



**Silverstein Hebrew Academy**  
**Plan for Reopening of In-Person Instruction**

*Presented by:*  
*Shireen Deen-Butman*  
*Head of School – Silverstein Hebrew Academy*



## Silverstein Hebrew Academy Reopening Plan - 2020-2021

### **Pandemic Compliance Team:**

- Response Commander: Shireen Deen-Butman, Head of School
- Response Coordinator: Serge Butman, Parent Volunteer
- Response Task Force Member: Rabbi Yoseph Geisinsky, Dean
- Response Task Force Member: Rabbi Dovid Ezagui, Executive Director
- Response Task Force Member: Chanie Geisinsky, Associate Head of School
- Response Task Force Member: Sarah Kravitsky, EC Director

### **Introduction**

Silverstein Hebrew Academy is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all its students, parents, employees, and guests. We have developed the following Pandemic Response Plan (PRP) for the 2020–21 school year that will guide our decisions regarding the reopening of our school to students and employees as well as our overall program. We recognize that, through the implementation of the following coordinated efforts, we can greatly reduce, not eliminate, the risk of Covid-19 transmission in our community. We strive to balance our mitigation policies with the known benefits of children experiencing in-person learning at school.

**The school will update this PRP as federal, state, and local guidelines and regulations change. It will also be included as a temporary addendum to Silverstein Hebrew Academy’s Parent Handbook and Employee Handbook. Until communicated otherwise, the rules and guidance of this PRP will prevail, to the extent that there is any inconsistency between it and other provisions published in the existing Parent or Employee Handbook. If you have any questions regarding current policies or procedures, parents and employees should contact me, the Head of School.**

### **Pandemic Response Plan**

Shireen Deen, Head of School ([butmans@shagn.org](mailto:butmans@shagn.org)) has been designated as the COVID-19 safety coordinator whose responsibilities include continuous compliance with all aspects of the school’s reopening plan.

The School Task Force has taken into account the DOH and NYSED guidelines to resume in-person instruction. Attached you will find our reopening plan in accordance to these guidelines.

### **Resources and Guiding Entities**

Silverstein Hebrew Academy’s (SHA) Pandemic Response Plan is based on recommendations from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) [July 13<sup>th</sup> Interim Guidelines](#), the NYSED [July 16<sup>th</sup> Guide to reopening for Public Schools](#) and the [July 27<sup>th</sup> Guidelines for Independent & Religious Schools](#). In addition, our PRP is based on recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC). A Task Force of our school’s community members, with a varied range of expertise worked together to develop this plan.

As part of our planning, the school has taken into account the mounting evidence regarding Covid-19 in children and adolescents, including the role they may play in transmission of the infection.



Silverstein Hebrew Academy campuses reside in towns with local medical capacity, including the Northwell Medical facilities and the Cohen’s Children Hospital in new Hyde Park.

### **Implementation**

To be effective, SHA’s PRP requires the full cooperation of all our community members, and everyone is responsible for implementing and complying with the school’s PRP. This plan includes steps—such as signage placement, face coverings, physical distancing, hand hygiene, screening procedures, contact tracing, enhanced cleaning, and frequent HVAC filter changes—that the school is taking to mitigate Covid-19 contagion.

This PRP addresses the health and safety procedures that the school has implemented and the responsibilities of the school and its community members, including:

- prevention procedures, including proper hygiene and respiratory etiquette;
- procedures for safe physical distancing and limiting visitors, including parents, at school;
- cleaning, sanitizing, and ventilation information;
- screening procedures and policies for anyone exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms;
- prompt identification and isolation of sick individuals and protocols for contact tracing;
- protection and controls for student busing, pick-up and drop-off; and
- employee training and ongoing communications.

### **1. School Program: In-Person Learning**

Our current plan is to start the 2020-21 school year with in-person learning for our EC through eighth grade.

Safeguarding the health of our community members is our top priority, and we are prepared for a safe reopening or a switch to remote learning throughout the school year if public and/or NYS health guidelines require us to do so.

#### **In-Person Learning for EC through Eighth Grade**

We are excited to welcome students back to SHA for in-person learning, and we will offer a full-day schedule that includes lunch service, and specialist classes. SHA’s physical and human resources enable us to provide an at-school, in-person education under the required health and safety guidelines. Some program modifications that you may see will include: additional classrooms for student grouping; limiting transfers between grades; no large-group in-person meetings and activities until further notice; increased use of outdoor spaces for physical education and recess; and enhanced technology, including digital access into the classroom (when and if needed) for live streaming instruction.

Parents will be encouraged to contact the Head of School if they would like to discuss remote learning options, if their child has underlying medical conditions, or if they have other concerns. Based on a recent SHA Parent Reopening Survey, parents want their children to return to school and learn in-person.



### **High Risk Population**

Silverstein Hebrew Academy will be offering the option for remote-learning for students who choose not to return to in-person learning. We are working to accommodate, where appropriate, faculty and staff who are at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness. Accommodations may include telecommuting, additional PPE, and specialized space allocations.

### **2. Before and Aftercare Programs**

We will not be offering any before/aftercare programs this year.

### **3. Social-Emotional Support**

Supporting our students' social-emotional development is more important than ever during these trying and uncertain times. The Head of School, the Associate Head of School, the EC Director, the District provided school psychologist and teachers will be available to help parents regarding their children's adjustment back to school and any other related concerns.

### **Considerations for Parents**

Children are looking to their parents to let them know how they should be feeling about things. As much as possible, parents should try to be a calming presence in their children's lives and communicate their confidence in their children's ability to cope with stressful situations, including going back to school. Students are resilient and have grown through their recent experience with remote learning this past spring. They are able to adjust to changes but would benefit from strong role modeling and seeing our confidence in their ability to cope with the new stressors and protocols required for in-person reentry to school.

Parents are encouraged to help children reestablish routines at home that will help prepare them for coming back to school. This linked [set of recommendations](#) for parents prepared by Chai Lifeline has some great suggestions to prepare for reentry.

Once parents read through the school's PRP and understand more about the 2020–21 school year, they are encouraged to communicate clearly with their children about the return to school, to begin to prepare them for how things are going to look different this school year.

Parents are encouraged to reinforce the idea that children have the ability in keeping themselves safe and healthy rather than emphasizing the many unknowns. Although no one knows exactly what the school year will bring, it is important that children feel a sense of comfort knowing that there are specific things they can do (e.g., hand washing, maintaining a safe distance and wearing a face covering) to help keep themselves and others healthy.

Ample evidence shows that maintaining balanced nutrition, getting moderate exercise, practicing mindfulness, establishing good sleep habits, and having adequate social support are the best ways to counteract the effects of stress on children (and adults). Little things can help to make big improvements in the reduction of stress!

Parents can help the school by communicating with their children that, although every family has dealt with Covid-19 differently, the SHA community supports each other. There will be a different set of expectations at school, and we hope that everyone will respect differences in how families have approached dealing with the virus.



#### **4. Mitigation Strategies**

We recognize that, through the implementation of coordinated efforts, we can greatly reduce, not eliminate, the risk of Covid-19 transmission in our community. SHA strives to balance our mitigation policies with the known benefits of children experiencing in-person learning at school.

We have implemented basic infection prevention measures, including the promotion of frequent and thorough handwashing and respiratory etiquette and the use of face coverings and physical distancing. Continuous in-person learning will be possible only if all of us work together to follow these health and safety guidelines, both in and out of school.

#### **5. Handwashing**

Frequent and thorough handwashing is critical in preventing the spread of Covid-19. Hand sanitizer dispensers (that use sanitizers of greater than 60 percent alcohol) are at entrances and outside classrooms and restrooms. Students, employees, and visitors must sanitize their hands upon entering the building. Everyone is instructed to frequently wash their hands throughout the day for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, but especially at the beginning and end of their time at school, before and after mealtimes, and after using the restroom.

#### **6. Respiratory etiquette**

Because face coverings and/or face shields will be worn during large parts of the day, sneezing or coughing will typically be caught by the face covering. When coughing or sneezing when face coverings likely aren't worn, such as mealtime, everyone should cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue and avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose, and eyes, with their hands. They should dispose of tissues in a trash receptacle and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward. Respiratory etiquette signage will be displayed throughout the school.

Silverstein Hebrew Academy will have a 30-day stock of PPE supplies on hand, as per the NYS guidelines. We will replenish the inventory of PPE on a monthly basis to ensure that adequate supplies of face coverings for school staff, students who forget their masks, and PPE for use by school health professionals or relevant staff are continuously available.

#### **7. Face coverings**

All staff, visitors and students grades 1-8 must wear a face covering while in school. Parents must provide face coverings for students. Students should have 3-4 reusable clean face coverings available each day at school. In the event that a reusable mask is soiled, the soiled mask should be removed and placed in a fanny pack or cloth or paper bag (or Ziploc bag if no other container is available) with the student's name on it, to be taken home and washed. Soiled disposable masks should be discarded. The school will supply a replacement mask in the event that all of the student's masks become dirty during the same day. All EC through Kindergarten students will have to wear a face shield or face covering when away from a barrier. Everyone will have to wear a face covering while moving through the school (e.g., when going to the restroom or to recess).

Regular face covering breaks will be built into students' daily schedules. Students may remove face coverings during mealtime.



According to public health officials, individuals can spread Covid-19 to others even if they do not feel sick. While not a substitute for physical distancing, the use of face coverings is an important way that we, as a community, can protect each other by mitigating the spread of Covid-19.

CDC guidelines provide general considerations for wearing and maintaining a face covering, including the following:

- The mouth and nose are fully covered
- The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps
- The wearer does not have any difficulty breathing while wearing the covering
- The face covering can be tied or otherwise secured to prevent slipping

### **8. Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Ventilation**

SHA will be using CDC-approved disinfectants and has implemented updated cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation practices. This includes routine cleaning and disinfecting throughout the building. We will administer frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch areas and items, such as toys, manipulatives, door handles, elevator panels, railings and tech devices.

All students and employees will practice healthy hygiene, including frequent handwashing and surface disinfection, throughout the day.

If someone within the community contracts Covid-19, contact tracing will be used to identify and notify people who may have been exposed at school, and also to determine the exposed areas and equipment within the building. These areas and equipment will be disinfected per CDC guidelines.

The school's HVAC system allows for the maximum amount of incoming fresh air, air recirculation is being limited, and ventilation systems are being properly used and maintained. SHA will maintain a filter replacement schedule to support the best air quality possible. Classroom windows and doors will be open when safe and possible to allow for greater air circulation. Parents should dress their children accordingly, in particular when the weather gets colder.

### **9. Limiting Building Access**

As virus spread is more likely between adults, we are restricting parent and visitor access to student learning spaces. For the time being, no in-person events for parents are being scheduled. Moreover, we ask parents to arrange to transact all business with the school, including with their children's teachers, administrators, and the finance office, remotely.

### **10. Physical Distancing, Student Cohorts, and Group Gatherings**

All individuals at SHA will maintain a safe physical distance of six feet as feasible. Signage throughout the school will reinforce physical distancing.

The school will maintain cohorts of students and teachers to minimize crossover among children and adults within the school. We will minimize travel throughout the building when feasible, including lunches being delivered to classrooms and specialist teachers (excluding P.E.) traveling to classrooms to facilitate learning. In addition, teachers will take advantage of SHA's parking lots and other outdoor spaces where available to teach or give students breaks.

For the time being, we will not schedule any in-person, large-group meetings.



### **11. Physical Barriers**

Physical barriers will be used throughout the building, such as outside the main office and in the younger grades.

### **12. Shared Items and Water Fountains**

Teachers will limit the sharing of classroom materials and workspaces between students and will sanitize items as needed. Only items that can be easily disinfected will be used. No personal toys will be allowed in school.

Students and staff should bring their own water bottles. We will ask parents to label their child's water bottle. Water fountains will be closed.

### **13. Travel and Field Trips**

We ask that all community members and staff do their best to limit non-essential travel. Field trips will not be taking place until further guidelines are available to ensure greater student and staff safety.

### **14. Student Drop-off and Pick-up**

Drop-off and pick-up schedules will change for the 2020–21 school year:

- Elementary School drop-off (for non-bus students): Will be dependent on transportation schedule which we await from the District. It may be prior or after bus arrivals.
- Middle School drop-off (for non-bus students): Will be dependent on transportation schedule which we await from the Districts. It may be prior or after bus arrivals.
- EC drop-off: 9:00AM-9:45AM – Staggered times based on a student's grade.
- EC pick-up: 2:15PM-2:45PM (12:00PM-12:30PM on Friday) – Staggered times based on a student's grade.
- ES pick-up: 3:00PM-3:15PM (12:30PM-12:45PM on Friday)
- MS pick-up: 4:00PM (1:15PM on Friday)

We appreciate everyone's patience as new health and safety protocols may extend or shorten the duration of drop-off and pick-up based on the new bus schedules.

- Everyone should wear face coverings when they arrive at school.
- Students being dropped-off to school should remain inside the car while they await their turn for health screening. Once cleared, they can enter the building.
- Parents should remain inside the car at all times during drop-off and pick-up.
- During student drop-off and pick-up, employees will wear face coverings, maintain six feet of physical distance whenever possible, and avoid physical contact with other individuals.

### **15. In Classroom space configuration**

When students and staff return to school for in-person instruction, it will be vitally important that the physical spaces they occupy are configured and maintained in a way that provide the maximum possible protection from spreading the coronavirus.



At SHA we are modifying and reconfiguring spaces and areas to restrict the use of classrooms and other places where our students, faculty, and staff gather (e.g., lockers, cubbies, entryways, hallways), so that individuals can be socially distanced (e.g., side-to-side and when facing one another), and are not sharing workstations, desks, tables, or other shared surfaces without cleaning and disinfection between use.

At SHA we will follow health guidelines related to social distancing and other safety measures that will be put in place to slow the spread of Covid-19. To meet the requirements of that guidance, our school has rearranged our physical spaces to respect the social distancing guidelines. Students desks will be spaced out in 36 feet sq. feet zones or when possible, a barrier will be placed between desks and/or on tables to separate younger students.

At SHA we will put in place measures to reduce bi-directional foot traffic using tape or signs with arrows in hallways, or spaces throughout the school, and post signage and distance markers denoting spaces of six feet in all commonly used areas and any areas in which lines are commonly formed or people may congregate (e.g., outdoor spaces, classrooms, lunchrooms, and health screening station).

## **16. Emergency Drills**

At SHA, we will conduct standard operations and procedures for fire and lockdown drills according to the existing statutory schedule. We will plan for these drills to be conducted in a manner that maintains social distancing at exits and gathering points outside the building, while still preparing students to respond in emergencies.

Silverstein Hebrew Academy will not be making any modifications or additions to its facilities.

Silverstein Hebrew Academy will ensure that the stair and corridor doors that have closures with automatic hold open functions, that are automatically released by the fire alarm system will remain unchanged.

## **17. Health Screenings and Symptom Assessment and Reporting**

We will continue to inform and encourage families and employees to self-monitor for [signs and symptoms of Covid-19](#). As defined by the CDC, individuals with Covid-19 may have any of the following symptoms, which may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle or body aches, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea. Also, according to the CDC, this list of symptoms does not include all possible symptoms. Please contact your healthcare provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

SHA has implemented the following policies and procedures to assess a person's health status prior to entering the school; to provide guidelines for screening individuals before they are allowed to enter the building; and to provide a process for families to report when they are sick, experiencing symptoms, or if they or anyone in their household have come into close contact with someone who has Covid-19.

**18. Before arriving at school**

Anyone who is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle or body aches, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea) or knows that they have Covid-19 should isolate at home.

**In addition, parents should communicate with the school if one of them or a member of their household tests positive for Covid-19, experiences symptoms of Covid-19, or has had close contact\* with someone who is positive or symptomatic of Covid-19.**

\*[CDC currently defines “close contact”](#) as “someone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated.” In addition, we will consider someone who was in an enclosed space with an infected person, but outside of six feet, for at least an hour, to have been in close contact.

Location:	Any (open or enclosed)	In an enclosed space
Proximity:	Within 6 feet	Outside of 6 feet
Duration of exposure:	For 15 minutes or more	For 1 hour or more
From: 48 hours before the start of the infected person’s Covid-19 symptoms until their self-quarantine.		

Parents should take their children’s temperature before getting on the bus and/or drop-off at school and keep their child home if they have a temperature of 100.0° Fahrenheit or above. Parents should also monitor their children for Covid-19 symptoms each morning and keep them home if they have any significant symptoms or if they may have been exposed to someone who has Covid-19.

Parents should report student absences, Covid-19 symptoms, close contacts, and Covid-19 diagnoses to the Office Manager, Adena Canter **both via email ([cantera@shagn.org](mailto:cantera@shagn.org)) and a phone call (516-466-8522).**

**19. Screening Procedure for Students**

- A face covering is meant to protect others. Therefore, all employees, visitors, and students grades 1-8 are required to wear a face covering in school. All EC through Kindergarten students will have to wear a face shield/face covering when away from a barrier. They must wear a face covering while moving through the school.
- Students will have their temperature checked daily upon arrival. They will also be asked to reply to questions regarding Covid-19 symptoms and contact with anyone who is confirmed or suspected of being Covid-19 positive.
- Any student whose health screening indicates an elevated risk of Covid-19 must be picked-up by a parent or relative.

## **20. Screening Procedures for Employees and Visitors**

- Visitors must enter through the main door in both buildings.
- Non-essential visitors will be limited, and all visitors must have an appointment prior to being screened and admitted.
- Parents will not be allowed past the entrance doors once school resumes.
- A face covering is meant to protect others. Therefore, all employees and visitors are required to wear a face covering throughout the day in school.
- All visitors entering the building will have their temperature checked.
- Anyone with a temperature of 100.0° Fahrenheit or above must immediately leave the building or be further evaluated by the school nurse or designee.
- If the screening reveals any Covid-19 symptoms, the individual will immediately leave the building or will report to a designated isolation room until the school nurse or designee can evaluate their condition and determine the appropriate next steps.
- All individuals should sanitize their hands upon entering the building.

## **21. Policies for Individuals Exhibiting Symptoms**

If a student is sick or experiencing symptoms at school, the teacher or other designated adult will escort the student directly to the isolation room and report to the school nurse/school administrator. It is very important that the student be picked-up from school as soon as possible; therefore, SHA must ensure that we have up-to-date emergency contact information, including multiple parent contact options.

Parents whose family members (themselves, a SHA student, or another child) become sick or experience Covid-19 like symptoms should notify Mrs. Butman (Head of School) and the Office Manager (Adena Canter), even before test results confirm whether they are Covid-19 positive or not.

A student, parent, or other family member (or employee) with Covid-19 symptoms should contact their healthcare provider immediately for guidance regarding options for Covid-19 testing.

The school has implemented a specific Covid-19 health support policy that promotes everyone staying at home when they are sick or displaying symptoms of Covid-19, when household members are sick or displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or when required by a healthcare provider to isolate or quarantine themselves or a member of their household.

## **22. Contact Tracing and Returning to School**

Contact tracing is part of the process of mitigating the spread of infection. SHA has a plan to work with public health officials if a member of the SHA community tests positive for Covid-19. In coordination with the school, local public health officials will work with the infected person to identify close contacts and will notify SHA community members who may be close contacts. Patient confidentiality will be maintained. Instructions that follow current CDC guidance will be provided to the infected person and all close contacts regarding isolation and quarantine. If parents have any questions about the plan, they will be encouraged to contact the school nurse.



### **23. Returning to school**

Anyone who is absent or sent home due to illness shall not be permitted back in school again until they have:

- Been fever- and fever medication-free for at least 72 hours, AND
- Other Covid-19 related symptoms have improved

Parents will need to consult their family's healthcare provider if they have specific concerns about their child's health or would like a further medical evaluation.

**Anyone who is absent due to a positive Covid-19 test shall not be permitted back in school until at least 10 days after the positive test result, and they are free of fever and other symptoms.**

Anyone who is absent due to close contact with a person who has Covid-19 shall not be permitted back in school until **14 days after last exposure**. This person should check temperature twice daily and be observant for any onset of symptoms. They should also stay away from anyone who is at higher risk for getting sick.

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, anyone who is required to be out of school due to a Covid-19-related concern must consult and receive clearance (with a valid medical note from a physician) before being readmitted to school.

### **24. Training and Preparedness**

This document will serve as SHA's response plan for Covid-19. The school will provide employees with pandemic preparedness training. Additional communications and training will be ongoing as Covid-19 guidelines and requirements change. If staff or parents have any questions, they will be encouraged to contact the school nurse for additional support.

Faculty will be trained to identify and support students struggling with transitioning back into the school setting and/or coping with Covid-19 trauma/issues.

### **25. Additional Information for Employees**

#### **A. Employee Absence Notification**

Employees should notify their supervisor of their absence and continue to report absences, Covid-19 symptoms, close contacts\*, and Covid-19 diagnoses as usual.

\*CDC currently defines "close contact" as "someone who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated." In addition, we will consider someone who was in an enclosed space with an infected person, but outside of six feet, for at least an hour, to have been in close contact.

#### **B. Employees Who Become Sick at School**

Employees who become sick or experience symptoms while at SHA should notify their supervisor and leave the school immediately or report to the designated isolation room until able to leave the school.



## **26. Transportation**

### **A. Provided by the District**

All students will be required to wear a face covering on the bus and as they enter and/or leave the school buildings. Siblings may sit on the same seat. Bus capacity will be decreased to accommodate stricter Covid-19 regulations. More details will be provided by the transportation company.

### **B. Provided by SHA**

**We own and operate a Mini School Bus (25 capacity). We have developed the following procedures and protocols for anyone embarking and disembarking the bus:**

- All individuals (students and driver) must wear acceptable face coverings at all times on the school bus (e.g., entering, exiting, and seated), and that all individuals will maintain (as much as possible) appropriate social distancing (unless they are members of the same household).
- We encourage parents to drop-off or walk students to school to reduce density on buses.
- The driver may wear gloves if he chooses to do so but is not required unless he must be in physical contact with students;
- The driver will wash his hands with soap and water before and after morning and afternoon runs to keep healthy and prevent the spread of respiratory and diarrheal infections from one person to the next.
- All parents will be required to ensure their child/children are not experiencing any signs and symptoms of Covid-19 and do not have a fever of 100.0° Fahrenheit or more prior to them boarding their method of transportation to school.
- Students must wear a face covering on the school bus if they are physically able to do so. Students who are unable to medically tolerate a face covering, including students where such covering would impair their physical health or mental health are not subject to the required use of a face covering.
- Students who forgot a face covering will NOT be denied transportation; students who do not have a face covering will be provided one by the bus driver.

Silverstein Hebrew Academy will ensure that the school bus driver will not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with him on the school bus nor will the bus be equipped with hand sanitizer due to the flammable nature of hand sanitizers.

The bus driver at Silverstein Hebrew Academy will be trained and be provided periodic refreshers on the proper use of personal protective equipment and the signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

## **27. Food Service**

At SHA we will continue to provide school lunch through PTA to families who choose this option. During lunch periods we will ensure appropriate social distancing between students. Students will not need to wear face coverings when seated and eating, so long as they are appropriately socially distanced. At SHA, students will be eating lunch in their individual classrooms as an alternate area to ensure social distancing and proper cleaning and disinfection between students.



At SHA, we will prohibit sharing of food and beverages, unless individuals are members of the same household. We will have adequate space for students, faculty, and staff to observe social distancing while eating meals.

- Staff will wear single-use gloves when handling or delivering all foods;
- Staff will wear a disposable apron when handling or delivering foods;
- Only teachers, teachers' assistants, administrators and custodial staff will be allowed to assist in handling and/or delivering of meals;
- Meals will be served in the classroom;
- Remove or suspend the use of shared tables, family style pans for food and condiments;
- Discourage food sharing between students;
- Coordinate with custodian regarding cleaning procedures;
- Clean and disinfect tables, chairs and other frequently touched hard surfaces before and after meals;

Silverstein Hebrew Academy is a nut-free facility, any student with food allergies will be provided with a separate area in the classroom to eat.

### **28. Hand Hygiene**

At SHA we will have protocols and procedures on how students will perform hand hygiene before and after eating, signage showing how necessary hand hygiene will be, and how sharing of food and beverages will be discouraged. Additionally, protocols and procedures will account for cleaning and disinfection prior/after meals.

### **29. Signage**

At SHA we will be posting signs regarding public health protection against Covid-19 throughout the school, consistent with DOH/CDC guidelines.

### **30. School Closures**

At SHA we will collaborate with our local health departments to determine the parameters, conditions or metrics (e.g., increased absenteeism or increased illness in school community) that will serve as early warning signs that positive Covid-19 cases may be increasing beyond an acceptable level.

School administrators will consider closing school if absentee rates impact the ability of the school to operate safely. SHA may choose to modify operations prior to closing to help mitigate a rise in cases. At SHA we will consult with the Nassau County and NYS Departments of Health when making such decisions. Following the consultation, SHA will cease in-person instructions for specific classes, grades or the entire school. We will communicate all closure decisions with the applicable school constituents via email and school Info WhatsApps.



### **31. Out of School Pledge**

*Kol Yisrael areivim zeh lazeh* - We all have a responsibility to one another and keeping each other safe.

We all have a role in the fight against Covid-19. Our actions outside of school can affect not only our own family's safety, but also the safety of every member of the SHA community. We therefore ask parents and children to make responsible choices outside of school:

- Conduct daily personal health checks
- Wear a face covering
- Wash hands often
- Practice social distancing
- Sanitize surfaces and equipment, in cars as well
- When ill, stay away from school and seek medical attention
- When asked, participate in contact-tracing and exposure-notification programs
- Adhere to orders and directives from national, state, and local health officials
- Display Covid-19 patience and etiquette in interactions with other people



## **Learning Options 2020-2021**

### **Hybrid learning:**

Silverstein Hebrew Academy has the capacity and space in all grades to provide in-person, 5-days a week instruction for the 2020-2021 academic school year. We, therefore, do not need to provide our students with any form of Hybrid learning.

### **Remote/Virtual learning:**

At the start of the pandemic, our school switched to full synchronous learning. Each grade, PreK through grade 8 had a full day of learning, including specials and assemblies via Zoom. Google Classroom was used in K-8 to provide additional asynchronous work, while Zoom was used daily to provide synchronous learning. In PreK-8 students' daily learning schedule followed as closely as possible their pre Covid-19 schedule. We also provided all students and faculty that needed it, school Chromebooks while school was closed. We have since collected all Chromebooks that were lent out to families and are ready to loan them out again for the 2020-2021 school year. Daily attendance, homework, assignments, grades and communication were shared with parents and students through Parent Locker, which is an integrated platform used for all of our school's management needs.

We have much experience in providing synchronous learning, as we already provided our students with a strong digital platform from March 17- June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. If the need arose again to pivot to this already established process, we are confident that we can do so seamlessly without interrupting student learning. In order to enhance our digital learning, we have offered our teachers and administrators opportunities to participate in a variety of webinars this summer. The webinars range in topics, covering academic, mental health and technology usage to improve learning. At the start of this new school year, we have planned in-person professional development at school for all faculty. This training will teach them how to use specific technology or apps to get real-time student performance data, better engage students, as well as grow their Zoom and Google Classroom skills.

On the following page, you will be able to see what a typical day of remote learning might look like, depending on the grade level. Subject matter and specials may differ, but the schedule will be similar to the attached sample.



### Sample Remote Learning Schedule (changes may apply for 2020-2021)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-9:00	<i>Tefila</i>				
9:15-9:50	Math <b>208-997-6870</b>	Math <b>208-997-6870</b>	ELA <b>602-899-3882</b>	ELA <b>602-899-3882</b>	9:15-9:45 Social Studies <b>602-899-3882</b>
9:50-9:55	Get ready for next class				
9:55-10:30	Social Studies <b>602-899-3882</b>	Navi <b>287-744-3461</b>	Judaic Studies <b>597-581-3889</b>	Navi <b>287-744-3461</b>	9:50-10:20 ELA <b>602-899-3882</b>
10:30-10:45	Break/Snack	Break/Snack	Break/Snack	Break/Snack	Get ready for next class
10:45-11:20	Ivrit <b>319-571-3217</b>	ELA <b>602-899-3882</b>	Math <b>208-997-6870</b>	Ivrit <b>319-571-3217</b>	10:25-10:55 Math <b>208-997-6870</b>
11:20-11:25	Get ready for next class	10:55-11:25 <b>Lunch/Move around</b>			
11:25-12:00	Chumash <b>597-581-3889</b>	Chumash <b>597-581-3889</b>	Science <b>208-997-6870</b>	Math <b>208-997-6870</b>	11:30-12:00 <b>IXL.com</b> <b>Work time</b>
12:00-12:40	<b>Lunch/Move around</b>	<b>Lunch/Move around</b>	<b>Lunch/Move around</b>	<b>Lunch/Move around</b>	Get ready for next class
12:40-1:15	ELA <b>602-899-3882</b>	Judaic Studies <b>597-581-3889</b>	Technology <b>302-165-7033</b>	Science <b>208-997-6870</b>	12:05-12:35 Chumash <b>597-581-3889</b>
1:15-1:20	Get ready for next class				
1:20-1:55	Science <b>208-997-6870</b>	Social Studies <b>602-899-3882</b>	Art <b>899-171-1378</b>	Social Studies <b>602-899-3882</b>	12:40-1:10 Judaic Studies <b>597-581-3889</b>
1:55-2:00	<b>Get ready for Mincha</b>				
2:00-2:15	<b>Mincha</b>				

**Silverstein Hebrew Academy  
Pandemic Response Plan Reference Guide - 2020-21**

**Whom to Contact**

- Shireen Deen-Butman, Head of School (butmans@shagn.org)
- Chanie Geisinsky, Associate Head of School (geisinskyc@shagn.org)
- Rabbi Dovid Ezagui, Executive Director (rabbiezagui@shagn.org)
- Sarah Kravitsky - EC Director (kravitskys@shagn.org)
- Adena Canter - Office Manager (cantera@shagn.org)
- Mary Creighton - School Nurse (mcreighton@greatneck.k12.ny.us)

**To Reduce the Risk of Infection**

1. Face coverings for all students and staff\*
2. Physical distancing in class and elsewhere in school
3. Frequent handwashing and respiratory etiquette
4. Limited movement - students remain in the classroom, teachers move
5. Enhanced cleaning, disinfection, ventilation
6. Limited group gatherings, limited school access for parents

**Student Drop-off and Pick-up**

- Drop-off at designated areas
- Parents monitor students for fever and/or Covid-19 symptoms before leaving home
- Students wear a face covering and remain in cars/buses while they await their turn for health screening
- Parents remain in cars at all times

**If Your Child Exhibits Symptoms**

- Stay home
- The student will be isolated, parents will be contacted, and the child needs to be picked-up immediately
- Contact your healthcare provider for guidance on Covid-19 testing
- Notify the school of test results
- If positive, do not return to school for 10 days AND until symptom-free for 72 hours
- Consult with the school nurse before returning to school

**If Another Student Tests Positive**

- Parents of students in the same cohort and/or class will be notified (while maintaining confidentiality)
- Students in the cohort and/or class and others in close contact, will quarantine for 14 days
- Nassau County Department of Public Health will be in touch with further guidance

***\*As per the breakdown in the PRP***