

## **Bender ECC Preschool FAQs**

*Will we reopen this year, this summer, or in the fall?*

Currently “childcare” is part of “Phase 2” in Maryland’s plan for reopening in the state. We do not know when the state will get to “Phase 2” at this time. We are preparing for many different scenarios including the possibility of opening sometime this summer or with the new school year in the fall.

Re-opening before June 15 is unlikely. Our teaching staff is working on creating closure rituals for the school year and, for our rising kindergarteners, a virtual “*siyum*” is being planned by our *Shamayim* team. In addition, we are actively working to create operational plans that will allow us to comply with any additional operating requirements as soon as the Governor says that we may reopen.

*Will space be limited when you reopen?*

We do not yet know if we will be under group size restrictions when we open, or if there will be a relaxation of the restrictions for Phase 2. We are scenario planning for many different possibilities.

*What if I do not want to send my child back right away – can I save my spot?*

The JCC will be reaching out to parents via survey in the coming days to gather more information about what parents’ childcare needs will be in the coming months so we can plan our program accordingly.

*How will we keep kids and staff safe?*

The Bender ECC will be prepared to follow all CDC and MD guidelines regarding group size, social distancing, and cleaning/disinfecting.

*How will the program look different than it did?*

We are likely to have smaller classes sizes, no multi-class activities, and other program change in order to comply with social distancing and additional cleaning requirements.

We will be reviewing the full program structure and hours to be able to meet the health and safety guidelines for the staff and students and still provide childcare for our families. Exactly what these changes will be are to be determined by the guidelines from the CDC and State of Maryland. We will have that information available to parents before we reopen preschool.

*Does the PPP mean you don’t need donations anymore? What about tuition?*

The PPP grant has allowed us to pay all JCC staff 80% of their regular salary. ECC parent donations have allowed ECC teachers to be paid 95% of their salary. THANK YOU!!

However, the PPP and donations only help us through June 15. If we are not re-open at that time, the JCC may need to furlough some JCC staff as no further revenue will be coming into the center. Additional donations to the preschool will allow us to prepare for the re-open of school.