

Dear BBS Families,

As we look forward to Bright Beginnings reopening in-person, we also acknowledge the uncertainty and questions about COVID-19's ongoing impact on our state and our BBS community. As we present our plan for a safe reopening, our procedures have been developed in accordance with CDC, Arizona Department of Health Services, Maricopa County Health Department, and the Arizona Department of Education.

Bright Beginnings consistently monitors the health benchmarks on the [Maricopa County Health Department](#) website to inform reopening decisions.

We are especially grateful for all of our students, families, and staff and for the resilience, determination, and commitment you have shown in recent months. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

Bright Beginnings

### **Bright Beginnings School - Safe Return to School Plan**

#### **I. Prevention**

##### **A. Health Screening/Illness**

- Parents are asked to screen and temperature check children daily before bringing them to school.
  - Please use the [Maricopa County Health Department Screening Form](#) (page 3) for symptoms to screen for.
- Students will be temperature checked again in the classrooms within 10 minutes of the beginning of school. If necessary, a second temperature check will be completed. Anyone with a fever of 100.0° or greater will need to return home.
- Students cannot return to school for [10 days AND until fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication](#).
- Teachers and staff will also watch for symptoms throughout the school day.
- During the day, symptomatic students will be taken to a [healthcare room](#) where social distance can be maintained. BBS administration will contact parents for child pickup. Children exhibiting symptoms, unless presenting symptoms are from underlying conditions, can return after [10 days AND fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication](#). Please inform the school of any prior conditions that could present like COVID symptoms.

## **B. Hygiene**

- Each classroom has a sink and/or hand sanitizer dispenser.
- Students will wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or use sanitizer at the following times:
  - Upon arrival at school
  - After being outside for physical activity
  - Before and after lunch
  - Prior to leaving at the end of the day
  - After sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose
  - When leaving for and returning from a Specials class
  - Sanitizing breaks during extended classroom time
- Classrooms will be set up to maximize social distancing. If a distance of greater than 6 feet cannot be maintained, students and staff must wear face coverings. Students will face the same direction when possible.

## **C. Masks/Face Coverings**

- All KinderBridge through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and staff are [required to wear a face covering](#) at all times unless a distance of greater than six feet can be maintained. Face shields are not an acceptable face covering unless a child cannot wear a face mask for a medical reason.
- If a student forgets his or her face covering, BBS will have a limited supply available to give the student one for the day.
- Students with health conditions who may be affected by wearing a mask will need to provide the school with a doctor's note.
- Criteria for discontinuing use of face masks will be based on county and state requirements in conjunction with the school board.
- There will be multiple times during the day when students are able to remove their masks if they choose, provided they stay six feet apart.
- Students will not be required to wear cloth face coverings at specific times when social distancing can be maintained, including:
  - Eating lunch
  - Recess
  - Breaks
  - PE/physical activity

## **D. Cleaning/Sanitizing**

- All horizontal surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected multiple times per day.
- High-touch/high-traffic areas will maintain regular sanitation and disinfecting schedules.
- Sharing of supplies is discouraged. Any shared supplies will be sanitized after use.
- Desks and tables will be sanitized multiple times per day.

- Our nightly cleaning service completes a thorough cleaning utilizing CDC-approved disinfectants. All doorknobs, faucets, bathroom stalls, and door handles will be disinfected each night.

## **II. Social Distancing**

- Every effort will be made to maintain at least six feet of distance between students in the classroom.
- Classrooms will be set up to maximize social distancing. If a distance greater than 6 feet cannot be maintained, students and staff must wear face coverings. Students will face the same direction when possible.
- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms. Students will be socially distanced as much as possible. Masks are not required while eating.
- Students will receive recess. Schedules will be staggered and monitored.
- Each homeroom will use its own playground equipment, which will be kept in the classroom when not in use. This equipment will be cleaned after each use.
- Large playground equipment (swings, slides, etc.) will remain open and available for use.
- If multiple classes are out for recess at the same time, they will rotate through different areas of the playground as a class.
- No assemblies or whole-school events will be held.
- No field trips for at least the first quarter. Second quarter and beyond will be assessed at the appropriate time.
- Students will be allowed to work in small groups only if facial coverings are worn and/or social distancing is maintained.
- If departmentalization impacts a mixed group of students, transition will include disinfecting desks and equipment.
- Classes will travel to the Specials classrooms. Classes will leave at staggered times to minimize traffic in the hallways. Specials teachers will sanitize their classrooms at the end of each class.
- Parents and guests will not be able to volunteer in or visit the classrooms at this time.
- Morning Drop Off – students report to their classrooms between 8:10-8:30.
- Afternoon Pick Up has been modified to allow for social distancing.
  - Parents will be provided with dashboard signs containing student(s) name, grade and teacher.
  - Students will stay in classroom until their teacher's name and assigned student number is called over the loudspeaker.
  - A staff member will be on the corner of Flint to notify staff about approaching cars so appropriate students can be notified.

- After-school care will be available once in-person school resumes and will follow similar protocols to what is used during the day.

### **III. Educational Model Options**

Bright Beginnings School offers families an opportunity to choose whether they are most comfortable having their children attend school in-person or remotely this year. At the start of the school year, all students begin in the Online Learning Model. When BBS meets the “Safely Returning to In-person Instruction” benchmarks set forth on the [Arizona Department of Health Services website](#), Bright Beginnings School will offer in-person instruction as an additional choice. Families will be given the option to switch between the two models (online and in-person instruction) at the start of each new quarter.

#### **A. In-person Learning Model**

- The In-person Learning Model will utilize all the social distancing measures detailed in this plan.
- This model will also utilize the prevention measures (social distancing, health screening, illness policies, hygiene, sanitation, and face mask) detailed in this plan.

#### **B. Distance Learning/Online Model**

- Students will receive instruction from their same homeroom teacher, whether participating in school in-person or online.
- BBS utilizes Microsoft Education, formerly known as Microsoft Classroom. Teachers will live stream and record lessons.
- Classroom aides will be available in all grade levels to assist both teachers and students during live instruction.
- All distance learning students will receive the same BBS curriculum as their in-person peers.
- Flexibility for families to change models will be available at the end of each quarter.
- Specials classes will continue.
- Social/Emotional Learning will be taught for all students.

### **IV. Incident Response**

Bright Beginnings School administration will work to identify and respond to primary or secondary COVID-19 exposure. We will follow the [procedures and protocols](#) developed for schools by The Maricopa County Health Department. BBS administration will report cases to the Maricopa County Health Department, and the MCHD will walk us through reporting to parents and any necessary quarantines. Each case will be handled individually as the latest

guidelines require different isolation timelines depending on the severity of symptoms, how sick a person becomes, and if that person is immunocompromised.

## **V. Contingency Plans**

Bright Beginnings School is prepared for possible interruptions in the school year. If required by state mandate to close, we will transition all students to distance learning.