



EPCS

ENGLEWOOD
ON THE PALISADES
CHARTER SCHOOL



Safe Return Plan 2021-2022

LEA Name: Englewood on the Palisades Charter School

Face Mask:

At the Englewood on the Palisades Charter School,(EPCS) all students, staff and visitors entering the building will be required to wear a face mask to cover their nose and mouth. Face mask can be removed when using the bathroom, during breakfast, snack, and/or lunch, while playing in gym and recess if social distancing is maintained.

Exemptions include, if face masks for any student, staff, visitor, and specially our students with disabilities, inhibits their health, is documented in their IEP and/or with medical documentation; they will be exempt from wearing a face mask. Children under the age of two years old that will be visiting in the school building will also fall into this category.

Physical Distancing:

EPCS will ensure that CDC and State guidelines are being followed. The present social distance is 3 feet between students, and six feet between adults, and adults and students.

Bathrooms will be monitored for student use. Limited number of students will be allowed in the bathroom at one time.

Students will be kept in their classrooms, with limited movement whenever possible.

Every effort will be made to communicate via phone, email and Zoom as much as possible to discourage visitation to our building.

Lockers will be available to students on a limited and supervised schedule.

Classroom teachers and school nurse will routinely reinforce hand washing and social distancing rules.

Clear barriers will remain on the desk of teachers and all office personal.

Throughout our building, social distancing markers and signs will be visible for all to see and use as reminders of social distancing and appropriate hygiene.

Hand Washing and Respiratory Etiquette:

Hand sanitizing stations will be provided for students upon entering the building and will be place in each classroom, office and designated areas throughout the building.

Students will be frequently reminded about the importance of washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, practice good respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or by coughing or sneezing into the inner elbow.

Practicing social distancing at all times and wearing face mask at all times.

Avoid contact with people that are sick.

The sharing of materials, supplies, devices, notebooks and textbooks will not be permitted.

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Faculties

The EPCS custodial staff will provide ongoing, frequent disinfecting of high contact surfaces throughout the day. This would include areas such as doorknobs, hand rails, faucet knobs, soap dispensers, lunch tables/benches, and student desk and chairs.

At the end of the day, the custodial staff will do a daily school wide electrostatic disinfecting; using a backpack misting machine.

Teachers, staff and students will also participate in maintaining a clean and healthy classroom and school.

The appropriate disinfecting wipes will be provided to all teaching staff to help with the cleaning of high-touched areas in the classroom thought out the day, and/or when classes are changing.

Each classroom, office and all purpose room will be equipped with an air purification system. All classrooms also have access to an air condition system for the circulation of air. Doors and windows will also be kept open when possible.

Contract Tracing:

The EPCS school nurse and administration have been in partnership with the Englewood Board of Health to guide us in the development of policies and procedures pertaining to Contact Tracing.

Students and staff with symptoms related to Covid-19 will be safely and respectfully isolated from others (identified isolation room). Student or staff will remain in isolation with supervision until picked up by an authorized person/adult.

Nurse will inform parents or the staff member about testing, and self-quarantine.

Upon notification of a student or staff member testing positive, the nurse will contact the Englewood Board of Health to identify close contacts.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing:

All students and staff will have their temperature checked upon arriving at the school. Any staff member or student that present a temperature of 100.4 F will be sent home. The parents will not be allowed to leave until their child is cleared by the staff member that is checking their temperature.

If a student or staff member obtains a temperature of 100.4 F, while in school, they will be taken to the designated isolation room.

During the temperature check, students and staff will be questioned verbally about coughing, fever, shortness of breath, illness of a family member and recent travel out of state and country.

All staff will be trained on our screening protocols in preparation for the beginning of the school year.

Efforts to Provide Vaccinations:

The staff at EPCS was invited with other personal from Bergen County, to participate in the Bergen County plan to vaccinate school employees.

Although a good number of our staff members did take advantage of this opportunity, it was also noted that a number of staff members also found local agencies that provided vaccines for their townships, and our county.

Frequently, we receive flyers from our Bergen County Office informing us about vaccine distribution sites and CDC information. These flyers are distributed to our families, and school community.

Appropriate Accommodations for Children:

EPCS will continue to be committed to supporting and providing quality instructional programs and related services for our students with disabilities.

Our general and special education teachers will continue to collaborate for the betterment of the student's needs.

Our teaching staff will also help with the identification of student's possibility needing special educational services.

Accommodations will be made for our students with disabilities as it pertains to the wearing of face mask; including those students with medical documentation.

Small group instruction will continue as per our student's IEP, as well as students that are being serviced under the modifications of their 504 plan.