

What precautions are being taken to reduce the risk of COVID 19 exposure and transmission?

Each year, we work hard to keep our community healthy so that we can have an incredible summer. This year, we are reviewing every aspect of health and safety at Camp Hoblitzelle, while following the CDC, ACA (American Camp Association), and state and local health departments' recommendations related to COVID-19. Below you will find a list of many of the health and safety precautions we will be following in addition to our usual health procedures. In this information we share:

- How we will use [masks](#), [physical distancing](#), and our [outdoor facilities](#).
- How our emphasis on Healthy Hygiene Practices and increased cleaning protocols are being adopted.
- Learn about the smaller groups we will utilize this summer: [Families \(pods\)](#) and how we will create a [bubble](#) as well as the added cabin accommodations to help stay healthy this year.
- Read more on [testing](#), [vaccinations](#), and [health screening protocols](#).

We will be putting multiple Nonpharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) in place to protect our camp community this summer. NPIs are actions that individuals and communities can take to help slow the spread of contagious illnesses. Research has shown that diligent use of layered NPIs was successful in preventing and mitigating SARS-CoV-2 transmission in the summer camps that opened successfully during summer 2020. Although no single NPI can prevent all risk with the added safety measures this summer; we will be able to limit our campers and staff from contracting and spreading COVID at camp. Below you will find many of the NPIs we will be putting into place.

Distanced, Masked & Outside - The 2 of 3 Rule:

At Camp Hoblitzelle this summer we will be following the "2 of 3 Rule" a successful layered approach Socially Distanced, Outside, and Masked.

Social Distancing

Throughout the summer we will continue to prioritize socially distanced spaces; program schedules will be clear and coordinated to promote social distancing. Room set-up, games and activities will be structured to ensure social distancing of at least six (6) feet.

Staff shall teach and model social distancing, creating space, in an appropriate manner.

Masks

We plan for campers to enjoy stretches of time mask-free this summer! All campers and staff will need to wear a mask during specific times when indoors, and when social distancing cannot take place outdoors. This does not include sleeping, swimming, or eating.

Campers and Staff will be given the option of using masks that they provide themselves, and camp will be equipped to provide masks for anyone who chooses. *All self-provided masks must meet the most recent CDC and Department of Health standards for COVID-19.*

Enjoying Our Outdoor Facilities

Camp Hoblitzelle is blessed with many outdoor spaces that we can creatively enjoy... and we will be using them all this summer! We will be outside as much as possible, including enjoying classes and recreation time in many of our outdoor locations.

Camp Size and Structure:

Camps shall be limited to a maximum of 50% individuals for 1 programmed 4-week Music Conservatory program.

We are dividing campers into smaller groups which we will call **Family Pods**. Our camp community operates in cabin groups each summer, this year we adapted this community structure to help us intentionally stay safe, but still with a family environment. A camper's cabin group will be like their family at home, so campers will not need to worry about distancing when with their Family Pod. We will practice distancing between Family groups and at any time groups are in the same locations or mixing. At mealtimes our Dining Hall will be set-up so that meals will be shall only be eaten with members of each Family Pod, and socially distanced from each other.

We know that relationships are important at camp, so we will have fun, new ways for campers to spend time with camp friends outside of their Family group whilst maintaining a safe environment.

Healthy Hygiene Practices:

Staff shall teach, model, and reinforce the recommended methods for preventing the spread of COVID-19 including handwashing, face coverings, and social distancing.

Camp shall maintain an adequate supply of cleaning supplies and staff shall routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched throughout the day.

Each camp session has been structured to take adequate time for handwashing, disinfecting surfaces and other hygiene related cleaning as needed.

Hand sanitizer shall be available at the building entrances and in each camp classroom and main facility buildings; and will be readily available.

Cleaning Procedures:

Each summer, we clean cabins and public spaces regularly, with a year-round professional cleaning crew (on top of our in-house summer housekeeping crew.) This year we have adapted our cleaning procedures. This summer, following all recommendations for surface cleaning that are recommended by the CDC and the ACA (American Camp Association.)

Facilities that see high camper traffic throughout the day, will be treated with sanitizing treatment multiple times during the day.

Our professional cleaning crew will clean all camper cabin bathrooms regularly, and cabin counselors will sanitize cabins with a system that will focus on door handles, light switches, countertops, toilets, showers, faucets, sinks, and high touch areas.

If there is a presumed or confirmed COVID case in the cabin, we will follow enhanced cleaning protocols.

With any of our activities that use shared equipment, the equipment will be sanitized between each class.

We have added HEPA/UVGI filters to the AC systems in our Clinic areas and frequently traffic indoor spaces, which will help eliminate any germs in the recirculated air.

Health Monitoring and Screening:

We will be monitoring the health of our campers in three different ways this summer:

Pre-camp: In order to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 being brought into camp, we will ask all campers and staff to take additional safety measures in the two weeks prior to their arrival. Before your campers' session, each camper will need to complete a daily Health Screening Log with temperature checks and symptom monitoring. This will begin on May 31st, 14 days prior to the first day of camp.

During the two weeks prior to camp, we ask other household members to take appropriate social distancing & preventative measures including but not limited to:

- Wearing a mask
- Staying 6 feet away from other people
- Utilizing curbside restaurant services
- Washing hands with soap and water frequently
- Limiting non-essential travel

We are requesting each camper come to camp with a negative Rapid Antigen COVID-19 Test. The test kits will be provided by Camp Hoblitzelle and should be administered 12-24 hours prior to travelling to camp.

Opening Day: On Opening Day, in addition to our traditional health screening steps, we will check your camper's temperature (at or below 100.4), ask them a few health screenings questions, and review their Health Log. A **Molecular (PCR) COVID test** will be scheduled administered to all staff and campers on Opening Day. Results will be available within 12 hours and will assist in keeping our Family Pods safe and

During the summer: We will conduct daily health screenings on campers and staff throughout the session. Our resident clinic team will conduct temperature and symptom checks on each of the campers twice a day. This will aid in keeping our campers healthy and will help us to identify any concerns (COVID or otherwise!) early. If a counselor is concerned

about a camper's health in any way, that camper will be evaluated by our nurses and Health Staff, much like any other summer.

Testing and Vaccinations

Testing will also be used as a layer of protection for our community. Testing dates will be scheduled and communicated prior to the start of camp and any testing will be administered by trained medical staff. We will have rapid testing kits available in our clinic facility enabling us to respond as quickly as possible should a camper or staff person present with symptoms.

We are encouraging all of our staff to get vaccinated before the summer as able.

Cabin Details

Campers will be spaced out and housed at 50% occupation capacity this summer, with no more than 12 campers in a Family Pod. Bunks will be spaced out in each cabin to ensure a minimum of 6 feet of distance between each head.

Fewer campers in each Family Pod will allow for structured bathroom times. We also will ask campers to keep their toiletries in their toiletry bag/bucket and stored in their cabin locker.

As mentioned above, each cabin will have additional cleaning and sanitization throughout the day. And all cabins are fitted with hand sanitizer dispensers at the cabin entrance and in the bathrooms.

Camp Bubble

Once campers and staff arrive at camp, they will stay at camp, allowing us to create a "bubble" with our camp community. Camp has always felt like a bubble in many ways, and we're just increasing those efforts this summer.

Whilst visitation is limited on any given summer, we will not be accepting guests onto camp during summer 2021, to eliminate any possible exposure to our camp community.

Campers will need to stay at camp once they are here, and we will not be able to accommodate any exceptions this year. We are also asking for all campers to arrive on Opening Day (not at a later date). During the session campers will enjoy our camp activities such as our challenge course, riding, boating, and archery tag (to name a few!), but we will not take any out-of-camp trips to public locations. We have taken great thought into modifying the weekly schedule to incorporate time for additional community experiences, recreation and coordinated times where our campers can connect with their families via video chats/phone calls, facetime sessions and a closed parent group where we will post frequently the summer experience and stream events such as solo nights. Specific procedures and time will be coordinated and communicated with parents at a later date.

On their days off, staff will be allowed to go into town for very limited activities (i.e., hiking, picking up take-out food, etc.), but otherwise, staff will stay on camp property during the session.

We have a group of local staff that work tirelessly during the summer to ensure camp "runs" smoothly (like our office, maintenance, housekeeping, and program specialists) These adults will monitor their health and will be screened and tested regularly when arriving for work and wear a mask if interacting with our campers or summer staff.

On occasions service providers are needed to come onto camp for facility maintenance needs or deliveries. All of these workers will be hosted by our year-round team members and stay physically distanced from our camp community.

Please note: *our health and safety policies are subject to change per direction by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Ellis County Health Department, and CDC guidelines.*

HEALTH CLINIC

Camp Hoblitzelle has adapted its Health Clinic procedures and policies to help mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19 should it enter camp.

Response Management - Policy and Procedure for Suspected COVID-19 Symptoms and/or Positive COVID-19 Test

Should a camper or staff member exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, they will be immediately isolated and taken to the Camp Clinic for further assessment by the Health Care team. If the camper or staff member does not require immediate medical intervention, steps will be taken to isolate the camper within the designated camp facility. All campers will remain under the supervision of our Health Clinic staff. *Treatment areas for individuals with COVID-19 symptoms is in a designated separate space from the daily operations of the Health Clinic.*

Parent/ guardians will be contacted immediately, and Health Clinic staff will continue to provide updates to the COVID-19 patient's parent/guardian/emergency contact.

Health Clinic staff, under the direction of our on-site RN, will assess if a camper or staff member warrants testing for COVID-19 due to symptoms, and if so, consider options for Rapid Antigen testing onsite as granted by parent/guardian.

Should symptoms persist and/ or a positive COVID-19 test present the following steps will be taken:

- Camper/ Staff member will remain isolated in the designated Health Clinic space.
- Arrangements will be made for the camper/ staff member to be picked up as soon as possible, and within 8 hours where feasible in accordance with the Texas Department of Health and Human Services licensing guidelines.

Further Evaluation

Should additional in-person care be required, a designated medical team member will transport the affected camper or staff member to *Methodist Midlothian Medical Center* hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

Contact Tracing

Campers and staff members in the COVID-19 patient's Family Pod, and those within 6ft for more than 15 minutes will be isolated and be COVID-19 tested onsite with a Rapid Antigen test. They will be evaluated closely while awaiting results and for up to an additional 10 days because of known exposure.

- Parents/guardians/emergency contacts of the other campers and staff in the COVID-19 positive Family Pod, and anyone who is confirmed contact, will be informed immediately that someone has tested positive. *Due to HIPAA laws, and to maintain privacy the exact identity of the COVID-19 positive patient will not be shared.*
- Contact tracing of anyone the COVID-19 patient came in contact with during the previous 48 hours will begin immediately. Anyone found to have known exposure will begin testing and observation. Parents/guardians/emergency contacts will be informed immediately.
- If multiple campers or staff members are confirmed positive for COVID-19, they

will be isolated together in the Health Clinic COVID-19 designated cabin space until arrangements are made for transportation home.

- The health clinic cabin will be under constant supervision from our medical team.
- As a one-time exemption to camp policy, campers and staff members will be allowed screen time while in COVID-19 isolation.

Camp Hoblitzelle will follow the latest CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics protocols to determine appropriate steps for COVID-19 positive patients.

[American Camp Association](#)
[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

