

2021 Summer Day Camp Reopening Plan



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Introduction to the Reopening Plan

We are excited to reopen the Summer Day Camp program for in-person activities for 2021. Our Day Camp program is more important than ever for Linden's youth for several reasons: Giving children the opportunity to socialize, providing working parents with safe childcare, and providing an opportunity for children to have a routine and return to a sense of normalcy (Lupert, 2021, Par. 6-7). However, the main priority is the health and safety of our campers. By combining these elements, we aim for our campers have a safe, enjoyable, and transformative experience in the parks and facilities of the City of Linden.

The Day Camp Reopening Plan utilizes CDC guidelines. Thus, please note that this plan is tentative and may be changed at any time based on updated guidance from the appropriate authorities.

Positive COVID-19 Cases

If the Department of Parks and Recreation learns that a camper, staff member, or visitor tests positive for COVID-19, then those deemed in close contact will be notified while maintaining confidentiality. Guidance from the appropriate authorities will be utilized.

Drinking Water

Campers will not be permitted to use water fountains. All campers must arrive to the Day Camp facility with enough water to last the entire day.

Cleaning

All cleaning and disinfection procedures conducted by staff will use EPA approved disinfectants and follow [CDC guidance](#).

Screening and Admittance

Any camper with a fever of 100.4°F or above or other signs of COVID-19 illness should not be admitted to the camp. At home, parents should check for COVID-19 symptoms and keep their child home, when they are sick. At the camp site, staff should monitor campers for COVID-19 symptoms, throughout the camp day.

Upon entering the camp facility, the adult that is signing in the camper will verify that they have monitored the camper and that the camper does not exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19.

Symptoms related to COVID-19 include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell

- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

All staff members are responsible for self-monitoring and reporting their symptoms, when applicable.

Any visitor who is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will not be permitted entry into the camp facility. Visitors will be required to sign in and sign out of the camp facility for contact tracing purposes.

Parents, guardians, and caretakers that are engaged in sign-in or sign-out procedures are not considered visitors. Parents, guardians, and caretakers are required to remain at least six feet from each other when signing in and signing out.

Groupings

Parents/Guardians may make requests for campers to be placed in the same group. Parents/Guardians of all campers involved must participate in the request. All requests must be received by **Monday, June 21, 2021**. Any requests received after this date will not be approved.

Campers will be placed in groups prior to the first day of camp. Groups will remain for the entirety of the program.

As an indoor/outdoor camp, groups shall stay together and if interactions with other groups occur, social distancing must be maintained between groups.

Face Coverings and Social Distancing

In indoor settings, unvaccinated staff must wear face masks at all times except when not practicable, such as when eating or drinking. In outdoor settings, unvaccinated staff are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. Vaccinated staff need not mask in indoor or outdoor settings.

It is understood that face coverings may be challenging for campers, particularly younger campers, in an all-day setting. In outdoor settings, campers are not required to mask, but should still remain within their groups. However, campers are encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. In indoor settings, unvaccinated campers are encouraged to wear face coverings at all times, but particularly when physical distancing is difficult, unless doing so is impracticable, such as when a camper is eating or drinking.

All staff, campers, and visitors are responsible for supplying their own face coverings and having extras, in the event that a face covering breaks, becomes dirty, or is otherwise unable to be used. Each camp facility will have face coverings for emergency use for staff and campers.

Hand Sanitizer

All campers and staff should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, regularly. All campers and staff are highly recommended to bring traveling hand sanitizer bottles with at least 60% alcohol for personal use.

Snacks and Lunches

Campers will be required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol prior to eating. All campers will be spaced at least six feet apart for snacks and lunches. Tables and chairs utilized for snacks and lunches must be cleaned and sanitized before and after each use. In the event that the camp facility does not provide enough space for all campers to have snacks and lunches simultaneously, then the camp will have a staggered snack and lunch schedule that meets the needs of the camp.

Staff will assign seats for snacks and lunches and maintain a seating chart. These seats will remain for the entirety of the program.

In the event that a camper needs assistance opening food or drinks, staff members will wear gloves. Gloves will be provided by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

To ensure camper and staff safety, there will be no events requiring distribution of food.

Cleaning and Bathrooms

All supplies, equipment, and tables will be cleaned regularly throughout the day, including before and after use. All cleaning and disinfection procedures conducted by staff will use EPA approved disinfectants and follow [CDC guidance](#).

Camp facilities that utilize Port-o-Potties will receive cleaning from the contractor. Camp facilities that utilize indoor bathrooms will receive cleaning from the City of Linden. Between cleanings, campers are responsible for cleaning their area to the best of their ability. Additionally, staff will periodically check and maintain Port-o-Potties and bathrooms to ensure safety and cleanliness.

Isolation Area

Each camp facility will have an area designated solely as an isolation area, in the event that a camper experiences COVID-19 symptoms. After consulting with the Day Camp/Playground Coordinator or an assigned designee, the Day Camp Director will call the camper's parents/guardians, state the exact symptoms that the camper has, and inform them that the camper must be picked up, immediately. The camper can return to camp when they clear isolation or receive a negative COVID-19 test.

Moving Camps Inside/Outside

Indoor facilities are used in the event of rain or extreme heat. When moving from outside to inside or vice versa, each group will travel one-at-a-time while maintaining social distancing.

Alternative Locations

In the event that school buildings experience COVID-19 related closures during the summer, the following table illustrates alternative locations for each day camp:

Camp	Location	Alternative Location (if Applicable)
Al Kalla	Al Kalla Park/School #10	Dobson Park/PAL
McGillvray/Special Needs	McGillvray Park/8 th Ward Recreation Center	N/A
Tremley	Memorial Park/7 th Ward Recreation Center	N/A

Trips

There will be no field trips during the 2021 Summer Day Camp program.

Camp Closures, Quarantines, and Refunds

In the event that campers are directed to quarantine, refunds will be issued on a per-day basis.

Fun Day

Each day camp will conduct its own individual Fun Day.

Final Remarks

The Department of Parks and Recreation hopes that this reopening plan provides you with the information that you need, in regard to the Reopening Plan for the 2021 Day Camp/Playground program. For additional information, please refer to the contact information below:

Angelo Monaco, Day Camp/Playground Coordinator:

AMonaco@linden-nj.org

(908) 474-8639

Department of Parks and Recreation:

lindenrec@linden-nj.org

(908) 474-8600 or (908) 474-8627

References

Lupert, S. (2021, March 4). *New Jersey's camps can open! Children will need them more than ever before.* / *Opinion*. Retrieved from NJ.com:
<https://www.nj.com/opinion/2021/03/new-jerseys-camps-can-open-children-will-need-them-more-than-ever-before-opinion.html>

Resources

CDC Suggestions for Youth and Summer Camps

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>

In Memoriam

The 2021 Summer Day Camp program is dedicated to the memory of Nancy Braxton, former Recreation Supervisor.

