

CAMP MORASHA 2021 COVID-19 POLICY GUIDE

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*We're
Open!*



AN OPENING STATEMENT

While the past 12+ months have no doubt been a challenging time period, it has heightened our recognition and deepened our appreciation for the people, places, and moments in our lives that we most cherish. We've always known that summer camp is an invaluable opportunity, core to the development of a child's Jewish identity and personal growth, but the absence of summer camp for one summer strongly reinforced the importance of this transformative experience. This has only increased our excitement and motivation to ensure that Summer 2021 accomplishes our mission at the highest levels.

This Guide is intended to convey the various protocols, policies, and programs crafted to provide a safe summer during this pandemic. This Guide was developed and reviewed by a Core Committee and Advisory Committee whose passion for summer camp is only matched by their professionalism and prioritization for safety. Beyond ensuring a safe summer, each policy and protocol was guided by three fundamental questions:

- **Practical:** What expectations are practical and able to be met and enforced by our campers and camp staff? The rhythm, reality, and operation of overnight camp drastically differ from other settings (schools, shuls, day camps). We are focused on creating policy and strategies that recognize the true risks of the virus, appreciate the advances made since last summer, and can practically be executed throughout a camp like ours.
- **Consistent:** Do the policies make relative sense across various aspects of our camp program and operation? Are there logical and consistent policies regarding visitors / entertainers entering the camp or staffers / campers leaving the camp? It is important for us to design policies that are able to comfortably coexist.
- **Families First:** Are the policies in the best interest of our camp families? We continue to be committed to making decisions that provide the best possible experience for both our campers and our parents. The temptation to use COVID as a way to simplify our camp operation can be a strong one. We did our best to make every decision within the context of putting our families first.

Please note that this is a live document that will be updated when appropriate and necessary. As always, if you have any questions regarding the policies or protocols outlined below, please feel free to reach out at any time. Until then, we look forward to greeting our children back home in a few short months!

CORE COMMITTEE

Jeremy Jozsef - Director
Aryeh Yudin - Assistant Director
Dave Friedman - Boys' Head Counselor
Atara Yudin - Girls' Head Counselor
Dr. Brenda Bender - Head Camp Physician
Chavie Balsam - Health Center Head Admin
Dr. Robert van Amerongen - Outside Medical Advisor

REVIEWED & ENDORSED BY

Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Melissa Rothwax - Program Director
Jason David - Assistant Head Counselor
Aileen Mehlman - Assistant Head Counselor
Lynn Grushko - Head Nurse
Larry Rothwachs - Camp Rabbi
Aviva Meyer - Office Manager

Rabbi Bini Krauss - Principal, SAR Academy
Elana Nayowitz - Director, Westchester Day Camp
Dr. Jessica Kirschner - Pediatrician, Long Island Pediatrics
Dr. Howard Mazin - Assoc. Chief of Pediatrics, Englewood Hospital

1 / CONTROLLED CAMPUS

Overall Camp Structure

As outlined in the introduction, we are committed to creating a policy that is practical and enforceable. To that end, we will be implementing a rigorous pre-summer testing program and offering vaccination guidance with the goal to operate a 'controlled campus' once all our staff and campers arrive at camp.

Within the first several days of camp, camp programming will be designed to ensure that campers are primarily interacting with other campers in their own divisions. While we don't believe strict cohorting is possible, all camp-wide programming (Opening Night, for example) will be seated by division, meals will be staggered to allow for distancing between divisions, and subsequent night activities will be held by division. Additionally, aside from several exceptional circumstances noted below, campers and staff will not be required to mask once up at camp.

If no COVID-19 cases are confirmed by the first Shabbat of camp (roughly one week following the pre-camp negative PCR tests), we will allow our "Camp Community" to interact more freely with one another and program larger camp events both indoors and outdoors.

Outsiders In & Insiders Out

While an airtight bubble is not feasible for a variety of reasons, our approach is to maintain a 'Controlled Campus' in order to prevent potential exposure and transmission both within camp and outside of camp. The reality is that much has changed over the past 12 months with new data on how the virus spreads and the efficacy of vaccination. We want our travel into / out of camp policy to mitigate true risks while ensuring that we can (1) Run day-to-day camp operations (2) Afford campers and staff safe opportunities to have a positive camp experience. These policies are split into two tiers and outlined below: Essential Camp Business and Personal Leisure & Events.

TIER 1: ESSENTIAL CAMP BUSINESS		
ACTIVITY	LEAVING CAMP	ENTERING CAMP
EXAMPLES	<i>Picking up medication Doctor appointments Supplies or equipment pick up Bank deposits</i>	<i>Off-campus staffers Package, mail, food deliveries Entertainers, Guest speakers Attraction operators</i>
GENERAL POLICY	Drivers must be vaccinated to run camp errands. Staff and campers must be masked at all times when off campgrounds for 'Essential Business' and must do their best to avoid crowded spaces. There shouldn't be any stops.	Even if vaccinated, visitors must wear a mask at all times, remain outdoors as much as possible, and keep a distance from the Camp Community (not be within six feet for 15+ cumulative minutes). Performers should be distanced further.
SPOUSES & DEPENDENTS	While we consider it essential to allow non-working family members to spend time with their spouse and/or parent at camp, a policy is in place to ensure a safe entry: (1) Vaccinated spouses / dependents can join for weekends without pre-arrival testing. (2) Unvaccinated dependents will be required to submit a negative rapid test result, administered within 24 hours of the onset of Shabbat, to the camp office. (3) Whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, if a visitor is displaying any symptoms, they must stay home -- even with a negative test. <i>Spouses / dependents eligible to be vaccinated must be vaccinated to join for weekends. They will submit proof of vaccination prior to camp. Other than immediate dependent family members, staff members cannot have any other guests visit them on campgrounds during the week or over weekends.</i>	

TIER 2: PERSONAL LEISURE & EVENTS		
ACTIVITY	LEAVING CAMP	ENTERING CAMP
EXAMPLES	DJs, Como Pizza, WalMart, Dating, Weddings, Family Obligations Camp Trips	Camp Smachot Visitors
VACCINATED ADULTS	Vaccinated Senior Staff <u>or</u> vaccinated staff / Kollel members above the age of 22 may enter and exit camp freely but must avoid crowded indoor spaces where distancing is not feasible, and remain masked indoors when appropriate.	Unfortunately, we will not be able to host visitors at camp this summer, even vaccinated adults. Vaccinated parents and grandparents <u>only</u> (and young dependents) may attend a milestone simcha being celebrated mid-summer but must be masked at all times and cannot stay overnight.
ALL JUNIOR STAFF /// UNVACCINATED ADULTS	All Junior Staff (regardless of vaccinated status) and unvaccinated adults may not freely enter and exit the camp. We will ensure that there is plenty of in-camp programming while coordinating safe off-campus outings on Days Off. An extenuating circumstance for a one-off occasion of an immediate family member of a <u>vaccinated</u> Junior Staff member will be evaluated by the camp administration.	Junior Staff from other camps may not enter our campgrounds to visit, even if they are vaccinated.
CAMPERS	A camp trip for campers will only be planned if it involves three things: (1) No other participants outside our Camp Community are present (2) Operators of the facility wear a mask at all times. (3) Bus drivers are vaccinated.	We will not be allowing campers from other camps to visit, even for a family simcha. This includes tournaments, intercamps, and night visits.

Tours & Visiting Day.

Consistent with the policies listed above, we unfortunately do not see a way to safely host a large amount of parents and visitors at camp this summer. While prospective parent tours are more feasible, we feel that it may open a Pandora's box that will prove difficult to manage. In addition to our two Calling Days, we look forward to hosting a Virtual Visiting Day on **Monday, July 19**, which will give parents a third time to speak with their children (in family clusters) and offer a more substantial opportunity to see the camp in action.

2 / PRE-CAMP & OPENING DAY PROTOCOL

Pre-Camp Testing

EVERY staff member and camper -- whether vaccinated or unvaccinated -- will be required to have a COVID PCR test administered three days prior to his or her arrival to camp. Campers or staff members who tested positive for COVID within 90 days of departure are exempt from pre-camp testing. PCR test results / proof of a recent COVID infection must be uploaded into the designated MyMorasha form no later than 24 hours prior to departure.

We also **STRONGLY** request *unvaccinated* campers and staff members to self-quarantine **five days** prior to camp arrival (this does not apply Mania campers who will serve as a distinct cohort). In addition, CDC

recommends campers and staff members to be cautious within 14 days of camp, limiting close contact in indoor settings.

To be clear, these are the dates for self-quarantine and the PCR test for each respective arrival date:

GROUP	SELF-QUARANTINE	PCR TEST	UPLOAD BY	CAMP ARRIVAL
Senior Staff / Day Camp Staff Staff Kids Arriving with Parents	Sunday, 6/20	Tues, 6/22 Wed, 6/23	Thursday, 6/24	Friday, 6/25
General Staff	Tuesday, 6/22	Wed, 6/23, Thurs, 6/24	Saturday, 6/26	Sunday, 6/27
Campers & Kollel	Friday, 6/25	Sun, 6/27 Mon AM, 6/28	Tuesday, 6/29	Wednesday, 6/30
2nd Session Staff / Campers	Friday, 7/23	Sun, 7/25	Tuesday, 7/27	Wednesday, 7/28
Morasha Mania Campers	Friday, 7/30	Fri, 7/30	Sunday, 8/1	Monday, 8/2

Finally, please remember that if a member of a staff member or camper's household tests positive for COVID-19 prior to camp, that person must follow state guidelines regarding quarantine and can only arrive at camp after that quarantine period is over.

Transportation to Camp - Updated 05/14

We are very pleased to announce that we will be providing bus transportation to camp for all campers and Kollel participants from Long Island and New Jersey. To comply with our start-of-camp protocols of keeping divisions together, we will be grouping divisions together on buses. Thankfully, as of March 1, 2021 the State of Pennsylvania no longer requires any quarantine period for those traveling into PA from other states. Additionally, due to the decline in prevalence, we will no longer be requiring a rapid test on Opening Day.

Local Primary Contact

Every member of the Camp Community (campers and staff) will be required to designate two "Local Primary Contacts" (LPC) who will serve as the primary contacts in the event that he or she needs to be picked up from camp or the bus departure point due to a positive COVID result or general illness. This LPC must be someone available at any point throughout the camp season and is able and comfortable to care for someone who is potentially positive for COVID-19.

3 / HEALTH OPERATION

While it is our hope that our pre-camp testing and mitigation strategies will prevent positive COVID cases, parents should understand the real possibility that there will be campers and/or staff members who do test positive for this virus mid-summer. Below are the policies and protocols surrounding our Health Center operation relating to COVID-19:

Daily Screening & Health Center Triage

Like any typical season, Campus Staff will be trained to monitor their camper's health and wellbeing throughout the summer. This will include a general overview relating to COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone exhibiting COVID-like symptoms will know to enter the Health Center through a secondary entrance and wait in one of our physician rooms until a Camp Doctor can evaluate. Routine temperature checks on asymptomatic campers will not be performed.

Health Center Staff PPE

All staff in the Health Center will have access to PPE: masks, gowns and gloves. All surfaces will be wiped down and rooms cleaned between visits. When seeing a camper or staffer exhibiting COVID symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, vomiting, etc), a gown, gloves and N-95 mask will be worn.

High Risk Campers / Staff

We strongly encourage EVERY high-risk camper and staff member to get vaccinated if they are eligible. We ask that these campers / staff pay close attention to any symptoms that arise and report them immediately. We recommend anyone with asthma and/or allergies to continue their medication regimen throughout the summer. Please note that we will NOT be allowing or giving any nebulizer treatments. Asthma medication must be via MDI. Finally, if there are specific concerns or situations we need to be aware of, please reach out to us ahead of time or have your physician contact us.

COVID Symptomatic Cases

COVID symptoms (cough, runny nose) can often overlap with typical camp illness. We have a camp physician on site 24/7 and it will be at her discretion when a COVID test should be administered based on the symptoms of the individual. The COVID testing performed in camp will be the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test. We will not be conducting random surveillance testing for asymptomatic carriers. Here are the protocols if a positive case is confirmed at camp, weighing the risks and rewards involved in the unique setting of a controlled summer camp community:

- Positive Camper / Staffer: If a member of the Camp Community tests positive for COVID-19 in camp, that camper or staff member will be immediately isolated and his or her LPC (and parent, if different) will be contacted. If the LPC cannot come to camp, we will organize a vaccinated driver to drive the camper home (masked and distanced in the vehicle) in a camp vehicle.
- Division Mates of Positive: We have designed an in-camp protocol for the division of a camper who tests positive. This includes how this division can safely enjoy camp activities and meals together while keeping distance from the general Camp Community. Camp staff will monitor symptoms for a period of time (based on the most current DOH guidance) before transitioning the division back into the Camp Community. Vaccinated counselors in this division can interact with others outside the division while masked.

4 / CAMP OPERATION

Dining Hall & Canteen

Consistent with our start-of-camp structure, meals will be staggered until the first Shabbat of camp. Separate buffets and salad bars will be set up for each division. Divisions will be properly spaced apart from one another. Similarly, divisions will not be scheduled to congregate inside the Canteen together.

If no COVID case is confirmed by the first Shabbat, we will transition to a more typical Dining Hall and Canteen operation with enhanced health procedures. This includes a focus on handwashing, installation of plexiglass buffet barriers, more options for outdoor dining, and increased cleaning / disinfecting. Salad bars will also be modified to prevent the spread of germs and virus. Non-vaccinated Dining Hall staff will be required to wear masks and gloves during meal service.

Personal Hygiene & Cleaning / Sanitation

A dedicated team of 10 housekeeping staff members will oversee the cleaning and disinfecting of bunkhouses, public spaces, and high-traffic areas. In addition, hand sanitizer stations will be installed outside of every cabin as well as throughout our campus.

Camp Deliveries

Deliveries into camp are essential to run our camp operation. As outlined in Section 1, those entering camp to make deliveries will be required to mask and keep a safe distance from members of the Camp Community. Our primary vendors, including food deliveries, will be informed of this policy prior to camp.

Ventilation

Our various new spaces around camp have been designed to maximize general ventilation by utilizing window and door openings, updated HVAC systems, and open-air structures. All HVAC systems throughout the campus will be inspected prior to the camp season to ensure proper ventilation and performance.

COVID-Based Refund Policy

It is our greatest hope that no camper will test positive for COVID-19, either pre-summer or mid-summer. As outlined above, we will do everything that is in our power to mitigate the risks of infection. If any family is not comfortable with any of the guidelines set forth in this guide, we will respect the decision to withdraw a camper's application and provide a full refund, as long as it is prior to May 15th. In the event that a camper tests positive, requiring quarantine at home, prorated refunds will not be issued.

5 / CAMP PROGRAM & SUPPORT

Trips

As previously outlined, we are open to sending campers on trips as long as the destination meets three requirements: (1) No other participants outside our Camp Community are present (2) Operators of the facility wear a mask at all times (3) Bus drivers are fully vaccinated. Examples of outings may include a Drive-In movie, rafting, ropes course, rented facility, etc. Additionally, all campers may be required to wear a mask on the bus to and from this attraction and at the venue itself if mandated by local guidelines.

Visiting Day

As noted above, we will sadly not be able to host our typical Visiting Day this summer. We are working hard to not only design an enjoyable 'Virtual Visiting Day' (scheduled for Monday, July 19) but also offer opportunities throughout the summer for parents to feel connected to their campers at camp. Stay tuned for more details on both of these efforts.

Morasha Mania

Our Morasha Mania campers will follow the same pre-summer testing protocol as everyone else. Because the entire experience is a total of 72 hours, this group will primarily serve as an independent cohort within camp -- which we feel is practical and enforceable.

Snack / Package Refill Policy

We recognize that Full Summer campers often replenish their bunk nosh on Visiting Day. To streamline logistics, we will be partnering with a supermarket in the NY/NJ area that parents must order through (via online ordering) if they choose to replenish snack mid-summer. All options will meet our nut-free policy and orders will be shipped directly to camp the week of Changeover Day. No other packages will be accepted into camp mid-summer, as per our general camp package policy. This service will also be available as an *option* for Opening Day snack delivery, but certainly not required.

Camper Support

We are cognizant of the fact that this summer will require unique support for our campers (and staff!) for several reasons: (1) Every post-third *and* -fourth grade camper will all be experiencing their first summer at camp (2) Many campers have not experienced the same amount of away-from-home social experiences (sleepovers, etc) as they usually might heading into a typical season (3) Many campers sadly experienced personal losses in the family over the past 12 months. We are keenly aware and sensitive to these factors and have hired additional Camp Mothers and mental / emotional health support staff to ensure that every camper in camp is cared for.

Parent Support

As with everything in camp, it is our philosophy to always be transparent, honest, straightforward, and communicate often with our camp parents. Of course, these principles will apply with anything relating to COVID-19 both prior to the summer and during the camp season. Similar to above, we are also aware that this summer may be the first experience in a long time that a child is away from a parent and the natural anxiety that may stem from that. We will do everything in our power to proactively communicate directly with parents to alleviate any concerns and answer any questions they may have.

6 / STAFF-SPECIFIC

Vaccination

We are pleased that so many of our staff members have already been vaccinated or plan to vaccinate prior to the summer. While we are not mandating vaccination for staff under the age of 60, we strongly encourage staff, Sulam, and Kollel members who are eligible to vaccinate for a variety of reasons:

1. It allows that person to skip our pre-departure rapid testing requirement and can simplify out-of-state / international travel requirements to camp or to Sulam.
2. It drastically reduces the likelihood of in-camp spread and illness.
3. It prevents the person from having to quarantine if he or she is exposed to a positive COVID case pre-summer or mid-summer.
4. A large majority of staff opting to vaccinate allows us to run Staff Orientation with few restrictions while opening more safe opportunities for staff-wide outings during the summer.

Please note that someone is only considered 'vaccinated' once they complete their vaccine series: Two weeks out of the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or two weeks out of the only dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Staff Days Off, Shopping, & Cars

Based on the guidelines outlined in Section 1, only vaccinated adults (Senior Staff or 22+ years old) are permitted to freely leave camp as long as they adhere to the basic policies listed in that section. Junior Staff members are still entitled to the same number of days off, of course, and we are already hard at work to ensure enjoyable and relaxing off days. This will include a combination of in-camp activities and organized outside of camp outings that carry no risk of exposure. Since Junior Staff cannot exit and enter the camp freely, no Junior Staff member can bring a personal car up to camp.

We will be allowing staff to order packages for themselves to be delivered to camp. We will also be contacting general stores to arrange exclusive visits for staff days off.

Staffing

In anticipation of the possibility of staff members testing positive pre-camp or mid-summer, we have staffed at a surplus to ensure all departments and bunks are properly covered.