



July 27, 2021

To: All ECLC Students, Families and Staff  
From: ECLC of NJ Reopening Committee  
Re: Modifications to ECLC Reopening Plan Safety Protocols

The State of New Jersey, Department of Education recently issued The Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-22 School Year. The primary import of this document is to 1) reaffirm the State's requirement that all students should return to the classroom for a full day of instruction absent specific medical necessity, and 2) facilitating that goal by relaxing prior safety requirements that would make it difficult to return all students to the classroom.

The ECLC Reopening Committee met earlier this month and concluded that we should generally continue to follow the safety protocols and respond to exposures and illnesses as set forth in our Reopening Plan, with the following modifications/clarifications:

1. Remote instruction is no longer permitted by the NJ DOE in the absence of an exposure that necessitates the closure of school or a classroom, or other extraordinary circumstance.
2. Parents and staff will need to continue screening for covid symptoms before departing for school, utilizing the covid app until further notice and **accurately** answer all symptom screening questions. Screening by staff upon arrival at school will be limited to ensuring the covid app has been completed, screening those students for whom pre-screening has not taken place, responding to any failure to pass the covid screening and visual inspection of students for symptoms at odds with passing the covid app. **Any student or staff member who fails the covid app screening should contact the school nurse and must NOT come to school!**
3. Staff and students will continue to wear masks in school to the extent possible. Students who cannot tolerate wearing a mask may not be permitted to participate in community-based outings involving indoor activities.
4. For purposes of social distancing, we will attempt to maintain 6' to the extent possible, but may reduce that to 3' consistent with current DOE guidelines when necessary.
5. We will continue to avoid mixing students of different classes for therapy sessions or special instruction (music, art), with the exception of gym when taking place outdoors.
6. Contact tracing efforts throughout the building will continue.
7. We will follow the most current DOE and NJ Department of Health recommendations for quarantine arising from a "close contact" exposure to the covid virus. As of the date of this writing, this includes quarantine associated with travel outside New Jersey, and the elimination of quarantine requirements for vaccinated persons. The mandatory quarantine period remains at 14 days. A "close contact" requiring quarantine is triggered by an exposure within 6' to an infected person for 15 minutes during a 24 hour period.
8. Vaccination status will be tracked for students and staff to facilitate planning and for determining appropriate response measures. If we have no information on vaccination status, a person will be deemed unvaccinated.