

June 21, 2021

Dear Camp Families,

Summer is quickly approaching and I wanted to reach out to you to share some important camp information. Due to the less restrictive guidelines and limitations caused by COVID-19, some of our policies and procedures have changed.

First, thank you for trusting the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Summer Programs with your children this summer. We are very excited to have our camp programs look more like our typical summers! We have a lot of new counselors that are eager to meet you and your families, and we are keeping our excitement and expectations high for an amazing camp experience.

One of the big changes from last summer is that drop off and pick up will no longer be “drive through style”. With the number of campers we have registered this year, we will return back to our typical sign in and sign out procedures. Parents/guardians will park in the parking lot BEHIND the Wapping Parks and Recreation facility, near the SWHS stadium field. Camp Evolution sign-in and sign-out will be under the BIG tent, and Little Evolution will report to the smaller tent on the black top. Please remember, only people that are listed on your child’s ePACT pick up authorization form will be able to sign out your child. Also, anyone picking up a camper must show a valid driver’s license. All sign in and sign out locations will be clearly marked and our staff will be available to help guide you in the right direction!

Another change from last summer is our mask policy. To stay consistent with the Town of South Windsor’s policy, masks or cloth face coverings will be mandatory for both campers and staff members when they are indoors. When outside, campers may remove their masks. As a program, we will still practice social distancing as much as possible. Vaccinated staff members may remove their masks outside but will wear them when having a close interaction with anyone. Unvaccinated staff members are expected to wear masks at all times.

Although it is not required, we will continue to try to keep our campers in cohorts when physically possible during our typical camp hours. The campers will stay within their groups for a majority of the time, and have limited shared space with campers outside of their group. Once the groups are made, they will remain the same for the entire week. The group assignments will be strongly enforced so that in the event of an outbreak, we can minimize who will need to be quarantined. The only time cohorts will not be strongly enforced is during before and aftercare. We will do our best to keep campers and staff socially distant but they will not be separated by cohorts or groups.

As a department, we will handle quarantines based on contact tracing of those individuals exposed. Our policy reads, *“If your child tests positive for COVID-19, he/she will not be able to attend summer camp for at least ten days from symptom onset and/or test date (in asymptomatic cases). Before returning, your child must also be fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours, and other symptoms must be improving.”* I ask that you notify us (contact information is below) as soon as you are aware that your child has tested positive, so we can take the appropriate next steps.

If another camper or staff member in your child’s group tests positive for COVID-19, we will follow the Town of South Windsor Health Department’s recommendation for contact tracing, and will require all those identified as close contacts to quarantine for ten days. For your reference, close contacts are any individuals who spent 15 minutes or more and were closer than six feet to the positive individual in the span of 48 hours prior to symptom onset/positive test. This quarantine period helps minimize the transmission among campers to avoid a possible COVID-19 outbreak.

This will be communicated to you via phone call from myself or a recreation department staff member as soon as we are made aware of any positive cases. If your child is identified as a close contact to a positive case outside of camp, your child will need to be quarantined for ten days after his/her last contact with the COVID-19 positive individual. During this time, your child will not be able to attend camp. Again, I ask that you contact me via phone or email to let me know of the situation so we can be prepared for who to expect at camp each day. If your child begins exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 while at camp, your child will be removed from their group (with a staff member) and you will be called immediately to pick up your child.

As always, safety is our number one priority. If your child does not feel well, please keep them home and please keep us informed. Safety is number one on our list! More detailed regarding Covid-19 can be found in our [Parent Packet](#) (pages 9 and 10).

Prior to your child(ren) attending camp, you must complete ePact, our online medical form. Your child will not be able to attend camp if this is not complete. This will contain information regarding your child’s medical history as well as any special needs and special accommodation requests.

If your child wants to partake in Ben E.’s Hibernation Station ice cream program, please register for a membership on our website ([click here for Ben. E.’s membership](#)). This program allows campers to get one ice cream or candy per day. This membership can also be used when we go to VMP pool. The memberships are for \$5, \$10, \$15, and \$20, and can be renewed when they run out. They are only valid for the Summer of 2021 and are nonrefundable. Don’t miss out on this fun and tasty treat!

VMP and field trips are back on the schedule for Camp Evolution! We will be going to VMP every Friday from 11:00 – 3:00 (weather permitting). VMP trips are included in your registration fee. Although, due to the late modifications of COVID restrictions, we did not include other field trips in our original camp plans. If added later in the summer, trips will be “ala carte” and OPTIONAL. If you choose to send your child on a field trip, you will have to register separately, as there will be an additional cost for the venue and bussing. More information will be released later in the summer when we have more specific information on these trips! Little Evolution will not be attending VMP this summer.

We are really looking forward to summer camp and we hope you are too! If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to myself, or your camp directly, at any time. Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Thank you,
Paul Macchi
Paul Macchi
Camp Supervisor

Contact Information

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