

2022 Keewaydin Dunmore Covid Plan Overview

Introduction:

In many ways the situation with the Covid-19 is much better than a year ago. Mask requirements are decreasing in many areas; rapid antigen tests are becoming more readily available; and the anti-viral drug supply is also ramping up. Most importantly, fewer and fewer people are being hospitalized and dying.

However, we are not back to normal yet and Covid will still have a significant impact on how we operate camp! There are two very important facts about Covid that make a summer camp environment unique in how we have to handle Covid: 1. The state of VT and the CDC tell us that people who test positive have to isolate for at least 5 days. That is a hardship for anyone, but it is a very big hardship at a residential camp: it is hard for the isolated camper or staff, but, just as importantly, we have very limited space to isolate people! 2. The disease is more infectious than when we opened camp last summer. Last summer if you were vaccinated, you were invincible--your chances of getting infected were extremely small. The current vaccine is roughly 49% effective against infection. Bottom line--we don't want people to get sick with Covid at camp. Therefore, we still have to take many precautions!!

Despite the precautions we have to take, as long as everyone cooperates and works together, we will be able to have another great summer of activities, tripping, friendship, and Keewaydin Magic!

So, what's the plan?

Vaccination Requirement:

- Staff must be "up-to-date"—This means those who are eligible for a booster must get a booster
- Campers must be fully vaccinated—This means they have to have had the primary series of Pfizer
- We strongly encourage all campers to get boosted when eligible. Being boosted means that you avoid having to quarantine if you have close contact with someone sick with Covid at camp. The CDC now recommends all children between the ages 5-18 get boosted when eligible (5 months after the primary series). Data shows the third vaccine dose raises omicron fighting antibodies by 36 times in this age group.

Pre-Camp Low-Risk Behaviors: This is critical! We need everyone to be extra careful the 10 days before arriving at camp.

- Wear masks indoors when you are around people you do not know or with people you know are unvaccinated. Use N95 or KN95 masks—they are far more effective than cloth or surgical masks.
- Avoid people who you know are sick with Covid or who had a recent close contact with someone who was sick with Covid
- Avoid high-risk gatherings of lots of people (e.g. weddings, graduations, concerts, etc.). And if they are unavoidable, wear an N95 or KN95 mask ***and let us know that you have attended such an event.***
- Must have a negative result on a PCR test taken within 48 hours of arrival at camp; upload result onto CampMinder.

Testing:

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- Campers must take a PCR test within 48 hours of arrival at camp and submit result on CampMinder. If the result is positive, stay home until you are symptom free and test negative!
- If a camper has had Covid-19 within 90 days of arrival at camp, take an antigen test instead of a PCR test
- All campers will receive a rapid test upon arrival. Campers arriving by car who test positive upon arrival will have to return home for a minimum 5 days (until symptom free and test negative)
- All campers will test again with a PCR on Day 3 after arrival
- We will rapid antigen test individuals if symptoms dictate.

Cohorting:

- As long as we are outside, there will be little cohorting required this summer. During the first five days we will distance between age groups at all-camp gatherings outdoors.
- During the first five days of camp, we will mask indoors, except in tents and cabins where we live.
- Depending on the results of our Day 5 testing, we will decide if any further cohorting and masking is needed.

Trips:

- We plan to have our normal tripping program.
- Wearing masks on van rides is likely.

Masks: Please bring a supply of N95 or KN95 masks to camp. They are far more effective than cloth masks. 10-12 masks will be sufficient.

Meals:

- We will once again have a 40' x 80' event style tent on top of a plywood floor on the MacDonald tennis court. We will be able to seat approximately 190 outside. This will allow us to spread out the rest of camp inside the dining hall and on the porch.
- The exhaust fan in the kitchen will remain on whenever people are in the kitchen or dining hall; likewise, the clerestory windows and many of the sash windows will remain open. The kitchen fan is more than adequate to move air sufficiently.

Forts (Bathrooms):

- Every fort will have a trough with spigots attached to the outside--ranging from 6-12 spigots, depending on the fort. Campers will only have to go inside to use the toilets or urinals. Handwashing and teeth brushing can all be done outside.

Handwashing and Sanitation:

- Campers and Staff will sanitize hands prior to each meal
- Handwashing or sanitizing will be part of the morning inspection routine, activity check-out and bedtime routine and encouraged throughout the day. We will sanitize upon entering and exiting buildings.

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- Each camper will bring one personal bottles of hand sanitizer to camp.
- Dining Hall tables will be sanitized after each meal or after any activity use.
- Bathrooms and other buildings will be sanitized daily.

Cabins:

- Moos cabins, Annwi Cabin 2, Lodges, Dispensary, Office, A&C and a few other buildings will have box fans installed to facilitate fresh air exchange.

Quarantining and Isolation:

- If someone has Covid symptoms, he/she will receive a rapid antigen test.
- If someone tests positive, he/she will go into isolation for a minimum 5 days. Our Isolation Tents will be Browns Bay tents 5, 6, 7, and 8 next the camp Health Center and the Infirmary.
- A camper or staff in isolation will have access to a private sink, shower and porta potty. We will set up a program for them so that they can stay as busy, productive and active as their strength allows. In addition to being visited by the camp nurses several times per day, they will be able to have distanced visits from friends and staff. Food will be brought to them, but arrangements will be made so that people can eat with them at a safe distance. Depending on how they feel, they may be able to do physical activity, under staff supervision and at a safe distance.
- 12+ year-old boys who are not boosted may have to quarantine if they have a close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid. 12+ year-old campers who are boosted do not have to quarantine if they are a close contact.
- There will always be staff with campers in isolation or quarantine.
- We will contact parents in the event that a camper has tested positive for Covid or has been put into quarantine.
- Parents may remove their son from camp if he is in isolation or quarantine and bring back to camp after the requisite time of separation.

Drop off:

- Drop off of campers will be done as we did in 2021 for both opening day of First Session, June 26, and opening day of Second Session, July 24.
- Parents will be given a window of 30 minutes during which to drop off their son.
- Parents say goodbye in the parking lot.
- See 2022 Arrival and Departure Plan for details!

Pick Up:

- Parents can come on campus when they pick up their campers on both July 24 and August 20
- Parents must test negative the morning of pick up (honor system)
- Masks are required inside
- Parents must remain distanced from staff and from campers not their own.

Mid-Season:

- We hope to have a Mid-Season visiting day on Saturday, July 23 for parents of 8-week campers, depending on the state of the pandemic

- This will only be for parents and immediate family of 8-week campers. Parents and siblings need to remain distanced from staff and campers from other families.
- It will take place on Saturday, July 23 only, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Parents and siblings visiting need to follow low-risk behaviors for the 10 days prior to coming to camp.
- Parents must be up-to-date with vaccination and siblings must be fully-vaccinated, if eligible; Under 5 year-olds must be tested at our Health Center.
- Visitors must test negatively on a rapid antigen test the morning before arrival---honor system
- Visitors must be symptom free—if you are not feeling well, please don't visit camp
- Masks are required inside, but not outside (unless distancing outside around non-family members is impossible, in which case, wear a KN95 or N95 mask)
- Parents are allowed to leave campus and return, but they are not allowed to take their children off campus.
- Lunch and Dinner outside. Eat by family group, distanced from other families. Wear masks in line for food.
- Meal Rain Plan: This will involve staggered meal times. We will use the outdoor tent and the Multi House
- Campfires—parents will sit distanced from campers.

Transportation to Camp: See separate “2022 Arrival and Departure Plan.”

Resources:

- We are working with Dr. Laura Blaisdell, who helped us develop our plan. Dr. Blaisdell is a pediatrician with an advanced degree in public health and epidemiology, and she is one of the lead medical consultants for the American Camp Association and co-author of the “*Best Practices Field Guide*” for camps.
- We are also consulting with officials from the Vermont Department of Public Health; the American Camp Association and the Vermont Camp Association; as well as with the leadership team of the camp, the Board of Trustees and members of the Keewaydin family with relevant expertise.