



Halton Region Public Health
Infectious Disease Control Division
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

July 19, 2021

Dear: Day Camp Operator

The Ontario government moved the province into Step 3 of its [Roadmap to Reopen](#) on July 16, 2021. Residents, organizations and businesses must continue to follow the public health measures outlined in Step 3. For complete details on regulations, check O.Reg. [364/20](#).

Day camps that run any indoor or outdoor sports or recreational fitness activities must comply with the [COVID-19 Public Health Guidelines: Sports and Recreational Fitness](#). In Step 3 of the Roadmap to Reopen, low contact sports and recreational fitness activities are now permitted indoors. Masking for camp participants is not required indoors for these sports/activities if restricted to individuals within a cohort or if distancing can be maintained. However, outdoor programming is still encouraged as much as possible. High contact sports and recreational activities are permitted outdoors.

For specific questions about COVID-19 provincial regulations, please contact the **Stop the Spread Business Information Line** at 1-888-444-3659.

Day camps for children must follow the [COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for: Day Camps](#) provided by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. We strongly encourage you to check the Ministry of Health website frequently for updates, as guidance is subject to change. The COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for Day Camps was recently updated on July 15, 2021.

Screening

Camp staff and participants must complete the Ontario [COVID-19 School and child care screening](#) **daily** before camp and follow directions provided by the screening tool. The screening tool was last updated on July 16, 2021, with questions to consider side effects that may happen 48 hrs after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Camp participants must be monitored for [symptoms](#) of COVID-19. Participants cannot continue to attend if they have COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Mask wearing

Masks must be worn by staff and camp participants **indoors** unless the individual meets a reasonable exception. Reasonable exceptions are expected to be put in place by day camp operators following provincial guidance. Refer to the [Government of Ontario's Guidance on Face Covering and Face Masks](#), and the [Government of Ontario's Guidance on Using Masks in the Workplace](#).

Day camp staff must wear a medical mask indoors. Staff must wear [eye protection](#) (e.g., a face shield, goggles) when engaging with an individual who is not wearing a mask and physical distance of at least 2 metres cannot be maintained.

Masks are not required in **outdoor spaces** among camp participants of a cohort: however, cohorts should maintain at least a 2 metre physical distance from other cohorts. Staff are encouraged to wear a mask during outdoor camp activities and are required to wear a mask if physical distancing of at least 2 metres cannot be maintained between individuals. For complete details on masking and PPE requirements, refer to [COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for: Day Camps](#)

Cohorting:

Assign camp participants and staff to cohorts that stay together throughout the duration of the program. Cohorts must not mix with other cohorts (including pick-ups and drop-offs, mealtimes, before and aftercare, playtime and outdoor activities).

Reporting of Confirmed Cases of COVID-19:

Please use the [Day Camp Reporting Tool](#) to report any positive cases of COVID-19 in camp participants to Halton Region Public Health. If you do not have online access, call 311 to report the positive case. If a staff member tests positive for COVID-19, direct them to report this to Halton Region Public Health by having them complete the [Day Camp Reporting Tool](#) or by calling 311. Staff who have tested positive will receive follow-up from their local public health unit.

Please note that the [Day Camp Reporting Tool](#) link is not public-facing and may only be used for reporting confirmed positive cases at your camp.

Other helpful resources:

- A [Back to Day Camp Confirmation Form](#) is available for you to share with families. Parents/guardians/caregivers may complete this form to confirm that their child is healthy and able to return to camp.
- **Public Health Ontario** has developed [Day and Overnight Camp](#) resources, including:
 - infection prevention checklists to support pre-camp planning and daily camp operations; and
 - videos on COVID-19 transmission, personal protective equipment, hand hygiene, physical distancing, environmental cleaning and cohorting
- The [Ontario Camp Association](#) provides helpful resources for camps and outdoor centres.
- Ministry of Health: [COVID-19 Mental Health Resources for Camp Operators](#)

For more information visit:

- [Halton Region COVID-19 Information and Guidance](#) web page
- [Halton Region Additional Sector-Specific Guidance for Day Camps](#)

Please visit [Halton.ca](#) regularly for updates and additional guidance or call 311.

Sincerely,

Halton Region Public Health