

Camp Alleghany's COVID-19 Action Plan Frequently Asked Questions

These questions are all addressed in the Camp Alleghany COVID Action Plan. If you do not see your question answered here or in that document, please contact Director Elizabeth Shreckhise at Elizabeth@campalleghany.com.

PREVENTION

1. How can I be sure my daughter will be safe this summer?
 - Take the pre-camp quarantine protocols seriously. If everyone quarantines and everyone tests their daughters with negative results, we should have minimal issues this summer!
 - Read the *COVID Action Plan*.

2. What do you mean by quarantining for 10 days? (*see page 9 in the COVID Action Plan*)
 - We are asking that campers and staff (and their families, if possible) undergo a 10-day quarantine prior to the camper's Opening Day. This does not mean you or your camper can't go to school, work, run essential errands, etc. Places like these, where proper precautions are being taken (mask wearing, social distancing, proper handwashing) are acceptable if necessary.
 - We are asking that you not attend large gatherings where precautions are not being taken, or parties, reunions, etc. This is key to the safety of camp and not bringing COVID into Alleghany this summer!

3. Will there be testing and/or screening? (*see page 10 in the COVID Action Plan*)
 - Yes, campers must report to camp with a negative COVID-19 test in hand from no earlier than 7 days prior to Opening Day. We'll also ask that campers quarantine at home to the best of their abilities during the 10 days prior to Opening Day.
 - All campers will also receive a test on Opening Day.
 - Temperature checks and a basic screening (questions) regarding how the camper is feeling will take place before breakfast each day.
 - All staff and counselors will undergo similar testing and screening prior to and upon arrival at camp to ensure that the staff are fully COVID-free before interacting with other staff and the campers.
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4. What exactly are camper pods? (*see pages 13-14 in the COVID Action Plan*)
 - Camps with successful 2020 programs operated by creating smaller "Pods" of campers — anywhere from 20 to 50 campers who stayed together and did not mix with other Pods. The intent is that, if there were any *undetected* virus, by limiting campers to smaller groups that virus would also be limited in its ability to spread to the rest of camp. We're using Pods for all of [Mini Camp](#) and the first week of each [Term](#). Our typical Camp Alleghany Units will act as those Pods.
 - Mini Camp will stick with their pods for the full week.
 - If all of the Term Camp Opening Day tests come back negative, we expect to loosen Pods and interact in the outdoors more freely.

5. What do you mean by camp being a “bubble”? (*see pages 19-20 in the COVID Action Plan*)
 - For added safety, during Summer 2021 we will be working to keep camp a safe “bubble” to prevent COVID from ever entering camp. Parents will drop off and pick up campers in the Parking Lot. Very few staff members and errand runners will come into or leave camp during our sessions except under certain strict circumstances that are detailed in *The COVID Action Plan*, pages 19-20.
 - Staff will be permitted to leave camp for contactless time off only. Staff may not interact with anyone outside of camp, from locals, to visitors/family members, etc. To facilitate this, staff must sign a Time Off Honor Code and Code of Conduct prior to the summer.

6. What does this bubble mean for some traditional events? (*see page 19 in the COVID Action Plan*)
 - Out-of-camp trips involving interaction with the public or anyone outside of camp (or indoors) aren't being held
 - If the trip is outside and involves zero public interaction, we'll still do it. Here's where we are on some specific activities:
 - Activities with Camp Greenbrier: The Senior Dance and the Rifle/Archery/Tennis competitions won't happen in person but our Rifle and Archery competitions will happen at our respective camps and compare scores!
 - Caving Trips: Led by [Program Director Casey Tucker](#), these will happen.
 - The Upstarts Night Out: We'll get creative with a fun Upstarts Night In!
 - 15s Day Off to Blue Bend: This is likely to still happen.
 - LIT Trips: We're planning a wilderness trip, a day to Blue Bend and a caving trip. The out-of-camp community service project will be outdoors with no public interaction.
 - Catholic Mass off Campus: Not possible this summer.

7. Are you allowing parents to come into camp? What about visitors or tours? (*see page 19 of the COVID Action Plan*)
 - In order to preserve our camp “bubble” and keep COVID out of camp, we will not be allowing parents or visitors into camp, and will not be offering in-person tours this summer.

8. What is the Epidemic Tracking Survey?
 - A few days before your scheduled camp session begins, we will send you a digital survey via email about the camper’s possible exposure during the 10-day quarantine. This will include a history of travel, exposure and symptoms in the weeks leading up to camp. We encourage everyone to be completely truthful in the survey, an unfavorable answer will not necessarily disqualify the camper from attending, but we need to know the facts so we can make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

9. Why do we have to take the survey?

- In the event we have a positive case of COVID at camp, the Department of Health will require proof that we conducted some Epidemic Tracking before the start of camp. This is the government's way of trying to control the spread and learn how and where the virus is spreading.
- In addition, we will be responsible for notifying everyone who was in contact with the person testing positive for COVID so they can self isolate and/or get tested.

PREPARATION

10. What can I / should I be doing now to prepare for the summer?

- Look at your calendar and mark the 10-day period prior to your camper's session as her 10-Day Quarantine. Make sure you don't plan gatherings, reunions, parties, etc during that time (or make alternative plans for your camper if things are planned during this time).
- When our Forms Dashboard opens up in CampMinder on March 1, start filling out your forms and uploading them – this is critical this year, and we will not allow any campers into camp who have not filled out and uploaded ALL of their forms.
- Ensure you have current, up to date insurance information uploaded with your Forms as well – this is also critical, and imperative in order for the COVID testing to be free to both the families and Camp.
- Prepare your camper now for a safe and fun summer, using the companion document COVID and Camp for Campers
- Prepare your daughter and family for the 2-week quarantine prior to camp. Please see the Quarantine Guidance Form on page
- Research local testing facilities and schedule a test for your daughter in the days before camp if possible.
- Print the Summer 2021 Packing List and make sure to pack new and required items
- If you have any known conflicts or travel time requirements on pick-up or drop-off days, please notify us ASAP so we can assign you the time slot that works best.
- Make sure you are getting our emails to a reliable account so you don't miss any updates! If you'd like to add a new email to our Summer 2020 parent list, please email us and let us know.
- If you come across any of the following cleaning supplies in the weeks leading up to camp, please consider purchasing and donating them on opening day (see more info on page 34). Supplies include: all-purpose spray cleaner, disinfecting wipes, large bottles of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content.
- Be on the lookout for an email detailing your Opening Day Drop-off Time Slot

11. What forms do I need to submit prior to camp?

All of these forms will be available in your CampMinder account Forms Dashboard beginning March 1:

- Completed COVID-19 Medical Form (note this is *different* from the standard Health Form)
- Permission to Treat/Parental Exposure Pledge
- Completed Pre-Camp Temperature Reporting Log
- COVID-19 test results
- Camper Information Form: an online form that will give us the best insight possible on how to create the most positive experience for your camper.
- Camper and Parent Policies: requires a hand signature, please upload completed form to your account
- Health History: online form, does NOT require a doctor's signature
- Health Form: requires doctor's signature, please upload completed form to your account
- Immunization: Please type in electronically within Health History form, and it will save year-to-year, saving you time in future years! (you may also upload a scanned copy of your daughter's immunization record from your doctor's office, but will have to do this again every year)
- Closing Day Authorization Form: online form to give us pertinent information regarding your camper's departure on Closing Day
- Camper Photo: optional, but we would love the chance to get to know your camper by face prior to camp!
- Bus Registration Form: optional, only for Term Campers.

12. What extra supplies or items do I need to pack this summer, that will be different from other years?

- We are asking everyone to please bring 3-4 cloth masks, clearly labeled with your camper's name on them
- We strongly encourage attaching those masks to lanyards
- If possible, we encourage campers to bring a face shield that fits her face. This would only be used if the camper has to travel outside of camp for a medical situation that is not able to be cared for in camp (e.g. an x-ray)
- An extra blanket or two, as we will keep the tent flaps up at night unless it is raining.
- A duffel bag that is able to store linens under the bed, as we will not have hanging shelves in the tent this summer.
- Personal hand sanitizer and hand lotion.
- We are accepting donations! If you're able to donate any of the following, we would be so grateful: disposable masks and gloves (for the kitchen and housekeeping), all-purpose spray cleaner, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer.

OPENING DAY / TRANSPORTATION

13. Are there any expected changes for Opening and Closing Days? *(see pages 11-13 in the COVID Action Plan)*
- Because of our camp “bubble,” parents will do a "drive-through” check in and drop off, and say their goodbyes in the parking lot while campers head off in their Pods with counselors to join camp on "the other side of the river" from camp.
 - On "our side of the river," our staff will excitedly welcome the campers into camp and we'll make it a special event as always. The same goes for Closing Day.
14. Will I get a chance to meet the counselors? *(see page 11 of the COVID Action Plan)*
- Since opening day will be limited, you will not have the opportunity to meet all the counselors face-to-face. Our counselors will be making videos introducing themselves to you and we will email those to you within the first few days of your daughter’s session.
15. What about flying to camp? *(see page 11 in the COVID Action Plan)*
- For campers considering air travel, if possible, we ask families to consider flying to a location closer to camp 10 days prior to Opening Day and quarantining in a location that is driving distance to camp.
 - For campers who must travel by one of these means of public transportation, we will practice heightened symptom checking, and will perform an additional COVID test during the first week of camp.
16. Will Closing Day buses be offered?
- We are still looking into this. While we believe it would be safe from a COVID standpoint, we may not be able to offer our regular Closing Day bus transportation based on capacity regulations. We will keep everyone posted and will plan for it if it is possible and feasible.

DAILY LIFE

17. Will tent life or outdoor activities be any different? *(see page 18 in the COVID Action Plan)*
- We're lucky to already operate in such an open-air, outdoor space, starting with our tents as living spaces. For added air flow and ambient sunlight, tent flaps will be rolled up in 2021 day and night except in inclement weather or for privacy/changing. Campers will sleep with their heads six feet apart.
 - Most of our activities are already out of doors, and would largely stay the same. For traditionally indoor activities (e.g. Arts & Crafts) we're getting more creative about possible temporary approaches, like holding them in outdoor areas that still allow for a full experience of the activity, and added sanitizing between activity sessions.
 - In strategizing rainy day scenarios, we will spread out in our indoor spaces, including putting up large tents in some of our open spaces for added rainy day space. Depending on the nature of the rain, we could do open flaps to keep air moving well even while under a tent canopy.

18. What will meals and dining look like? *(see page 16 in the COVID Action Plan)*
- We'll eat outdoors more often and will make some adaptations indoors like Kitchen staff and Hoppers in masks. Campers won't be able to share food and utensils will be disposable this summer. Singing and chants and announcements will happen outdoors this summer. Mini Campers will spread out between both the Junior and Senior Dining Halls. Meals will be staggered in shifts during week one of Term Camp.
19. How will laundry be handled? *(see page 17 of the COVID Action Plan)*
- For Term Camp, laundry will be taken out of camp and washed once a week, as usual. Proper precautions will be taken when delivering the laundry to and from camp.
 - Laundry is not done during Mini Camp.
20. Will cleaning and sanitizing look different? *(see page 15 in the COVID Action Plan)*
- Everyday hygiene and healthy practices are already such an important part of a communal living situation such as summer camp. Our staff always remind campers to wash hands, stay hydrated, prepare their laundry bag for cleaning, keep themselves clean, and look after themselves in general.
 - Mandatory and supervised hand-washing will happen before meals and at other scheduled times, and hand sanitizer is readily available at multiple locations around camp.
 - The restrooms will be cleaned three times per day, with special attention to hot spots such as doorknobs, handles, etc.
 - Regular cleaning and sanitizing of common touch-spots such as door handles, sports equipment, rest rooms and water fountains will be carried out by a specific team of housekeeping staff. Between sessions, all of these same areas will undergo a thorough cleaning and disinfecting process.

MEDICAL PROTOCOLS & PPE

21. Will staff be wearing masks? What about other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?
- On Opening Day you'll see staff in PPE. Kitchen staff and Hoppers will wear masks in the kitchen and while preparing/serving food. Limited staff coming in and out of camp will be in masks at any time that they are near campers. Medical Staff will wear masks when treating campers/staff. Any time a camper and medical staff are inside camp vehicles it will be with windows down (weather permitting) and PPE on.
22. Will campers and/or staff be requiring face masks during camp?
- Kitchen staff, hoppers, and anyone working with preparing or serving food will be masked while working with the food.
 - Campers and staff will all be asked to bring masks to camp to use in case of an emergency situation where we would all need to be inside one place together, such as the Play Hall.
 - The very small number of staff who live off site (4 total) will be masked when coming into camp, and will have little-to-no interaction with campers and staff.
 - Campers or staff who must leave camp for a medical reason, such as an x-ray, will be asked to wear a mask and face shield.

23. Will you be practicing social distancing during camp and discouraging touching? (*see Question #2 regarding Pods*)
- We will not be practicing social distancing as a whole, but will rather be operating in pods (units). Mother-Daughter Weekend and Mini Camp will be grouped in pods for their entire session. Term Camp will function in pods for the first week of the term, after which we will have the final test results back and hope to relax the pods and intermingle with one another (while not relaxing other prevention methods within camp)
24. What if someone has a fever? (*see page 23 of the COVID Action Plan*)
- If a high temperature is recorded during our daily checks, the Response Protocol will be triggered.
25. What if someone is asymptomatic?
- If everyone follows our pre-camp 10-day quarantine, there should be minimal risk of a COVID-19 case arriving at camp. We will be conducting daily temperature checks to look for otherwise undetectable symptoms of the virus (page 22). However if we do have an asymptomatic case, we will not know until someone presents with symptoms, in which case the Response Protocol will be triggered (page 23).
26. Who will take my daughter to a testing center if testing is required? (*see pages 24-25 of the COVID Action Plan*)
- We are so fortunate to have our COVID liaison Dr. Lauren Miller, who will be providing Allegheny with COVID tests to keep on site. If it is determined that someone needs a test, one of our medical staff members (doctor or nurse) will perform the test, and Dr. Miller will retrieve the test from camp and take it to the testing center for results.
 - If a camper does need to be transported outside of camp, for COVID OR non-COVID related reasons, an adult support staff member will transport her in a camp vehicle.
27. Will I be told if someone gets sick? (*see page 27 of the COVID Action Plan*)
- If the Response Protocol is triggered, we will notify all parents in the session via email (phone call for tentmates).
28. What if someone coughs/sneezes? (*see page 17 of the COVID Action Plan*)
- We will review proper coughing and sneezing techniques with our campers and staff. We don't want campers to feel they've done something wrong if they cough or sneeze. If a camper is coughing or sneezing more than usual, she may be asked to wear a mask while we monitor her symptoms.

29. What additional medical protocols and procedures do you anticipate? (*see page 23 in the COVID Action Plan*)

- Our medical staff helped us establish guidelines and protocols for prevention, detection, and response in case of a suspected COVID outbreak, all of which is detailed in *The COVID-19 Action Plan*. Our plan at this time is as follows:
 - Perform daily temperature and symptom checks and track our data.
 - Maintain a second Infirmary called the Quarantine Cabin in case of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID.
 - Utilize a rapid response plan in case of any confirmed case.

30. Who should not come to camp? (*see page 8 in the COVID Action Plan*)

- Campers who have underlying health conditions and do not have support or approval from their own doctor or medical team should consider whether or not camp is appropriate for them this summer.
- Campers who are not able to quarantine properly for 10 days should consider whether or not camp is appropriate for them this summer.

MISC

31. Will you be offering Family Programs?

- Mother-Daughter Weekend is on! (*see page 29 in the COVID Action Plan*)
- We are currently planning for our Family Camp and are not certain at this time if it will look more like our traditional Family Camp, or possibly more similar to last summer's Family Retreats. We will keep you posted!