

Day Camps FAQs

What are day camps doing to slow the spread of COVID-19?

Day camps must ensure that all posted Public Health protocols are followed by campers and staff. Campers and staff must maintain physical distancing.

The risk for COVID-19 is lowered if the campers are divided into small groups that stay together, with the same staff, all day, each day, and include campers from the same family in the same group, to the greatest extent practicable.

Will campers and staff be screened for symptoms?

Yes. In addition to screening staff when they arrive, all campers should also be screened upon arrival at the facility. Consider conducting visual wellness checks of all campers upon arrival; this could include taking campers' temperatures at the beginning of each day with a no touch thermometer. If no touch thermometers are not available, reported temperature assessment is acceptable.

Should my child bring lunch / snacks?

Yes, it's advisable that each child bring his/her own meals, if possible. Food sharing should be avoided. If food is offered by camp operators, it should be in pre-packaged boxes or bags for each camper, instead of a buffet or family-style meal. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils.

What activities will be allowed at day camp?

Campers will be able to do many of the things they normally do at camp — exercise, arts and craft, play, etc., — but physical distancing and other precautions will be in place.

Can sports be played during day camps?

Most organized activities and sports such as basketball, baseball, soccer, and football that are held on park fields, open areas, and courts are not permitted because they require coaches and athletes who are not from the same household or living unit to be in close proximity, which increases their potential for exposure to COVID-19.

Will my child need to wear a cloth face covering the entire day?

All campers and visitors are required to wear cloth face coverings while at camp, except while swimming, napping, eating/drinking or engaging in solo physical exertion (such as jogging alone). Children less than three years of age and those with health conditions that prevent masking are exempt.

Will staff be required to wear a face covering the entire day?

Yes, all camp staff should use cloth face coverings unless Cal/OSHA standards require respiratory protection.

Can children access playground equipment?

Use of playground equipment will be limited. Physical activities that require less contact with surfaces are preferable.

Will children be able to share art supplies, toys, games?

Sharing of objects and equipment should be limited as much as possible. Items should be cleaned and disinfected between uses.

Children are prone to sharing. How can this be managed?

Children should maintain physical distance from each other and that should be encouraged with the use of floor markings and seating.

How can we encourage children at camp to remain physically distanced?

The number of people in the camp will be limited to ensure physical distancing. There will also be physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to ensure that camp staff and campers remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and throughout the day.

It's important for parents to talk to their children and encourage the practice of physical distancing while at day camp.

What happens to the day camp if one camper gets sick or tests positive?

Anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 should be isolated, must wear a face covering and be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as possible.

In consultation with the Department of Public Health, the camp may be considered for closure based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.

Can children travel from other cities / counties to attend camps?

Mixing campers from other cities and counties promotes a higher-risk environment and is not encouraged.

Will attendance be limited?

Yes, the number of people who can attend camp will be limited in order to maintain physical distancing.

What infection prevention protocols will be in place?

Day camps are advised to limit or remove the use of shared resources, including drinking fountains. Facilities and frequently touched surfaces on site and on buses and vans should be cleaned frequently with approved Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disinfectants.

Will there be modified drop-off and pick-up schedules?

Yes, arrival and drop-offs will be staggered, as practical, to limit large groups gathering.

###