



**BB-NYC Covid/Sick Policy Amendments to begin 1/3/2022:**

**Travel Items and Sick Policy**

The following are amendments that have been suggested by our parent community.

The goal is to make the school year more accessible to our families and students of course within reason, within DOH and federal regulation, and following all necessary policies.

Please note, the CDC has updated their guidelines referring to Covid- 19 quarantine times and what is permissible with this same goal in mind. We have been in touch with our local DOH branch non stop to confirm. Although the NYC DOH are still maintaining the previously sent Covid rules + have paused any amendments for the time being, please find the current CDC updates here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html>

Please see newly added BB-NYC amendments below.

## Testing and Quarantine Amendments

### **1. Travel:**

Amendment #1: COVID Testing will be required for international and long-distance domestic travel (defined by use of air travel) prior to pre-school return. This is to help confirm that no COVID transmission has incurred during long incubated periods such as airport activity or airplane rides. The same is recommended for long distance train rides.

Amendment #2: The preschool will continue to require a 3 day quarantine for all students (unvaccinated individuals) post international travel with a COVID test to be taken on the 4th day. Students will be permitted to return once providing a negative (-) COVID test result.

### **2. Preschool/ After-school Sick Policy:**

Amendment #1: The preschool/after-school are to resume the previous DOH approved preschool sick policy (This is slightly more lenient than our current policy. The current policy requires strict non-attendance should any level of symptoms arise COVID related or Not, i.e. runny nose, a sneeze, etc.).

This is to occur if and only if, parents agree to COVID testing on a more regular basis. This can be at home, at urgent care, or a doctor visit.

If a child is showing any sort of symptoms parents must provide a NEGATIVE (-) COVID test prior to returning. Once we have received said negative (-) COVID test, the child may be permissible to return to the preschool if there are just minor lingering symptoms (please find definitions for said symptoms below).

\*The goal is to permit students to return to school during times where they may no longer be contagious, might have a sneeze or so lingering, showing almost no symptoms, or have a doctors note confirming their ability to return, and most importantly are medically identified as COVID (-) negative. Therefore as per doctor recommendation, said students are medically fine and able to go to school.

### **3. DOH Approved Previous Sick Policy *Reminders*: NO AMENDMENTS MADE**

The following is a reminder of our previous sick policy and all that will still hold 100% in place. Below that you will find definitions for possible clarification areas.

DOH approved sick policy applies as it always has, to the following circumstances: anyone displaying symptoms of fever, rash, pink eye, vomiting, lice, diarrhea, persistent cough + sneeze, are immediately required to be picked up and remain at home until symptoms subside, 24hrs +.

**4. DEFINITIONS for Further Clarity:** Please find definitions for all possible “cold” symptoms that would require your child to go home or remain at home.

**-Persistent cough + sneeze:** Such symptoms are identified as presenting 3-4x or more during a one hour period. At this point your child will be placed on an observation period (30-40mins) and should this continue, your child is to be picked up. Persistent cough and sneeze can also present as continuously coughing/sneezing throughout the day where it interferes with the other children and/ or your child’s learning.

*-This does not mean* that should your child be returning to school post cold subsiding and with negative (-) COVID test results in hand, they will be sent home if they sneeze 3x during the entire 3.5hr morning session.

*-This does mean* that your child will be sent home if their coughing/sneezing is coming in contact with classmates frequently, landing on classroom materials frequently, or is disrupting your child’s ability and the ability of their classmates to learn.

**-Persistent runny nose:** Such symptoms are identified as presenting with a continuous runny nose of yellow, green, or discolored mucus to the point that staff are needing to change your child’s mask multiple times due to the influx of mucus. At this point their cold is not deemed as subsiding and parents will be notified for child pick up or should remain at home if this is present. Persistent runny nose can also present as a child needing frequent teacher wipes throughout their day on a consistent base, i.e 4-5x per period.

*- This does mean* that if your child has a runny nose but only needs a few minor wipes throughout the day, they will be permitted to enter following a negative (-) COVID test.

**-Added “Cold” Symptoms clarification:** If your child has been sent home because they are at the beginning of their cold, they are not permitted to return until most of their symptoms have subsided and you think they are able to participate fully in school. They will then only be permitted to return with a negative (-) COVID test in hand should a minor few symptoms still be lingering.

*-This does mean* that if your child is sent home with cold symptoms your child is to remain at home until majority of said symptoms have disappeared. You will not be permitted to return to school the next day or the day after. Your child needs to be close to normal to gain access to the preschool and with negative (-) COVID test results.

-If your child, at any point, is unable to fully participate in class due to any symptoms, we will begin an observation period with possible parent contact to follow.

**5. Ongoing Testing Should a Positive Case Occur:**

Amendment #1: As per parent request, in addition to the COVID required policies we follow issued by DOH, families and staff have the option to test one last time on day 14. This is to ensure no variation in test results. This will remain optional.