



# **SUMMER BUDDIES CAMP SAFETY PLAN 2021**

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**Please Note: The guidance from New York State, and the Suffolk County Department of Health contained in this camp safety plan is subject to change. This plan may be updated based on that guidance and at the discretion of North Shore Youth Council.**

Welcome to another season of Summer Buddies! Last summer, as we were navigating the various reopening phases during the COVID-19 pandemic, our program faced many uncertainties. With the protocols and safety measures we had in place for our staff and families, our camp supported over 100 youth and reported zero COVID-19 cases. Thank you all for following our guidelines and helping us to make it an exceptional summer for all.

After the tremendous success of last year's program, we are encouraged that this year will be another memorable experience for our youth. Each year, we strive to provide an exciting program filled with fun and meaningful activities in a safe and supervised environment. With the health and safety of every individual at the forefront, we will use this safety plan that we developed last year in accordance with the regulations set forth by New York State and the Suffolk County Department of Health. We will remain flexible during this time, because while the following protocols are thoroughly outlined and detailed, they may be subject to change as we continue to navigate the evolving conditions.

We hope this camp safety plan, along with the progress made in returning students to in-person learning, the reopening of our economy, and efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, help you feel confident in making a decision about sending your child to our summer camp this year. If you have questions regarding this safety plan, please speak with your Camp Director, or call the main office at 631-744-0207.

## **Overview of Camp Safety**

- All staff and volunteers are thoroughly trained and prepared to work under COVID-19 guidelines and procedures.
- Camp areas, events, and activities are modified to support proper physical distancing.
- Smaller group sizes stay together for the duration of camp.
- Time indoors is limited.
- Adequate supplies and procedures are in place for maintaining and executing good hygiene, disinfecting, and cleaning.
- Sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) is available for all staff, volunteers, and campers, as well as for emergency situations.
- Daily health screenings and temperature checks.
- Pre-camp health surveys.
- Signed waivers of understanding and liability from all staff, volunteers, and camp families.
- Open communication between all staff, volunteers, and camp families.
- Individuals stay home when feeling sick.
- Commitment to following all procedures, policies, and mitigation efforts for a healthy community.

## **General Information**

Our program will open on Monday, July 12 and close on Friday, August 13.

Drop-off in the morning is at 9AM and pick-up is at 12PM.

Senior and Junior Counselors supervise each group. All counselors receive a mandatory training prior to the start of the program and are supervised by the adult staff throughout the day.

Children are supervised at all times and are never allowed to travel anywhere alone during the course of the camp day. They are escorted to and from the restrooms, activities, first aid, etc.

Please have children dress appropriately according to the weather and their camp activities each day. Children should wear light, comfortable clothing, socks and sneakers, and a bathing suit and sandals for water activities.

We recommend your child brings a small bag or backpack to hold their snacks, drinks, and a towel for water activities.

We cannot apply sunscreen, so please make sure to liberally apply sunscreen to your child's face, back, neck, shoulders, and arms, especially on sprinkler days.

Children will receive a Summer Buddies camp t-shirt.

You will receive your child's group information, calendar of activities, and important information and phone numbers as part of the Summer Buddies welcome packet prior to the start of camp.

## **Health and Medical**

NSYC employs a Camp Health Director (EMT) for the duration of the Summer Buddies program to oversee all health and medical situations.

Any injuries extending beyond basic first aid (scrapes, bruises, splinters, etc.) will require us to call you to pick up your child. Any child who is stung by a bee will receive a phone call home immediately to let you know. It is not necessary to pick up your child as long as you know for certain they are not allergic to bee stings.

Any first aid provided will be documented, and every child cared for is sent home with a note explaining the nature and circumstances of their injury and what treatment was provided.

Parents will be called first in the event of any emergency; it is imperative that either you or your emergency contact person be reachable by phone. If you provided your cell phone number, please make sure it is always turned on while your child is at camp.

As part of our registration process and in accordance with New York State regulations, you must complete a COVID-19 screening. That screening must ask about COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days, a positive

COVID-19 test in the past 14 days, and/or close or proximate contact with any confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Responses must be reviewed and documented daily.

Temperature checks will be conducted each morning on all staff, volunteers, and campers. A temperature check with a no-touch thermometer must register below 99.9 or as directed by the health department. High temperatures will be given a second reading by the Camp Health Director.

Any staff, volunteer, or camper who is feeling ill or presenting with fever or flu- or cold-like symptoms must stay home from camp. If a staff member or volunteer falls ill during the course of the camp day, they will be assessed and may be asked to go home.

If a camper is feeling ill, they will be taken to the Camp Health Director for a wellness check. Any child that presents with a fever or flu- or cold-like symptoms will have their parent/guardian or emergency contact called to have them picked up.

Any staff, volunteer, or camper absent from camp must call the office and notify the program. Based on the absence, a follow-up phone call will be conducted to determine the individual's return to camp and whether a doctor's note of clearance is required.

In the event that any individual (staff, volunteer, camper, or camper family member) receives a positive diagnosis for COVID-19, the case will be reported to the proper health authorities and all staff, volunteers, and families will be notified immediately, with the confidentiality of the individual maintained. All areas of contact will be cleared out and cleaned and sanitized by a professional service per the CDC guidelines. The diagnosed individual and any person who came in close contact (interaction within 6 ft. for more than 15 minutes) with them will need to follow the mandatory minimum 10 day quarantine set forth by the local health authorities. Any individual with proximate exposure (interaction within a shared space greater than 6 ft.) will be required to self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

Families will be eligible for camp refunds if there are missed camp days due to a mandated quarantine resulting from a positive diagnosis or close contact with an infected individual. Staff under mandatory quarantine will receive pay for work days missed.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include: cough, fever, chills, shortness of breath, muscle aches, unexplained loss of smell or taste, sore throat, diarrhea, nausea, headache, and fatigue.

Camper health histories and immunization forms, which are kept confidential, are required as part of the registration process.

## **Group Sizes and Physical Distancing**

Campers will be placed into similarly-aged groups of no more than 15 children. Groups will have two assigned Senior Counselors and one Junior Counselor for supervision and to facilitate the group's daily activities.

6 ft. physical distancing will be maintained for all campers within their own group.

Every precaution will be taken in regards to the flow of groups to help minimize interaction throughout the day.

Indoor spaces will be limited to one group per activity.

If groups are in a shared space, they will be required to maintain 6 ft. physical distancing or wear face coverings as required.

## **Face Coverings**

Face coverings will be worn with guidance from the Rocky Point School District, the CDC, and as required by New York State and the Suffolk County Board of Health.

Campers and staff will be required to wear face coverings. Face coverings may be taken off when safely distanced 6 feet from one another.

Campers will bring their own face covering to camp each day. However, if your child should forget to bring one, NSYC will provide your child with a new disposable face mask that can be discarded at the end of the camp day.

The Camp Health Director will be required to wear a medical grade face covering when treating a camper for injury or illness.

## **Hygiene, Cleaning, and Disinfecting**

We will be adhering to hygiene, cleaning, and disinfecting requirements set forth by the CDC, New York State, and the Suffolk County Department of Health.

All staff, volunteers, and campers will be required to practice hygiene upon arrival to camp, between all program activities, before and after eating, after restroom use, and before departing the last program activity.

All staff and volunteers will be trained on proper handwashing procedures and ensure campers follow protocol. Appropriate signage will be displayed in common areas, ex. bathrooms and the cafeteria.

Designated staff will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting bathrooms. Daily logs detailing the date, time, and scope of cleaning/disinfecting will be maintained by staff.

Staff overseeing indoor spaces will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting materials, equipment, and spaces between groups.

EPA-approved hand sanitizer will be made available throughout common areas. Each group will also be supplied with hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes to be kept out of reach of campers and to be used appropriately at the discretion of the group counselors.

Commercial-grade disinfectants will be used by adult staff on a daily basis to ensure sanitary standards are met and maintained in accordance with health regulations.

Common areas will be cleaned and disinfected frequently/after each use.

## **Camp Programs and Activities**

Our camp typically includes activities such as sprinkler play, sports activities, playground recreation, arts and crafts, board games, story readings, and more.

All staff and volunteers will help campers maintain physical distancing within reason.

Activities will be conducted outside whenever possible so that time indoors is limited.

Only one group will be allowed per each indoor activity space.

All staff, volunteers, and campers will be required to wash/sanitize their hands before and after each activity. Sufficient time will be given at the end of each activity to account for hand washing/sanitizing, cleaning, and disinfecting.

Outdoor sports and recreation will be modified to limit contact as best as possible and to include more lower-risk skill-building and conditioning activities.

Water sprinkler activities will be allowed because they can be safely monitored by staff and because there is currently no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread via water play.

Sharing of multi-use materials and equipment will be limited and disinfected after each use. Commonly touched surfaces will be cleaned frequently. NSYC will have a sufficient amount of art materials on hand to minimize sharing.

Special events will take place on a group level to account for a smaller number of participants. Visiting individuals that have been approved to provide enrichment and special events will be subject to the same health assessment as staff, volunteers, and campers. They will be required to maintain safe physical distancing or wear a face covering and wash/sanitize their hands. At this time, we are re-evaluating our color wars and family fun day events and will modify or cancel them accordingly.

## **Arrival and Dismissal**

Arrival and dismissal at the Joseph A. Edgar School will follow the school bus driveway to the athletic fields. Groups will be stationed on the field to allow for safe physical distancing at the start and end of camp.

Arrival and dismissal at the Heritage Park will follow the main entrance driveway around the circle to the hill in front of the building. Groups will be stationed on the field to allow for safe physical distancing at the start and end of camp.

Parents/guardians will receive car tags to be placed on the dashboard for easy identification. The car tags should be clearly labeled in magic marker with your child's name, group name, and license plate number.

#### Arriving to camp:

- Parents will line up, remain in their vehicle, and wear appropriate face coverings.
- NSYC staff will direct cars and open doors to let children out.
- A temperature check with a no-touch thermometer will be conducted each morning at drop-off by a staff member. Temperatures must register below 99.9 or as directed by the health department. High temperatures will be given a second reading by the Camp Health Director.
- Campers will be escorted to their group by a staff member wearing an appropriate face covering.

#### Departing from camp:

- Campers will be brought directly to their parent's/guardian's vehicle based on the identifying car tag.
- As part of the registration packet, parents/guardians will have to fill out a form with the names of individuals they allow to pick up their child from camp in the event they are unable to do so. If there is a change of person, please write a note for that day or let a staff member know immediately. The designated pick-up must always bring their license for verification.

This method of drop-off and pick-up is to comply with requirements and ensure the health and safety of all individuals. Because it may take longer to implement this process, we appreciate everyone's patience.

If parents/guardians or a designated pick-up person needs to come to camp for any reason prior to the end of the camp day, they will be subject to the same health assessment as staff, volunteers, and children and must wear a face covering. Please call ahead of time if you will be picking your child up early. Parents/guardians will not be allowed entry into an indoor space unless there is an emergency. If you wish to speak to the Camp Director or your child's group counselor, inform a staff member and park your car in one of the marked stalls in the parking lot so they can assist you.

## **Food and Drinks**

Groups will have their own snack time and be physically distanced from other groups.

All campers will be required to wash/sanitize their hands before and after eating.

Campers will be allowed to bring their own snacks and drinks, but they must be clearly labeled in non-glass containers. Please do not send any food that needs to be refrigerated unless it can be kept safe for consumption with an ice pack in a lunchbox.

Campers will not be allowed to share snacks or drinks with other children. Please stress to your child the importance of not sharing any snacks or drinks with anyone, for both virus and allergy concerns.

If your child has food or other allergies, and you did not indicate it on the back of the registration form, please let us know as soon as possible. If your child or another child in your child's group has a serious allergy, a note will be sent home to inform all of the parents in that particular group. We do ask that parents try not to send snacks that may contain nuts.

If your child's group is using an indoor space for snack time, tables and benches will be disinfected accordingly. Children will not be required to wear masks during their snack break.

NSYC will have water available during the course of the camp day.

## **Inclement Weather and Heat Advisories**

It is our goal this year to have children outside as much as possible, but unfortunately, we sometimes experience rainy and excessively hot weather during the summer months. Camp on these kinds of days can be cancelled at the discretion of NSYC.

Due to limited space indoors and the health and safety concerns regarding physical distancing, camp will be cancelled on a day where the weather prohibits children from being outside. In the event that weather conditions deteriorate during the course of a camp day, we will call for an early dismissal pick-up and take every precaution to temporarily keep groups safely distanced indoors.

In the same manner, on especially hot days, we will minimize activities that require physical exertion and provide extra water and stationary activities. In addition to the drinks campers bring from home, we will have water available to ensure children stay hydrated. If there is a local heat advisory that poses a significant health risk, camp will be cancelled for that day.

There will be no refunds or credits for days that camp may be cancelled due to weather-related conditions.