

At Temple Beth-El, we take seriously our responsibility to practice *pikuach nefesh* (safe guarding life) and *shmirat haguf* (caring for the body). For the safety of our faculty and families, we meet weekly with the Temple Beth-El COVID-19 Task Force, who have helped us devise the below phased opening plan.

Our task force has continued to encourage congregational leadership to reopen our building with the motto, “data, not dates,” in mind. Though it makes it harder to concretely nail down what our year ahead holds, it frees us from the burden of taking inessential risk.

We have designed a phased reopening plan, which you can find below. It does not include many dates, but does mention how we will determine it’s time to move from phase to phase.

As always, I am available to answer any questions. Please contact me at leah@beth-elsa.org with questions or to schedule time to chat.

PHASE 1

- Sept. 13 material pick up day at Temple with socially distant fun and shofar
- Opening Day on October 4th
- All classes are taught online
- School time shortened to 1 hour, Class time shortened to 45 minutes
- All school opening assembly before break-out classes meet
- All school closing song session at the end of the day
- Students sign up for classes of interest, allowing multiple students in one household to take the same class on one device.
- Inclusion specialist to reach out to all families concerned about creating a great learning environment at home!

PHASE 2

- Will begin when the infection rate falls below .3% per 100,000 residents in Bexar county and infection, hospitalization and death rates plateau in county goal range for 14 consecutive days.
- Some classes continue online, some reopen in the Temple building.
- All students who wish to continue online learning have the option to do so.
- Up to 50 people in the Temple at a time
- Required screening, masking, and distancing inside the Temple.

- Return of a limited number of madrichim to help screen students and act as Zoom moderators for students in classes who wish to continue learning from a distance.
- In person classes last 1 hour
- Teachers given the option to return in person or continue remotely.
- Temple provides any necessary PPE for teacher and madrichim (including masks, gloves, wipes, hand sanitizer, and face shields)
- Any students displaying symptoms of any illness will be sent home and isolated in the childcare room (with a restroom and hand washing station) until the parent picks them up. An adult will supervise at all times.
- No parents allowed in the building during class meetings; water and restroom station provided in the parking lot.
- No more than 10 people (1 teacher, 1 madrich, 8 students) in each learning group and room. This group will remain together all class time.
- Restrooms and building will be maintained and monitored according to CDC and county standards and recommendations.
- Visual aids to help in distancing will be placed in the building (arrows, 6' markers, etc.)
- As much outdoor learning as possible

PHASE 3

- Will begin when the infection rate falls below .15% per 100,000 residents in Bexar county and infection, hospitalization, and death rates plateau in the low range of county goal for 14 consecutive days.
- Use of the building reopens to all classes but start times will likely be staggered.
- No T'filah (*communal prayer*) or singing
- Required screening, masking, and distancing inside the Temple
- No cooking or eating, though students will be provided with a water bottle each week.
- A limited number madrichim will remain to help screen students and act as Zoom moderators to students who wish to continue learning from home.
- In person classes last up to 1 hour
- Teachers return in person
- Temple provides any necessary PPE for teachers (including masks, gloves, wipes, hand sanitizer, and face shields)
- Classrooms arranged so as to keep students as socially distant as possible (desks facing forward and spread out)

- Any students displaying symptoms of any illness will be sent home and isolated in the childcare room (with a restroom and hand washing station) until the parent picks them up. An adult will supervise at all times.
- No parents allowed in the building during class meetings, water and restroom station provided in the parking lot.
- Restrooms and building will be maintained and monitored according to CDC and county standards and recommendations.
- Visual aids to help in distancing will be placed in the building (arrows, 6' markers, etc.)
- No more than 10 people (1 teacher, 1 madrich, 8 students) in each learning group and room. This group will remain together all class time.
- Start and dismissal time to be staggered based on last name of family
- As much outdoor learning as possible