

What Returning To **BJTELA** Will Look Like

With the reopening of TELA upon us we want to take the time to inform families of changes in our policies, and standard operating procedures. By sharing this information with you, we are hoping you can take the time to have a conversation with your child on the changes they will see upon returning to school.

We also would like to remind families that it is important to stay home when sick, to always wash our hands, maintain physical distance from one another, and wear our cloth face coverings when age appropriate.

Drop Off & Pick Up:

- Children are to be dropped off by one adult only
 - For Birth to Three children, only one parent will walk them in and drop them off at their classroom
 - For Three to Five children, only one parent will walk them in to be dropped off the first week of school
 - Following the first week of school the preschool children will walk themselves back to class
- Drop off time will be staggered to avoid overcrowding at screening areas
- Each child and adult will be screened outside of the school before entry
- Birth to Three children will enter through the left side entrances, and 3-5 children will enter through the right side entrances
- We ask that families stand in line 6 feet apart until it is their turn to be screened
- The adult arriving with the child will be asked a series of questions in regards to the child's current health
 - Has the child had any of the following symptoms of Covid-19 since the last time they were in care?
 - A cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - A fever of 100.4 or higher or a sense of having a fever
 - Two or more of the following symptoms:
 - A sore throat
 - Chills or repeated shaking with chills
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell

- Muscle aches
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Does anyone in your household have any of the above signs or symptoms right now?
- Has your child been close with anyone suspected or confirmed with COVID-19?
- Has your child had any medication to reduce a fever before coming to care?
- TELA will not care for a child if the adult answers “yes” to any of the above questions.
 - If the child is showing symptoms of Covid-19 they will be asked to please leave the premises and to return after all symptoms have subsided for 72 hours or 10 days after symptoms have started, whichever is longer.
- If the adult answers “no” to the above questions the following will occur:
 - The child as well as the adult will have their temperature checked before entering the Academy
 - If a temperature of 100.4 or higher is present the child and adult will be asked to leave the premises
 - When possible we ask that families screen their child at home for a fever of 100.4 or higher and to stay home if a fever is present
 - This will help our screening process move more quickly and keep others safe from exposure of any illness
- Each adult that enters the building will be asked to use hand sanitizer and required to have a face mask on before entering the building
- Doors will be propped in order to prevent any unnecessary spreading of germs
- Children will be dropped off at their classroom and the teacher will sign them in for the parent
- We ask that families do not bring any outside toys, blankets, cups, and/or food to the center. These items will not be allowed in the classroom
- For pick-up adults will be screened before entry and are asked to again be wearing a mask as well as use hand sanitizer upon entering the Academy
 - Ideally, the same parent or guardian should drop off and pick up the child every day.
 - If possible, older people such as grandparents or those with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children, because they are more at risk

If Your Child Gets Sick at School:

- If a child begins to show symptoms of coughing, shortness of breath, or fever of 100.4 or higher while at the Academy, their emergency contact will be called immediately
- This child will be moved to an isolated area until they are picked up
 - Front conference room will be the isolated area for the birth to three wing
 - The nurses office will be the isolated area for the three to five wing
- They will need to be picked up immediately (within 30 minutes) to avoid any spreading of their illness
- A child who shows symptoms of Covid-19 may not return to the Academy until:

- **If the child has not had a test** to determine if they are still contagious, they can return to TELA after these three things have happened:
 - They have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever **without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
AND
 - Other symptoms have improved (when cough or shortness of breath have improved)
AND
 - At least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared
OR
 - It has been at least 72 hours (3 days) since recovery, the child has had no contact with a known Covid-19 case, AND a health care professional provides a note that the child does not have suspected or confirmed Covid-19 and may return to the Academy.
- **If they have had a test** to determine if they are still contagious, they can return to TELA after these three things have happened:
 - They no longer have a fever (**without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
AND
 - Other symptoms have improves (when cough or shortness of breath have improved)
AND
 - They received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart
- In the instances, that a child who becomes sick at school has a sibling(s) in the Academy the sibling(s) will need to be picked up as well and isolate at home until all protocol is followed for return.
- **We ask that families who keep their children home sick to please call TELA and inform staff of your child's symptoms.**

Exposure:

- For suspected or confirmed exposures, at least 14 days of isolation will be required from the Academy.
 - This will include the children and staff who were exposed to suspected/confirmed case
 - Be aware of the possibility of extended closures and have back up plans for care if you are unable to stay home from work
 - TELA will follow all CDC/Snohomish County Health Department guidelines in regards to quarantine and/or isolation.

High Risk Children:

- Children at high risk for severe complications from COVID-19, such as those with compromised immune systems or respiratory conditions like severe asthma, should stay home. When in doubt, consult your child's doctor for guidance.

- Children who have family or household members in high risk categories are encouraged to stay at home to avoid spreading the disease to vulnerable individuals

Masks:

- When feasible we ask that children please wear masks to school to limit the spread of germs
 - Face coverings should NOT be placed on babies or children under the age of two because of danger of suffocation
- Children will be supervised closely to ensure they are not touching it, taking it off, or sharing their masks with friends
- Physical distancing guidelines will still be followed even when face coverings are being worn

Talking Points For You & Your Child:

We would like to encourage you to take a moment to talk with your child before returning to the Academy about how things may look a little different coming back to TELA.

- Staff will be wearing masks and/or face shields
 - Some children will be wearing masks as well
 - Try talking about how by wearing masks we are trying to keep one another safe from getting sick
 - Start introducing the mask to your child early. Have them wear it for short periods of time. Maybe let them pick out their own choice of fabric for their own mask.
- We will be practicing physical distancing
 - There will be less children and less staff in their classroom
 - Try talking about how we will try to avoid touching our friends, and giving hugs in order to not spread germs
- There will be lots of handwashing and cleaning going on around them
- We want most of all for children to be aware that even though things are going to look different, and even though there will be less hugs and high fives, that they are still cared for and loved by our TELA Staff and we are excited for them to return.

COVID-19 Protocol Acknowledgement Form

I acknowledge by signing this form that I have read and understand the new protocols Betty J. Taylor Early Learning Academy will be following indefinitely.

These new protocols are due to the new CDC and Snohomish County Health Departments guidelines and recommendations to operate the facility safely and in the best interest of staff, families, and the Tulalip Community.

I will adhere to these new operating procedures for my child and myself.

Child Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____