



Camp Felix

COVID-19 Guide for Campers and Families

INTRODUCTION

The information surrounding COVID-19 is constantly changing and evolving. This guide outlines COVID-19 best practices and policies for summer camp published by the CDC, NYS Department of Health and American Camp Association, as well as countless discussions with New York Foundling Medical Director and COVID-19 Safety Committee. This guide is intended to provide Camp Felix families with information about how Camp Felix is adapting policies and procedures this summer to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 in camp. As information changes and evolves, so too will this guide to reflect the most current information.

While we have worked tirelessly to adapt Camp Felix operations to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 exposure in camp, it is important to note that there is no way for us to guarantee that COVID-19 will not be present. However, if or when it becomes evident that the camp has been directly impacted by the virus, we are prepared to care for any affected campers and staff, assess, isolate, and stop the virus from spreading.

Camp may look and feel different this year, but the value of being in a beautiful camp setting, among friends old and new, and participating in fun camp activities is needed more than ever during this challenging time.

Please read the guidelines below thoroughly and sign the acknowledgement on the last page. Thank you!

COVID-19 BASICS

Before we can begin to discuss the changes that will occur at camp to ensure the health and safety of our camp community, it is important that the basics of COVID-19 are understood. Please, refer to the [CDC website](#) to learn about the latest information regarding COVID-19, how it spreads, its symptoms, how to prevent getting sick, testing, and more.

CAMP CAPACITY

Camp Felix will operate for 3 weeks in August, Monday through Friday only. Camper cabins will be limited to 10-12 campers maximum. Each cabin will be supervised by 3 counselors. The campsite currently has a total of 7 sleeping cabins onsite. One of the cabins will be designated as quarantine quarters to be used for COVID-19 infected campers/staff, should the situation arise. Therefore, the remaining 6 cabins will be used to house campers and staff. In total, Camp Felix will accommodate between 60 and 72 campers per week. That number will not exceed 72 campers. Counselor to camper ratio will be no less than 1:4 (1 counselor for every 4 campers), as in previous years.

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

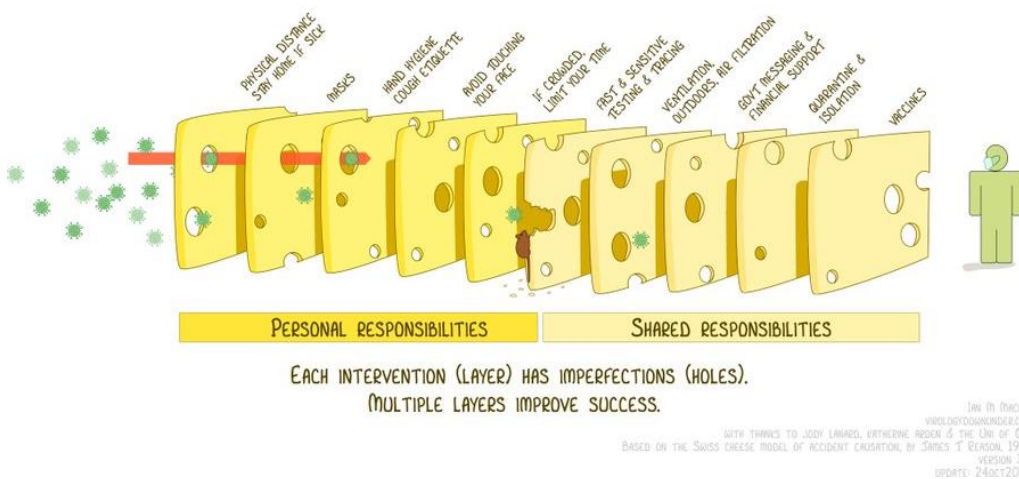
At this time, the [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) is available to children age 12 and older. Therefore, Camp Felix strongly recommends that campers who are 12 years of age and older get fully vaccinated for COVID-19 before coming to camp. Fully vaccinated against COVID-19 is defined as 14 days after completion of the 2nd shot.

All Camp Felix staff members will be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 before working at camp.

THE “SWISS CHEESE” APPROACH AT CAMP

There is no single action that can guarantee that a person will not get sick with COVID-19. Simply washing your hands frequently doesn't mean you won't breathe in the virus from someone who is exposed. Wearing a mask won't protect you fully if you are in the same room as someone with the virus for an extended period of time, even if they are wearing a mask too. We think of our camp's COVID-19 prevention strategies as a block of [swiss cheese](#).

In every slice of swiss cheese, there are holes. Since there is no perfect singular way to stop the spread of COVID-19, each prevention measure has its own strengths and weaknesses (or, its own set of strengths and swiss cheese holes). But layering multiple prevention measures on top of each other --- hand sanitizing AND wearing a mask when indoors AND social distancing AND limiting time indoors AND quarantining before going to camp AND getting tested before going to camp AND getting vaccinated (for those who are eligible) – creates fewer loopholes (or a thicker block of swiss cheese) for the virus to enter and spread throughout camp. See graphic below:



The more precautions and steps taken prior to and during camp to mitigate the potential exposure to COVID-19, the less risk there will be that there is a major outbreak at camp. We hope to work together with our camp staff, parents/guardians of campers, as well as Foundling case planners and therapists to take all the steps necessary to keep everyone safe.

HIGH RISK CAMPERS

If a camper is at higher risk for COVID-19 complications, it is highly recommended that they consult their medical provider to assess the risk of attending camp. High-risk conditions include (but are not limited to):

- Asthma
- Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- Chronic lung disease
- Diabetes
- Liver disease
- Immuno-compromised condition
- Serious heart conditions
- Severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)

The information provided on each camper's medical forms will inform the camp on what precautions are required or may be appropriate to protect those at higher risk for severe illness and camp staff will ensure that all possible accommodations are made.

PRE-CAMP COVID-19 TESTING

Unvaccinated campers **MUST provide proof of a negative COVID-19** test taken no more than 1–3 days before arriving at camp. For example, if a camper is scheduled to arrive at Camp Felix on Monday August 9th (Session 1), they should get a COVID-19 test on Friday August 6th or Saturday August 7th and have the results with them when they arrive at the bus.

The only exception is those campers who had a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 3 months. CDC does not recommend getting tested again in the three months after a positive viral test if the person does not have symptoms of COVID-19. Campers who have had a positive viral test in the 3 months prior to starting camp and have met the criteria to end isolation should have a letter from their healthcare provider documenting the positive test date and stating the individual is cleared to end isolation.

To find a free COVID-19 testing site in NYC, **text "COVID TEST" to 855-48.**

Proof of negative COVID-19 test result can be emailed to Jane.Feyder-Siegel@nyfoundling.org or brought to the bus pick up location. Any camper who fails to submit proof of a negative COVID-19 test (for those who are unvaccinated) will be asked to undergo a rapid test onsite at the Foundling before boarding the bus. Since rapid tests are less reliable than PCR tests, we strongly urge all campers to **get tested before arriving at the bus** location. The onsite rapid testing option will be used only as a last resort.

PRE-CAMP SCREENING

AT HOME:

To minimize potential exposure, throughout the 14 days (2 weeks) prior to camp arrival, we ask that parents/guardians of unvaccinated campers monitor their campers for symptoms of COVID-19, wear a face covering when in public, maintain social distancing, avoiding unnecessary travel, and refraining from indoor social gatherings with people outside of their households and generally avoid extended periods in public, contact with strangers, and large gatherings.

According to the CDC, COVID-19 symptoms range from mild to severe illness and may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. They 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

As in previous years, we urge parents/guardians to keep their children at home and not send them to camp if they are sick or showing any symptoms of COVID-19 or any other contagious illness.

AT THE BUS LOCATION:

Camp Felix will have two drop off locations this summer where parents/guardians will drop off their children to be taken to camp via bus: one located at 590 Avenue of the Americas in Manhattan and one at the Bronx office location at 501 Southern Blvd in the Bronx. All individuals are asked to please **wear a mask and maintain physical distance** of at least 6 feet from other families during the camper drop off process.

Upon arrival at the bus location, the camper and parent/guardian will be asked to:

1. Sanitize their hands and allow a Camp Felix staff member to collect the camper's belongings, including medications. A nurse will ensure that all appropriate **medications** have been brought to camp, as per the camper's medical form.
2. Submit proof of negative COVID-19 test, or documentation of COVID-19 vaccination serious completion, or documentation of confirmed COVID-19 infection in the previous 3 months, if they have not done so already.
3. Go through the COVID-19 screening process where the camper will have his/her temperature taken and parent/guardian will be asked to complete a health screening questionnaire. The health screening questionnaire will include questions to determine whether the camper has:
 - a) knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 10 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID 19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19;
 - b) tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 10 days;
 - c) has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 including a temperature of greater than 100.4°F in the past 10 days and/or
 - d) has traveled within the past 10 days and not complied with requirements of the New York State Travel Advisory.

Once all paperwork and screening are completed, the parent/guardian will be asked to say goodbye to the camper and the camper will board the bus to camp. The camper's belongings will be loaded onto the bus by camp staff.

Anyone who screens positive for or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 or a temperature of greater than or equal to 100.4°F will not be allowed to board a bus and will be sent home with instructions to contact their healthcare provider for assessment and testing.

Upon returning from camp, the campers will be dropped off at the same location where they were picked up. All parents/guardians will be asked to wait at this location, preferably in their vehicles or outside, with masks on, maintaining physical distance of at least 6 feet from other families. Once children exit the bus, they will collect their belongings and head to their parent/guardian to go home.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES AT CAMP

USE OF COHORTS:

All campers will be divided into Cabins, similar to "Household Cohorts," for the duration of their camp session. Each cabin will have a maximum of 12 campers and 3 staff members. Each cabin group will operate as a contained circle or "bubble" within the larger camp community, will attend all daily activities together and will not intermingle with members of other cohorts during camp. This approach will assist in containing communicable disease within the small group boundaries.

Cabin members will sleep in the same cabin together (12 campers and 3 staff). Since the cabin is actually equipped to sleep 21 people, ample space will be available to space the beds away from each other. If at least 6 feet of space between beds is not possible, head-to-toe sleeping orientation will be used and beds will be spaced at least 4 feet apart. Clean bedding will be provided for each camper and will be laundered by a professional laundry company in between camper sessions.

SCREENING:

Twice daily screening (temperature checks and symptom questionnaires) of all campers and staff will be conducted by the camp nurse while Camp Felix is in session. Additionally, Camp Felix asks that all unvaccinated parents/guardians please self-monitor for their own symptoms of COVID-19 at home while their child is at camp. If a parent/guardian who lives in the same residence as a camper has tested positive for, or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, they must inform the Camp Felix Program Director immediately (Jane Feyder-Siegel 646-660-4849 or Jane.Feyder@nyfoundling.org). In this case, the infected or symptomatic parent/guardian will not be allowed to enter the bus pick up/drop off location, including arriving to pick up their child. Camp Felix will work with that parent/guardian to identify an alternate parent/guardian or authorized emergency contact to pick up the child instead.

HANDWASHING:

Campers and staff will be trained on proper handwashing during staff training and camper orientation. Camp supervisory staff will work to ensure and remind campers and staff to wash hands often throughout the day, especially before eating, after activities, upon entering the cabin, after using restroom, after using shared equipment, after coughing/sneezing, etc. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be placed in each cabin, in dining hall, and other areas throughout the campsite and campers and staff will be trained on how/when to properly use it to sanitize their hands.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

As per CDC recommendations, physical distancing will be encouraged at camp through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, and staggered scheduling for activities and meals. Members of the same cabin, or cohort, will not need to distance from each other but they will need to distance from members of other cabins/cohorts.

FACE MASKS:

Campers who are not vaccinated will be asked to wear face coverings (masks) while indoors except when eating, drinking, showering, swimming, or sleeping/resting. Campers will also be allowed to remove face coverings outdoors when doing physical activities. Masks will be required during transportation to/from camp (on the bus).

Even though all staff will be vaccinated, the staff will still be required to wear face coverings when they are in an indoor location with campers/staff who are outside of their cohort, if unable to maintain a six-foot distance from them. Staff will also be asked to model wearing a face covering at times when their campers are required to wear face coverings.

We ask that campers bring masks from home and Camp Felix will also have a large stock of face masks available onsite. Proper face covering technique use will also be discussed during staff training and camper orientation. Adaptations and alternatives will be considered for any camper who has a physical or mental health condition which may be exacerbated by the use of a face mask, in collaboration with that individual's treatment team and family.

Campers who are fully vaccinated will be exempt from wearing a mask while at camp, but will still need to wear it on the bus.

CLEANING/DISINFECTING:

All shared items, facilities, and equipment will be properly cleaned and disinfected between each use. The use of shared supplies will be limited by providing each participant with his/her own supplies to have on hand for the duration of the camp session (i.e. personal art kit, Frisbee, etc). Frequently touched surfaces, such as tables, door handles, hand railings, light switches, countertops, toilets, faucets and sinks) will be cleaned and disinfected multiple times per day. Toilets, bathrooms, and showers will be cleaned 3 times per day.

Campers are urged to bring their own bathroom supplies (towels, soap, toothpaste, etc) and have a container with their name for toiletries to be stored for the duration of camp. Camp Felix will also maintain a large stock of these supplies on hand in case campers or staff should need them. Soap, toilet paper, and paper towels will be stocked at all times in the bathrooms.

Tents/shading will be set up outside to allow for most of the daily activities to take place outdoors. All facilities and equipment will be cleaned and disinfected daily by trained janitorial staff.

MEALS:

All meals, including beverages, will be individually wrapped (boxed meals) in order to avoid sharing of food/utensils during mealtime. Campers will sit with their own cohort for all meals, at least 6 feet away from other cohorts.

IF A CAMPER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

If a camper is suspected of having COVID-19 based on results of daily screenings, they will be isolated in the designated quarantine cabin and will undergo COVID-19 testing immediately. If they test negative, they will be treated for symptoms as per usual health protocols.

If a camper tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to be picked up from camp by a parent/guardian or someone else residing in their household **within 24 hours of confirmed test**. If the parent/guardian or other household member is unable to drive to camp to pick up the camper, a Camp Felix staff member will drive the camper to the Foundling office located at 501 Southern Blvd in the Bronx and will ask the parent/guardian to pick up the camper from there.

Contact Tracing will begin immediately in accordance with CDC guidelines to determine the level of contact with other campers and staff. All those who have been in contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with the infected individual will be tested for COVID-19.

Additionally, if any camper is determined through health department contact tracing to have been in contact of someone with COVID-19 prior to their arrival at camp, they must be immediately separated and picked up within 24 hours (e.g. if a family member becomes symptomatic shortly after the child starts the camp program).

AFTER CAMP

Parents/guardians are asked to please continue to monitor unvaccinated campers for 14 days after returning home from camp and immediately report to Camp Felix Program Director if the camper shows any symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

Thank you for helping us provide a fun and enjoyable summer camp experience to all while also ensuring the health and safety of our campers, staff, their families, and communities.

We are in this together!

Please complete and sign the acknowledgement below and send a copy to Camp Felix at Jane.Feyder@nyfoundling.org or 646-660-4849.

Camper Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Relationship to camper: _____

I have read the above guidelines and policies regarding prevention of COVID-19 at Camp Felix and I agree to the following:

1. If my camper is not fully vaccinated, I will self-monitor my camper for symptoms of COVID-19 during the 2 weeks before they arrive at camp, as well as making sure that any unvaccinated members of my household wear a face covering when in public, maintain social distancing, avoiding unnecessary travel, refraining from indoor social gatherings with people outside of my household and generally avoid extended periods in public, contact with strangers, and large gatherings. I will monitor my camper for the following symptoms:
 - a. Fever or chills
 - b. Cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing
 - c. Fatigue
 - d. Muscle or body aches
 - e. Headache
 - f. New loss of taste or smell
 - g. Sore throat
 - h. Congestion or runny nose
 - i. Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
2. I will report any COVID-19 symptoms or exposure to Camp Felix Program Director immediately.
3. I will keep my child at home if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19, feeling sick, or experiencing any other illness that may be contagious.
4. If my camper is not fully vaccinated, I will have my camper(s) get tested for COVID-19 at least 3 days before going to camp and have results ready when I arrive at the bus location.
5. I will pick up my camper from camp or from the Bronx location if he/she tests positive for COVID-19 while at camp, as soon as possible or at most within 24 hours of being notified.
6. I will report to Camp Felix if my child is experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days after returning home from camp.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____