

Butterfly Garden Learning Center, Inc. Protocol – Face Coverings on School Premises

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, and in accordance with our pre-school's governing documents for licensure, Butterfly Garden Learning Center, Inc. ("BGLC"), its employees, enrolled students and families will comply with the following "Minimum Standards for Health and Safety" as outlined in DCFS documents for our category of "Licensed Day Care".

BGLC will require students, employees, and other individuals who are over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering to cover their nose and mouth with a face covering while in the building.

Face coverings are masks or other cloth face coverings which cover an individual's nose and mouth. They should be fitted to the face but permit breathing without restriction. Face shields may not be used in place of face coverings.

Anyone not wearing a face covering upon entry to BGLC or at any other school event where face coverings are required will be provided a disposable or clean cloth face covering for immediate use. Anyone refusing to wear a face covering on BGLC premises will be sent home.

BGLC may permit face coverings to be removed while eating, drinking; when individuals are outdoors; and, for staff, while using a face shield when necessary to allow for facial visualization during instruction.

Accommodations/Exemptions

Students who cannot independently remove a face covering due to a physical or intellectual disability may be exempt from the requirements to wear face coverings or may be entitled to accommodations to the requirement. In rare cases, students with a medical condition that impacts their ability to breathe may also be entitled to accommodation in regard to this requirement.

Parents/guardians of students who believe their student requires reasonable accommodation to the BGLC face covering requirement must complete the "Face Covering Accommodation Form" which must be verified by the student's physician. The completed form should be provided to the directors.

Only licensed professionals authorized to conduct pediatric health examinations consistent with 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1(2), including physicians licensed to practice medicine in all branches of medicine, licensed advanced practice registered nurses, and licensed physician assistants, may provide a medical note indicating that a student is medically unable to tolerate a face covering or a face shield.

BGLC may verify all information provided by the student's parent/guardian and/or the student's physician through an independent review by a licensed medical provider of the school's choice.

Upon review of the completed and verified form, BGLC will communicate with parents/guardians to review the request and consider accommodations for the student.

Should a student qualify for an accommodation to or as medically exempt from using a face covering, BGLC is mandated to follow procedures from the Illinois Department of Public Health in the congregate pre-school setting as follows:

“Staff should wear approved and appropriate PPE (as determined by job-specific duties and risks) and maintain social distance as much as possible when working with students who are unable to wear a face covering or face shield due to a medical contraindication. Other students should also remain socially distant from students who are unable to wear a face covering or face shield due to a medical contraindication.”