose down" all playground equipment at least once daily to ensure that it is clean at the beginning of the day.
- Older students in Middle and Upper school should also be supervised during outdoor free time to limit high-risk behaviors.

#### Masks at recess:

- Encourage students to leave masks on during recess if possible. If students need a "mask break" this is the most appropriate time to do so as long as they are socially distanced from others.
- Staff must remain masked at all times.
- If students are participating in high intensity exercise drills or rigorous activities the masks can be taken off temporarily during the activity.

#### **Modifications of Athletics and Physical Education**

- Hold physical education classes outdoors when possible.
- Modify activities to limit the amount of shared equipment.
- Choose activities that limit close contact over those with a high degree of personal interaction.
- Locker rooms are closed at this time.
- The Potomac Valley Athletic Conference League recently announced that athletics have been postponed to the second semester (January 2021) due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Barrie's Modified Sports Seasons Schedule will be the following:

*Winter Season* (Basketball, Swimming) Game dates: January 4, 2021 to February 28, 2021

*Fall Season* (Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball) Game Dates: February 22, 2021 to April 16, 2021

*Spring Season* (Flag Football, Track & Field) Game Dates: April 19, 2021 to June 13, 2021

The modified dates may change if the COVID-19 pandemic continues through the 2020-2021 school year.

#### Assemblies and student gatherings

• Large gatherings will remain virtual only.

#### Music and performing arts precautions

- Replace higher-risk music and theater activities with safer alternatives.
  - No group singing

- No wind instruments
- Move class outdoors whenever possible.
- Increase space between performers even if outdoors.
- Continue to wear masks when possible even when engaging in outdoor performance activities.

#### Restrictions on campus visitors and volunteers:

- Limiting nonessential visitors and prohibiting use of classroom volunteers.
  - "Material Makers" volunteers will not be on campus making materials.
  - Materials will be made at home.
  - Materials will need to be set aside at least 72 hours prior after drop-off to use to ensure they can be safely handled by students.
- All essential visitors and vendors must complete the COVID-19 visitor screening form and have a temperature check done upon arrival to campus. <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Screening Form for Visitors</u> - <u>Link to Internal Survey</u>
- Parent/Guardian Visitation Restriction Policy

# **Transportation:**

Barrie contracts bus transportation services with <u>Coughlin Transportation</u>. There will be two bus routes this school year: Bowie and Takoma Park. The following company procedures will be followed to ensure the safety of the students traveling on the bus.

#### Coughlin Transportation COVID-19 Procedures:

- Drivers will complete the COVID-19 screening questionnaire daily.
- If a driver shows symptoms they will have a 2 week quarantine.
- Buses will be electrostatically cleaned after each route.
- Drivers will wash hands before entering vehicle.
- Each bus will have hand sanitizer on board.
- Drivers will wear a face covering while transporting students.

#### Additional measures being taken:

- Large buses will be used in order to ensure that students can adequately socially distance.
- The only students who will be transported on the buses daily will be Barrie students.

#### Guidelines for bus and shuttle riders:

- Parents must complete the COVID-19 screening questionnaire prior to having the student board the bus.
- Students will need to wear a mask or face covering at all times while on the bus.
- Students will need to socially distance themselves from others while on the bus. Siblings may sit together, however all other students must sit one student per row with empty rows in between.
- Students should sanitize their hands upon boarding the bus.

#### Barrie Shuttle service:

Barrie operates a shuttle bus that picks up passengers from local metro stations. The following health and safety measures will be implemented for the shuttle service.

- Barrie will operate 2 shuttles on the same route(s) in order to be able to accommodate riders and allow for adequate social distancing.
- The shuttles will be cleaned before and after each route.
- There will be hand sanitizer on each bus for riders to use as they board the bus
- The same guidelines as mentioned above apply to riders on the shuttle.

# Updated Illness policy and procedures:

Barrie School Health Services Handbook outlines general school health information and procedures.

#### Illness:

- Students, faculty, and staff should not come to campus if:
  - $\circ$  they have a temperature of ≥100° Fahrenheit;
  - $\circ$  have been exposed to someone with symptoms of COVID-19;
  - have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19; or exposed to someone who is awaiting test results
  - $\circ$  have symptoms of COVID-19.
- One is considered sick when there are symptoms of illness, even with mild symptoms of illness. This means that in **any case of symptoms** of illness community members must stay home from school or work.
- Students, faculty, and staff who show signs of illness while at school or work or have a temperature of ≥100°F will be isolated from others and immediately sent home.
- Students who have been sent home due to suspected illness cannot return unless their PCP or doctor provides written approval.
- If a person who has visited campus is confirmed or suspected to be infected with COVID-19, or has been exposed to someone with COVID-19, the school nurse

must be informed in order to inform the persons with whom they have been in close contact, and public health officials.

#### COVID-19-related illness:

- Individuals experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle pain, new loss of taste and/or smell, sore throat, headache, vomiting and diarrhea) must follow up with a medical provider and provide written clearance to return to the school nurse.
- Licensed health professionals will advise families on appropriate next steps and evaluate if COVID-19 testing is warranted.
- If the school is notified of a positive case of COVID-19 by a parent or staff member, the local health department and the Maryland Department of Health will be contacted immediately for further direction.
- Families will be notified via email of any confirmed COVID-19 exposures.
- Barrie will share the division the case has been identified in (Toddler, Middle School, etc.) with the greater community but will keep the name of the individual(s) fully confidential.
- Barrie will follow all CDC and Health Department protocols to send infected or exposed individuals home. The CDC recommends 14 days of quarantine after exposure based on the time it takes to develop illness if infected.

#### Sick students requiring pick up:

A student with a fever will be held in a designated isolation room (not in the Nurse's office barring other physical complications) and will be required to wear a medical mask until they can be picked up by their parents/guardian.

We will expect parents or other people designated on the student's Emergency Form to pick their child up within 30-45 mins (no longer than 1 hour max) once they have been contacted by the nurse. In the event a parent is unable to collect their child, we will contact the next emergency contact we have on file. Parents and emergency contacts will be expected to collect the child by car in order to avoid possible spread on public transportation.

In the event of a student presenting with COVID-19 symptoms, it will be advised that they follow the CDC recommendations for isolation and contact a doctor to arrange for immediate testing. The student will not be allowed to return until a negative result is confirmed and documentation provided to the school nurse.

Parents and guardians should inform the school nurse if someone in a student's family is being tested for COVID-19. Students must remain at home until the family member's test results are back or the family member has been cleared from isolation or quarantine.

#### Reporting a positive COVID-19 test:

Barrie will need to note and track information regarding students and staff who have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, are suspected to have COVID-19, or have tested positive for COVID-19, and may communicate this information with and follow all directives from the State of Maryland and Montgomery County. Student and staff health information relating to COVID-19 will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable state and federal privacy laws.

In the event of a positive test or suspected diagnosis, it may be necessary to report this event to other members of the Barrie community, so that we can implement additional precautions and other members of the community can also be tested. While the individual student or faculty member's identity may not be affirmatively disclosed to other members of the School community, the identity of such individuals may be discernible to other members of the community due to the context of the situation. If this occurs we ask that others in the community respect the individual's privacy by not spreading rumors or details of the case.

#### Stay Home if Exposed:

If anyone in a student's household has been notified by the State Health Department that they were in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19, the family should notify the school. Based on the circumstances, students may be directed to stay at home for 14 days.

#### **Return to School After Illness**

- Students, faculty, and staff can return to school if they have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours, are not presumed to have COVID-19, or have not tested positive for COVID-19. <u>Barrie's General Illness Policy</u> <u>Maryland Department of Health Communicable Disease Summary</u>
- Students, faculty, and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be unable to return until they have been released to do so by their physician and in accordance with the guidelines for discontinuing isolation outlined by the CDC. <u>CDC Guidelines for Returning to School or Work</u>

 Students, faculty, and staff who are presumed to have COVID-19, but have not been tested, may return to work only if they have had no fever for at least 24 hours, AND at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared. Now that widespread testing is available, the school will request a test to confirm whether or not the person is positive for COVID-19 prior to the student or staff member returning to campus.

CDC Isolation Guidelines

Contact with Others after COVID-19

- When returning to school following an absence due to illness or isolation a doctor's note will need to be provided to the nurse to clear the student to return to school.
- When the student returns to school, they must be fit enough to participate in all activities.

#### Seasonal Allergies and Asthma:

- If a student has seasonal allergies or a history of asthma their normal symptoms must be documented on their health assessment form or in their health record.
- Allergy symptoms such as sneezing, watery eyes, and sniffles will be monitored but will not require the student to be sent home as long as those symptoms are documented in their health file. Students with allergies **must** take their allergy medications **prior** to attending school that day.
- Coughing and occasionally wheezing associated with asthma will be assessed and treated appropriately based on the student's asthma action plan. If the symptoms persist, a parent/guardian will be called for pick up and a further evaluation by the pediatrician will be advised.
- If these allergy and/or asthma symptoms appear in conjunction with any other symptoms such as extreme fatigue, productive cough, headaches, or muscle aches the student will be sent home and may only return once he/she has been cleared by your Primary Care Physician (PCP) or a Doctor.

#### **Nurse Visit Protocol**

- Well students will be encouraged to receive first aid for bumps, bruises, or cuts in their classroom (Lower School) or by checking in with the Office Administrator (MUS)
  - First aid materials will be supplied to all teachers and campus Certified Medication Technicians (CMTs). All Barrie staff are trained in first aid/CPR.
  - If a teacher is unable to manage the first aid needs, they should contact the nurse or division administrative assistant to determine if the sick room is free.

- If the isolation room is in use, the nurse or office administrator may go to the designated classroom space to provide first aid.
- Sick students (fever, vomiting, coughing) will be sent to be evaluated by the school nurse. The Nurse must be notified **BEFORE** sending a student to the health room.
  - The nurse or division office administrator will use PPE prior to evaluating the student.
  - If presenting symptoms are suspicious for COVID-19, the student will be isolated in the designated Isolation Area and sent home. Parents will be instructed to contact their health care provider for testing.

#### Isolation area guidelines:

- Two separate locations for Lower School and Middle and Upper School
  - UE Health Office
  - Camp Office building location

**Isolation Area Policy and Procedures** 

# COVID-19 related questions and answers:

Decision tree for COVID-19 confirmed cases COVID-19 symptoms and similarities with other illnesses

1. Will Barrie require COVID-19 testing of staff and/or students prior to the start of school?

No. We will screen all staff and students for any symptoms of COVID-19 daily using an online screening questionnaire. At this time the **CDC does not recommend universal testing of all students and staff**.

**<u>CDC testing recommendations for school setting</u>** According to the American Academy of Pediatrics:

Testing all students for acute SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to the start of school is not feasible in most settings at this time. Even in places where this is possible, it is not clear that such testing would reduce the likelihood of spread within schools. It is important to recognize that virologic testing only shows whether a person is infected at that specific moment in time. The other type of testing is serologic blood testing for antibodies to SARS-CoV-2. At the current time, serologic testing should not be used for individual decision-making and has no place in considerations for entrance to or exclusion from school.

2. Will Barrie conduct COVID-19 testing on site for suspected cases?

No. The school nurse will isolate the student or staff member and refer them to a testing site for testing and follow up.

3. What actions will the school take if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on campus?

(1) **contact local health department** immediately for next steps and guidance.

2) **communicate with staff and parents** regarding the confirmed case and exposure while being sure to maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the person confirmed to have COVID-19.

(3) **clean and disinfect** the area as recommended by the CDC and health officials.

(4) **close classroom or division** based on health department recommendations while determining long-term course which may include closure for 14 days or more.

(5) **determine duration of closure** based on guidance from the local health department.

Everyone potentially exposed to the person who tested positive for COVID-19 should monitor carefully for symptoms. Individuals who had close, prolonged contact with the person who tested positive should be tested and quarantine at home for 14 days after the last day of exposure.

# **Resources/links:**

**CDC Guidelines** 

CDC Guidelines for Childcare

WHO Considerations for reopening

Maryland State Department of Education

Maryland Department of Health

Montgomery County Health Department

Montgomery County Data Dashboard

CDC Guidelines for Reopening 5/19/20

When to Return to Work or School CDC re: COVID-19

#### Updated guidance as for Maryland Schools as of 8/28/2020:

http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/newsroom/Documents/COVID/COVID-19-Guidan ce-Maryland-Schools.pdf

Updated Guidelines for Maryland Schools as of 7/23/20:

http://marylandpublicschools.org/Pages/default.aspx

http://marylandpublicschools.org/newsroom/Pages/COVID-19/index.aspx

http://marylandpublicschools.org/newsroom/Documents/COVID/MDHGuidanceSchoolsRes ponseCOVID19.pdf

Updated Guidelines from CDC as of July 22, 2020

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html

Tracking trends in COVID-19 cases and testing:

https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/testing/tracker/overview

Updated guidelines from MSDE:

MSDE Guidelines for Schools