



September 12, 2022 - 16 Elul, 5782

Dear Friends,

Congregation Shir Shalom's team of medical advisors, led by Dr. David Pazer, includes medical professionals in our congregation with diverse specialties. The team is tasked with reviewing updates from the CDC, State of Connecticut, and the Ridgefield Public Schools to inform our practices. As our school year starts, and in advance of the High Holy Days recommended Covid-19 guidelines have been revised to safeguard the health and safety of our visitors, guests, staff, and clergy.

- Our Early Childhood Center and *B'Yachad* (Religious School) follow guidelines and procedures distributed by the [CT Office of Early Childhood \(CT-OEC\)](#) and [Ridgefield Public Schools](#), respectively, as applicable. When questions arise, we are advised by a team of medical professionals led by Dr. David Pazer.
- Based upon infection and hospitalization rates in our area, treatment availability, and other current conditions, **masks are generally optional. Visitors/guests/staff/clergy are welcome to wear masks.** If you have medical concerns or your doctor has advised you to wear a mask, please do so. We want to ensure everyone feels comfortable masking.
- If you tested positive for COVID-19, consistent with federal and state guidelines, stay home for at least five days from positive test (not from symptom onset). The day you test positive is Day 0. After symptoms have resolved (including no fever), starting on Day 6 you may attend and participate while wearing a well-fitting N-95/KN-95 mask for five additional days. Those unable to mask consistently (including children) may need to remain home until ten days after a positive test.
- If you are still experiencing mild symptoms (e.g. infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, mild sore throat, etc.) on Day 6, you must test negative and may attend and participate (while wearing a well-fitting high-quality mask through Day 10).
- If you have a fever or are experiencing significant symptoms, please stay home, even if you test negative.
- If you are experiencing mild symptoms, no fever, and a negative test, you are welcome to attend and participate while wearing a well-fitting mask.
- If significant exposure occurs (someone in your household tested positive) and you are **not** experiencing symptoms, please test at home. You are welcome to attend and participate if your test is negative, though you are requested to wear a mask.
- If significant exposure occurs (someone in your household tested positive) and you are experiencing mild symptoms, please stay home, even with a negative test.
- Mild symptoms include infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, and sore throat; temperature under 100F.

We wish to thank everyone for their patience throughout the course of the pandemic. Our collective welfare is a responsibility we continue to share with one another.

Thank you,

*Jeff and Larry*

Jeff Gorelick and Larry Brooks  
Co-Presidents

*David Reiner*

Rabbi David Reiner  
Senior Rabbi

*Mark Block*

Mark Block  
Executive Director