

Mask Policy
9/17/2020

On September 14, 2020, the CT Office of Early Childhood issued a requirement that all children aged 3 and older must wear masks while attending licensed preschools. This policy is effective September 21, 2020 and allows the school's mask policy to be phased in through October 19, 2020. During the phase in time, teachers will spend time educating children, staff and families about how to properly wear, remove, store, wash and dispose of masks.

1. Parents should work with their children at home to find a mask that they are comfortable wearing. It should be a 3 ply mask with either loops going around the ears, or around the back of the head.
2. Children should come to school wearing a labeled mask. We ask parents provide a spare labeled mask in their child's backpack each day. Chabad will have a supply of disposable pediatric masks on hand should a child's mask become damaged during the school day.
3. Teachers are able to assist a child put on or take off a mask if assistance is needed. Teachers wash their hands (or use hand sanitizer) before touching any child's mask / face.
4. Classes will have "mask breaks" built into the day. We will continue to spend as much time outdoors as possible. At these times, children do not need to wear a mask. Teachers will distance children as much as possible during snack and lunch times. Mask breaks that occur indoors, would require children to maintain a distance of 6 feet.
5. When masks are off, teachers will help children place their masks in a labeled zip lock bag. Teachers will keep all the zip lock bags in the class Playground Bag (1st aid bag) that is always with the class.
6. Teachers will provide gentle reminders and encouragement to children if masks are worn incorrectly or removed. If a child remains non-compliant, the classroom teacher, or the school Director will speak with the parents and work together to move towards a state of compliance. No child making an effort to wear a mask would ever be excluded from the program or isolated from their peers due to a child's non-compliance.
7. Children staying for an extended day do not wear masks during nap time. If there are multiple children, cots would be set-up at least 6 feet apart.
8. Although the legal requirement applies to children who have reached their 3rd birthday, we are implementing our mask policy for both our older and younger 3s classrooms. We encourage parents to work with the teachers and Maryashie as we help the children become more comfortable wearing masks.
9. It is expected that parents support this requirement. If a family does not support the school and other preschool families with the mask policy, they should speak with Maryashie as soon as possible to discuss.
10. Please speak with Maryashie if your child has a documented medical condition, special health care need, or developmental need for whom wearing a mask would be contrary to their health or safety.