

## **Amendment No. 5 to “Back to Shul” Plan**

Due to improving local conditions and revised guidance from public health authorities, Temple Ohev Sholom’s Board of Trustees is pleased to adopt this comprehensive amendment, which revokes and replaces all prior versions of the “Back to Shul” Plan and any other inconsistent temple policies. This amendment largely returns temple life to pre-pandemic status while keeping many of the benefits of online operations, but please read it carefully for the details. The Board will continue to modify temple policies, plans, and procedures as appropriate and notify the membership of those changes.

1. **MASKS:** Masks are now optional for everyone, except as otherwise provided in this amendment (see item #6 in particular). Consistent with CDC recommendations, the following should continue to wear masks: (1) people with symptoms of COVID-19; (2) people who have received a positive test; and (3) people who have been exposed to someone else with COVID-19. However, if you fall into any of these categories, we urge you to refrain from entering our facilities for at least 5 days out of respect for other members of our temple family, particularly children who are not yet eligible for vaccinations and medically vulnerable individuals. In addition, anyone who is fully vaccinated and wishes to continue wearing a mask for any reason whatsoever should feel free to do so without any judgment or criticism by others. For those who choose to wear masks, we encourage the use of either an N95 or KN 95 mask (or at least a surgical mask), which are available at the temple, and we discourage the use of cloth masks, which have proven to be less effective.
2. **SIGN-IN SHEETS:** Everyone entering our facilities must continue to sign in on a sheet inside the doors (name, phone number, purpose of visit, date, and time), self-certify that they have not experienced the listed symptoms of COVID-19 within the previous 48 hours, and sign out with the time when they leave.
3. **SYMPTOMS:** All full- and part-time employees are required to notify the Board President and/or President-Elect immediately upon experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, immediately upon scheduling a test, and immediately upon receiving the results of the test. This rule also applies to Board members and volunteers who have been in the building within 5 days of experiencing symptoms. Everyone is encouraged to download and use the state’s COVID-19 Alert PA anonymous contact tracing application on their phones.
4. **SERVICES, B’NAI MITZVAH, AND OTHER EVENTS IN THE SANCTUARY:** We will continue offering access to religious services in the Sanctuary in person and through the online live-stream. B’nai mitzvah families who do not want their service to be live-streamed must provide two weeks advance notice to the temple office. Physical distancing is no longer required. Prayer books no longer need to be sequestered after services. Feel free to use the community kippot and tallit if it is your custom to wear them.
5. **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND B’NAI MITZVAH LESSONS:** Masks are optional. Snacks are permitted. The plan for the 2022-23 school year will be determined and distributed this summer.

6. **TOT SHABBAT:** Because the Tot Shabbat program involves children who are not yet eligible for vaccination, masks are still required for everyone present, including the children, their family members, and the Rabbi. This rule will be revisited if children under 5 years old become eligible for vaccination. For this mask requirement, we encourage the use of either an N95 or KN 95 mask (or at least a surgical mask), which are available at the temple, and we discourage the use of cloth masks, which have proven to be less effective. Physical distancing is encouraged to the extent possible. Snacks are permitted.
7. **OTHER LIFE CYCLE EVENTS (FUNERALS, SHIVAS, WEDDINGS, CONVERSIONS, ETC.):** If these events are held on temple property, they shall comply with the terms of this amendment. Otherwise, the rules and logistics governing these events shall be jointly decided by the Rabbi and the family involved.
8. **ADULT CLASSES (PEP, BOOK REVIEW, CONVERSION, ETC.):** Through the end of June, these classes will be held online and/or in person at the discretion of the Rabbi with advance notice to the participants. The plan for adult classes this fall will be determined and distributed this summer.
9. **PURIM AND PASSOVER:** The plan for our spring holidays that was shared with the congregation in the letter dated February 15, 2022, and posted on the temple website at [www.ohvsholom.org/upcoming-events](http://www.ohvsholom.org/upcoming-events), is not affected by this amendment. We will proceed with the schedule without changes.
10. **HIGH HOLIDAYS:** The plan for this year's High Holidays, which will begin in late September, will be determined and distributed this summer.
11. **SOCIAL HALL:** In-person events are permitted in the Social Hall, subject to the other terms of this amendment. Eating and drinking are allowed again. Oneg Shabbats will resume, and members may rent the space for their special events.
12. **OTHER BUILDING ISSUES:** Visits to the temple office and library no longer require an advance appointment, but appointments are encouraged whenever possible. We will maintain constant non-recirculating air flow and deep-clean sections of the building as appropriate. Outside organizations that rent space from the temple for their own events must comply with all terms of this amendment but may impose greater restrictions if they choose.
13. **SISTERHOOD:** Sisterhood may resume in-person events of all types, subject to the other terms of this amendment.
14. **MEETINGS:** Meetings of the Board, committees, and Sisterhood, as well as meetings between the Rabbi and congregants, may be held in person inside the facilities at the discretion of the individual presiding over the meeting, subject to the other terms of this amendment.
15. **ZOOM:** Nothing in this amendment shall be construed to prohibit meetings or events from continuing to take place on Zoom or other online platforms, or from taking place

simultaneously online and in person, if doing so makes sense for the health, safety, and/or convenience of the participants involved.

- 16. DISTRIBUTION:** This policy shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the Board of Trustees. It shall be posted on the doors to the building and with the sign-in sheet and also individually distributed to all members and employees via email, Facebook, the temple bulletin, and other appropriate means.

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees, 3/9/2022*