

Day Camps

Sectors/subsectors included in this guidance:

Summer Day Camps/Playground Programs offered by municipalities, private Day Camp Providers and Youth Serving Organizations.

Safeguarding Guidance:

In addition to CDC guidelines, the State of New Hampshire recommends the Day Camp industry establish measures to protect consumers and employees. In this case recommendations from the American Camp Association, National Recreation and Park Association and NH Recreation and Park Association are considered in the development of these guidelines; guidelines may be updated when American Camp Association/CDC/National Recreation and Park Association are completed.

Considerations:

- **Summer Day Camps provide important experiences and learning opportunities for NH Children**
- **Parents will need care for children as they return to work, day camps provide this care – especially for children who may be “too old” for traditional day care, but not old enough to stay home alone**
- **NH Children have been isolated from their friends, organized activities and in some cases not getting the required amount of exercise**
- **Day Camps can play an important role in returning a sense of normalcy for children**
- **Traditional Day Camps can be modified to ensure the safety of campers and staff.**

Employee Protection

Drop Off/Check-In

- **Health screenings; including temperature checks, are performed on every staff member every day and daily records kept. If not healthy the staff member will be sent home.**
- **Staff will wear a mask and gloves during the camper screening process**

During Camp Hours

- **Constant reinforcement –**
- **Staff and camper’s handwashing with soap and water (hand sanitizer in all areas – indoors and outdoors)**
 - **Before & After coming into contact with any child or staff member**
 - **Before & After Eating**
 - **After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing**
 - **After using rest rooms**
 - **Before handling food**
 - **After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated**
 - **Using any shared equipment**

Promotion of Health Practices:

Camps should establish hand hygiene stations at multiple places throughout camp, including the dining halls. Hand sanitizer is encouraged to be placed in all program and break areas. Additionally, campers and staff will engage in proper hygiene to prevent the spread of communicable diseases including:

1. Frequent Hand washing
2. Avoiding close contact
3. Coughing and sneezing etiquette
4. Personal supplies
5. Posting of signs on above protective measures
6. Face Coverings: When physical distancing is not possible, face coverings should be used by staff

Areas will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day – anytime a group exits an area where they have used tables, chairs etc. – indoors or outdoors

- All equipment and supplies will be cleaned and disinfected after use
- All areas where campers and staff have been will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day.

Staff –

- There must be enough staff to maintain recommended ratios, allow for proper coverage to comply with Federal and NH Labor and Child Labor Laws i.e. breaks, hours worked etc. and for staff calling out.
- Staff interaction will include specialty instruction and supervision – waterfront, arts and crafts, archery, tennis etc.

Masks –

- In addition to check-in and health screening it is recommended that staff wear masks in situations where they may have extended close contact i.e. some indoor or quiet time activities i.e. arts and crafts, supervising lunch, treating injuries etc., or when they can't maintain social distancing.

Consumer Protection (Children)

Drop Off/Check-In

- Health Screenings on children will be done in keeping with the most recent recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and CDC. These will be done before the parents/guardians leave, and in cooperation with the parent or guardian – anyone deemed not healthy will be sent home
- Drop off will be designed to ensure that those dropping off do not enter the camp facility; staggered locations or times may be developed to ensure there are no lines and social distancing can be maintained during the check-in procedure
- Staff will wear a mask and gloves during the camper screening process

During Camp Hours

- Constant reinforcement –
- Staff and camper's handwashing with soap and water (hand sanitizer in all areas – indoors

and outdoors

- **Before & After coming into contact with any child,**
- **After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing**
- **After using rest rooms**
- **Before handling food**
- **After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated**
- **Using any shared equipment**

Promotion of Health Practices:

Camps should provide handwashing stations in multiple places throughout camp, and break areas. Additionally, campers and staff will engage in proper hygiene to prevent the spread of communicable diseases including:

- 1. Frequent Hand washing**
- 2. Avoiding close contact**
- 3. Coughing and sneezing etiquette**
- 4. Discouraging the sharing of food, utensils and other personal supplies**
- 5. Posting of signs on above protective measures**
- 6. Face coverings – when physical distancing is not possible face coverings should be used by staff**

Areas will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day – anytime a group exits an area where they have used tables, chairs etc. – indoors or outdoors

All equipment and supplies will be cleaned and disinfected after use

All areas where campers and staff have been will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day

Camper's Belongings

- **Children's backpacks, water bottles will be clearly marked with their names and will be kept separate from all other camper's belongings i.e. cubby, plastic box, marked area on a shelf etc.**
- **Campers will be instructed and reminded not to share any of their belongings, food, beverage with other campers**
- **Camper's lunches will be kept separate as well, but if required refrigeration they will be kept as separate as the space allows**

Camp Activities – the goal is to keep campers outside as much as possible – (indoor access should be limited and groups will be separated during indoor time – (inclement weather)

- **Social Distant Activities – Campers travel as a self-contained bubble. 1 group at a time. No overlap of groups within an activity area.**
- **Each group will get their own supply of sports equipment to run their own activities**
- **Each group gets its own supply of generic arts & craft supplies (Each child could receive their own set of basic arts and crafts supplies – bring to camp everyday)**
- **No use of playground equipment (play structures) until CDC/NRPA recommends it.**

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- **Games and activities designed to allow for social distancing. Modifications may be made to traditional games and activities to ensure camper safety. There is a concern on “Camper Boredom” –camper & staff burnout if they are only interacting with the same 12-16 people every day and without a variety of activities**
- **Any equipment/supplies used will be cleaned after usage**
- **No field trips unless and until social distancing regulations relax enough to accommodate this activity.**
- **Large group/all camp activities will only occur if social distancing regulations can be applied and/or are relaxed significantly by the State of NH.**

Masks –

- **Masks on children are not recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics as the mask tends for children to touch their face more often and can create problems for children with breathing issues such as asthma while they are engaged in active play.**

Breaks and Lunches

- **Staggered lunch times – eat outside whenever possible. Tent/shelter or pavilion recommended for lunches**
- **Eat with their own group**
- **Campers will need to bring snacks and lunch with them**
- **Need for all campers and staff to bring own water bottle. No shared water jugs**

Camp Size and staff ratios:

- **Group sizes per program area will be reduced to the lowest practical number for the allotted space to allow the greatest distance possible for the activity. (Outdoor field areas, outdoor under pavilions, indoors – gyms; indoor – classrooms – will all vary.**
- **Camper – staff ratios will be in keeping with ACA, DHHS and/or Primex recommendations.**
- **To the best extent possible established groups will stay together for the week/session**
- **Groups will not co-mingle and activities will be programmed for smaller groups**

Business Process Adaptations –

Please see those adaptations above.

Some camps or programs may need to reduce overall registration numbers in order to accommodate small groups and social distancing.

Staff -

- **There must be enough staff to maintain recommended ratios, allow for proper coverage to comply with Federal and NH Labor and Child Labor Laws i.e. breaks, hours worked etc. and for staff calling out.**
- **Staff interaction will include specialty instruction and supervision – waterfront, arts and**

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crafts, archery, tennis etc.

Transportation

- **Camps that provide transportation to and from camp will meet the guidelines for transportation as recommended by the CDC/ACA**

Illness Protocol –

- **If a Camper reports symptoms, parents or emergency contact called and camper will be separated to a designated area until they can be picked up.**
- **If a Staff member reports symptoms while at work they are sent home immediately**
- **If a child or staff member who has been in the program is diagnosed with COVID-19; the camp must notify families and staff of the program about the exposure.**