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**What Parents Should Know about the Ontario Ministry of Health’s**

**2021 COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for Day Camps**

**Cleaning**

* Ensure all current infection prevention and control practices are adhered to prevent the spread of COVID-19
  + Materials and equipment will be of material that can be cleaned or are single use
  + Sharing of materials and objects will be minimized
  + Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected at least twice daily, more frequent cleaning and disinfection may be necessary
  + Promoting and performing frequent, proper hand hygiene by handwashing with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand-rub ABHR (60% or higher)
  + Water fountains use is only for refilling personal water bottles or disposable cups
* If indoor space is used, the room is cleaned and disinfected before and after use

**Vaccination**

* All eligible staff and campers are encouraged to receive COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible, and at the earliest opportunity before the camp starts

**Cohorts**

* Cohort sizes are maximized at 30 participants for ages 6 to 9, and 20 participants for ages 9 and up. ***SLMC on-site day camps will have a maximum of 2 cohorts. SLMC off-site day camps will only have one cohort***
* Maintain consistent cohorts for the duration of each camp session
* Physical distancing when practical/possible within the cohort, and general infection prevention and control practices should be encouraged and prioritized
* Cohorts must not mix with other cohorts (including pick-ups and drop-offs, mealtimes, playtime, outdoor activities)
* If indoor space is used, each cohort of camp participants should have their own assigned indoor space separated from all other groups by a prominent visual cues or physical barrier (e.g. floor markings or pilons)
* Equipment will be designated to each cohort or cleaned and disinfected between cohort use
* In shared outdoor space, cohorts must maintain a distance of at least 2 metres between groups and any other individuals outside of the cohort
* Play structures will only be used by one cohort at a time with hand hygiene performed before and after use
* Plans should be made to prevent mixing of cohorts in washrooms/changerooms

**Personal Belongings**

* Personal belongings brought to camp should be minimized and not shared between individuals
* Personal items should be labeled

**Programming**

* Outdoor programming is strongly encouraged as a program delivery model as it can easily allow for safe, physically distanced activities for children and families
* Incorporating more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between camp cohorts, and where possible, between individuals within a cohort
* Aquatic activities must adhere to regulatory requirements in each region at the time of activity

**Screening**

* Daily screening of camp participants must be completed by a parent/guardian prior to arrival at camp
* Day camp operators must keep records for each camp participant for whom screening has been completed
* Entry must be denied to any individual who screens positive for COVID-19 symptoms or exposures
* Programs must have protocols in place to notify parents/guardians if their camp participant begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 while in camp including:
  + the need for immediate pick up and an area to isolate camp participant until pick-up
  + symptomatic camp participants who are separated from others must be supervised
* Day camp staff must be actively screened before entering the day camp setting

**PPE and Face Masks**

* All parents/guardians are required to wear a non-medical mask while inside the premises and maintain 2 metre physical distancing outdoors, including pick up/drop off areas
* All staff must wear a surgical/procedure mask, except when eating/drinking or on break; however, physical distance of at least 2 metres should be maintained. Staff must wear a surgical/procedure mask and eye protection when unable to maintain physical distance of at least 2 metres or engaging with an individual who is not wearing a mask.
* All day camp participants in grades 1 (as of September 1st, 2021) and above are required to wear well-fitting masks (e.g., non-medical) while indoors or if outdoors and physical distancing of 2 metres cannot be maintained. Masks can be removed for eating/drinking as long as distancing of 2 metres is maintained.

**Management of Symptomatic Individuals & Close Contacts**

* Symptomatic camp participants parent/guardian should **follow the advice of the *COVID-19 school and childcare screening tool*.** This tool will indicate next steps.
* Camp participants should be monitored by the camp operator for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 during day camp. Camp participants cannot continue to attend day camp if they develop COVID-19 symptoms
* Those who are identified as potential close contacts of a positive case will receive direction from the local public health unit on testing and isolation