

The Tent

COVID-19 Safety Procedures

What is the Tent?

For thousands of years, tents have been gathering places for families and communities. Our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, always kept their tent flaps open to welcome guests and even angels. In the wilderness, Moses met God in the tent of meeting, and the Mishkan, the holy of holies was brought from place to place in a tent. Today, we harken back to those who came before us, as we build community and come together as families to learn and grow outside. In many ways, we are going back to basics, getting in touch with the wind, the grass, and the ground. Under the portico and in the chapel in the woods, our tent will be open on four sides, and in our Sukkat Shalom, we will be protected from the elements. We have an immense blessing to come together as Jewish families outside, to learn and to gather together. While we might be physically distant, our tent, like our hearts, will be open to the love we have for our community, for Judaism, and for each other.

Why is The Tent important?

The Tent is integral to the continued success of Beth El's Religious School during the COVID-19 pandemic. When asked why parents had not registered their children for Religious School, especially in Kindergarten through 3rd grade, parents stated over and over again that they couldn't imagine their child spending another hour online, much less being able to get them to sit in front of a computer on a Sunday morning or Wednesday night. Fairfax, Alexandria, and Arlington are all requiring students to be online for approximately 7 hours 4 days a week with asynchronous learning on Mondays. Multiple parents expressed that they would, however, enroll their child in Religious School if there was an in person component. Furthermore, parents informed me that if there were more in person opportunities (once a month or more) they'd be that much more interested in enrolling their students. Additionally, families who are not able to enroll in Religious School this year due to the amount of online learning, would be able to continue their relationship with the Temple by RSVPing and attending Tent sessions. The Tent will allow us to continue to engage our families in a safe and new way this Fall and help us to retain families throughout the pandemic.

Overview of the Tent

This Fall, our families will be invited to participate in The Tent: Outdoor Jewish Learning and Living. This program is **OPTIONAL** for all families, students, and teachers. Each grade will be invited to attend the Tent twice between September and

November 22 and again in the Spring (Dates TBA). All families and students must RSVP to attend each session. The Tent will take place in two locations per grade outside either under the portico, or in the Chapel in the Woods. All participants (and parents dropping off) will be required to wear masks at all times, have their temperature checked and to sanitize their hands upon arrival. Families and students will be required to sit at their designated table or seat during the entirety of the program. Our Kindergarten through 3rd Grade students will attend with at least one parent, and younger or older siblings are welcome with an RSVP. 4th Graders and up are asked to attend without a parent (exceptions will be made regarding students in need of inclusion services and or in conversation with the Director of Education). Tent sessions can be cancelled per the discretion of the Director of Education in conjunction with synagogue leadership and the Executive Director at any time. Tent sessions will not be rescheduled.

Hours:

First Session

10-11

Second* Session:

12:30-1:30

*We could theoretically add a session from 11:15-12:15, but as of right now, I'd like to see how September 13th goes first.

Dates:

September 13

October 4

October 11

October 18

October 25

November 1

November 8

November 15

November 22

March 7*

March 14*

March 21*

April 4

April 11

April 18

April 25

May 2

May 9

May 16

May 23

*Weather dependant

Teachers:

The Tent is optional for all teachers. Teachers, however, will help to plan all Tent sessions regardless of if they teach in person at The Tent. They will, however, teach the equivalent lesson online to students who cannot attend the Tent in person.

Students:

The Tent is optional for all students and families.

Online and In Person:

We will have a running Zoom call on a cell phone on iPhone tripods in locations to ensure that all students can observe and participate in The Tent activities.

Requirements:

All teachers or instructors must wear a mask and face shield at all times.

Masks must be worn properly at all times (covering nose and chin)

Any staff member handling materials or setups must wear gloves.

All participants are required to wear a mask covering their face (nose and mouth) at all times.

RSVP:

All teachers and participants must RSVP no later than Friday at 12pm to attend The Tent. RSVP's will be printed and put onto a clipboard to be used for check in prior to entrance into a session. If a parent has not RSVP'd for themselves and or their child, they will not be allowed to attend The Tent programming. 1 Parent is required to attend with students in grades K-3. Students are asked to attend by themselves in grades 4-12 unless the student requires a parent for inclusion.

Liability Waiver:

In order to RSVP, each parent is required to sign a liability waiver for themselves and or their child. If they do not accept the terms of the liability waiver, students and parents will not be allowed to attend. The liability waiver will include common symptoms of

COVID-19. No child or parent will be allowed to attend the Tent if they have experienced any NEW symptoms of COVID-19 listed below in the last 2-14 days.¹

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle or Body Aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Capacity:

The Tent can hold 16-22 individuals (parent and child) under the portico (including 2 teachers), and 12 individuals in the Chapel in the Woods (including teachers) with 6ft of distance with tables and chairs. The Tent can hold 15 people under the portico with ONLY chairs and 10 in the Chapel in the Woods.

The Tent CAN run two sites simultaneously.

The Tent will never have more than 50 people on Beth El's property at one time.

Set Up:

- Chapel in the Woods
- 2 EzUp Tents
- 8 sandbags
- 5 card tables for the Chapel in the Woods
- 10 chairs (facing towards the teacher's table)
- 1 4x4 table for teacher supplies
- Trashcan
- 1 bottle of EcoLab Spray
- Box of gloves
- Signs
- Paper towels

- Portico
- 6 (3.5/3.5) plastic tables
- 4 card tables

¹ What should we do if a person has a diagnosed chronic illness that include any of these symptoms?

21 chairs (1 chair for Bathroom monitor)
1 4x4 table for teacher supplies
Trashcan
1 bottle of EcoLab Spray
Box of gloves
Signs
Paper towels
Blue painter's tape
Rope to mark off the boundary for entrance

West Foyer Bathroom
Gloves
EcoLab Gleaning Spray
Paper Towels

Entrance:

Portico

1. Participants must line up behind the line at the entrance to the portico.
2. A teacher or volunteer will check off each participant on their RSVP list.
3. A teacher or volunteer will take the temperature of each participant and person dropping off the participant and write their temperature next to their name on the RSVP list.
4. Participants with temperatures of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to enter the portico.
5. Participants with parents/guardians with temperatures of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to enter the portico.
6. Participants will then be directed to their table or designated seat.
7. They will remain in their seats until dismissal by the teacher or instructor.

Chapel in the Woods

1. Participants must line up behind the line at the entrance to the Chapel in the Woods.
2. A teacher or volunteer will check off each participant on their RSVP list.
3. A teacher or volunteer will take the temperature of each participant and person dropping off the participant and write their temperature next to their name on the RSVP list.
4. Participants with temperatures of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to enter the CIW.
5. Participants with parents/guardians with temperatures of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to enter the CIW.

6. Participants with PARENTS will then be directed to their table or designated seat in the CIW.
7. Students in grades 4+ will wait 6 ft. apart on vinyl placards marking 6 ft. from each other until directed to their seat by the instructor.
8. They will remain in their seats until dismissal by the teacher or instructor. (See below for pick up procedures).

Cleaning:

After dismissal, teachers will begin the cleaning process.

1. Put on Gloves
2. Spray EcoLab Cleaner on:
Table
Lip of Table
Table legs
3. Wait 5 minutes
4. Use paper towels to wipe down all surfaces.
5. Indicate on the RSVP time sheet when it was cleaned.

Bathrooms:

The West Foyer bathroom will be used when no one needing accommodation is present. There will be a bathroom attendant sitting next to the entrance to the West Foyer lobby. In the case that a child or parent needs to use the restroom, they must first check in with the bathroom attendant.

The attendant will let the individual into the building, using Rabbi Romano's keyfob which is to remain at the door to the West Foyer lobby at all times.

The attendant will make sure that the individual goes into the bathroom and comes out. The attendant will then follow these procedures to clean the bathroom.

1. Put on gloves
2. Spray EcoLab Cleaner on:
Doorhandles (Outside to the building, in bathroom, in stall)
Toilet seat
Toilet Handle
Faucet handles
Vanity
Any surface a person may have touched
3. Wait 5 minutes
4. Use paper towels to wipe down all surfaces.
5. Indicate on the timesheet what time it was cleaned.
6. Return outside.

Drop Off:

K-3 Drop Off (Portico)

Students in K-3rd are required to attend the Tent with 1 parent.

Parents will park in a designated area, and walk up to the portico entrance and wait in line for RSVP and temperature checks.

4-12th Drop Off (Portico)

Students in 4th-12th grades are to attend the Tent alone unless they require accommodations.

Students will be brought to the portico in a carpool line.

A student's RSVP will be checked. Then, they and their parents will have their temperature taken.

If the parent and child's temperatures are in the normal range, the child may enter the Tent.

If either the child or parent have a temperature above 100.4, the child must return to their car and cannot attend the Tent.

K-3 Drop Off (CIW)

Students in K-3rd are required to attend the Tent with 1 parent.

Parents will park in a designated area, and walk up to the portico entrance and wait in line for RSVP and temperature checks.

4-12th Drop Off (CIW)

Students in 4th-12th grades are asked to attend the Tent alone unless they require accommodations.

Students will be brought to the portico in a carpool line.

A student's RSVP will be checked. Then, they and their parents will have their temperature taken.

If the parent and child's temperatures are in the normal range, the child may step on their designated spot in line to enter the CIW/enter the tent if a teacher is there for supervision.

If either the child or parent has a temperature above 100.4, the child must return to their car and cannot attend the Tent.

Pick Up:

K-3 Pick Up (Portico)

Students in K-3rd are required to attend the Tent with 1 parent.

Students and parents will be dismissed one table at a time to return to their cars.

4-12th Pick Up (Portico)

Students in 4th-12th grades are to attend the Tent alone unless they require accommodations.

Students will wait at their assigned table and or seat until their name is called to leave for dismissal.

K-3 Pick Up (CIW)

Students in K-3rd are required to attend the Tent with 1 parent.

Students and parents will be dismissed one by one to return to their cars.

4-12th Pick Up (CIW)

Students in 4th-12th grades are to attend the Tent alone unless they require accommodations.

During dismissal, the teacher will lead the students to stand on their designated social distancing circle to wait to be picked up.

Parents will drive up to the entrance to the CIW and each child will then be picked up from there.

Quarantine:

K-3

In the case that a student or parent in K-3 begins to develop ANY symptoms listed above, they will be IMMEDIATELY removed from the portico or Chapel in the Woods. Parents will be required to return themselves and their child to the car and to leave the premises.

The teacher/instructor should let Rabbi Romano know ASAP the name of the child and the location, so contact tracing can take place in the case that the child/parent contracts the virus.

4th+

In the case that a student or parent in K-3 begins to develop ANY symptoms listed above, they will be IMMEDIATELY removed from the portico or Chapel in the Woods. Any participants requiring quarantine will stand under the awning to the main entrance to the synagogue.

Teachers/staff should radio the Quarantine volunteer to retrieve the student and to call the child's parents.

Staff and Volunteers Needed:

Portico

1-2 Teachers

1 Bathroom Volunteer* (same all day or change)

1 Check In Volunteer (Parent)

Floater:

1 Quarantine Volunteer (Parent)

CIW

1-2 Teachers

1 Check in Volunteer (Parent)

1 Maintenance Staff

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