



BT CAMPS COVID HANDBOOK

Updated May 2022

As we continue to plan for what promises to be the most wonderful summer camping experience at Beth Tfiloh Day Camps (including our Nursery Camp, Travel Camp and STEAM Camp), we continue to be encouraged by the progress that we have made over the past year in creating “best practices.” With this in mind, we are sharing with you our most updated information so you can safely and comfortably plan for your child’s experience for the summer of 2022.

As the CDC and the State of Maryland continue to update their guidelines for Youth Summer Camps, we will continue to monitor and adjust protocols appropriately and safely. We appreciate your continued support and patience as we work toward a summer based first and foremost, on the health and safety of our campers, staff, and families.

We are working diligently with the BT health and safety staff, including our Nurses and our Camp Committee, creating the most updated protocols. This is in conjunction with Baltimore County, the state of Maryland, the CDC, and the American Camping Association. We will also use any updated State of Maryland guidelines for Youth Summer Camps. While these guidelines continue to evolve, we will monitor and adjust protocols appropriately and safely.

Like last summer, we will not take protocol decisions lightly. As an American Camping Association accredited camp, we have access to several important resources and camp groups that provide us expert knowledge and guidance. We appreciate your continued support and patience as we work towards a summer that is based first and foremost on the health and safety of our campers, staff, and families.

Below are many of the measures that will be in place to keep our campers, staff, and their families, healthy and safe all summer long. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to us at 410-517-3451.

VACCINATION STATUS

Being vaccinated is one of the most important ways to protect our community. We strongly recommend that all eligible members of our camp community get vaccinated if they are not already.

Please note: Quarantining protocols and guidelines for exposure are different for fully vaccinated vs. unvaccinated individuals.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

While we are not employing a daily health screen this summer, we need your continued support in monitoring your child(ren)s health and keeping them home if they have any symptoms or exposures. Because of our camp/school/shul diligence, patience, caution, and transparency, together it has helped keep our camp and school open and thriving during these challenging times. Likewise, we rely on you to communicate with us if any member of your household comes in contact with anyone who tests positive for COVID-19, if anyone in your household is awaiting test results, or if your child is ill or has symptoms of COVID-19.

Each day, you will receive an email that will have a “Symptom/Exposure” Reporting form. Campers/Staff with no symptoms or possible exposure will not need to complete the form.

COVID POSITIVE CASE RESPONSE and EXPOSURE REPORTING

BT Camps’ response to positive cases and exposures will be developed in partnership with our medical staff and staff at Beth Tfiloh on Old Court Road and based on Maryland Department of Health (MDH) guidelines. If a camper or staff member develops symptoms during the camp day, they will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and if deemed appropriate, isolated, and required to go home until they are cleared by a doctor to return.

If a camper or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we will notify parents whose campers were exposed and contact the Maryland Department of Health to report. BT Camps will follow MDH and CDC guidelines to determine who will have to quarantine and for how long in the event of a positive test.

IMPORTANT: If a camper or other family member has symptoms or is waiting for a Covid test result (other than for routine screening), all BT campers in the household who are not up to date on their vaccines must remain home until a negative test result is obtained.

All camp families and camp staff are asked to immediately report any possible Covid-19 symptoms or exposure using our Symptom/Exposure Reporting forms. Upon completion of the form, a member of our Covid-19 Response Team will be in touch with you to determine the appropriate guidance under the circumstances.

Fully vaccinated campers or staff who have a possible exposure without symptoms are required to submit a form and be tested 6 days after exposure but will not be required to quarantine.

The self-reporting of possible COVID-19 symptoms or exposure and staying home when experiencing even mild symptoms is a significant responsibility that all members of our school community must commit to and share. If your child has a pre-existing condition, make sure your doctor sends a note to the school nurse explaining the condition, to avoid concern about presenting symptoms.

Please note: If a camp group (bunk) remains open, but a camper must quarantine due to exposure protocols a refund will not be issued. At this time, unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for a minimum of 5 days and receive a negative PCR test result on day 6, before returning to camp. There are additional protocols if the exposure is continuous within a household.

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure the safety of our BT school family.

CAMP MEDICAL STAFF

As in previous summers, BT Camps will employ a registered nurse who will be onsite each day. More information on our Health staff will be available in our Parent Manual.

CLEANING and DISINFECTING

BT Camps professional cleaning service is dedicated to managing the growing need to clean and disinfect all common areas and supplies both during camp and after camp hours. Some updates include;

1. All shared equipment will be disinfected each day.
2. We will also be utilizing the additional hand sanitizing stations that were added throughout camp in 2020 and 2021.
3. All tables and chairs in bunks and at lunch, and all railings and high touch surfaces, will be wiped down daily.

MASK POLICY

Our goal is to be fully mask optional for campers and staff. However, there may be times, under certain circumstances, such as following exposure guidelines, that individuals are required to mask.

We are aware and respect that some of our families and staff may choose to continue to mask. We will ensure that every individual's masking decision is supported and encouraged.

Please note, we will continue to monitor local guidelines and community levels and remain ready to increase our precautions or impose stricter masking guidelines if necessary. Should the current county, state, CDC, and ACA guidelines change or update about safety and health protocols, or if a new policy is issued prior to the start of camp, we will inform our camp community and provide an update immediately.

GROUPS/BUNKS/SIZE

This summer, we plan to return to many of the programmatic offerings that we missed last summer. We will ensure that bunks that can be “podded” are socially distanced during times like Shabbat, when many groups come together. However, there are groups that will not be fully “podded” during participation in some activities.

TRAVEL CAMP:

1. Every location/business/park that we visit has COVID-19 procedures, and we will follow these procedures as necessary. We will share this information with parents if/when these policies and procedures are different than ours.
2. Campers should have a mask in their bag every day.

ARRIVAL and DEPARTURE

Campers can be driven to camp OR Campers can take a bus to camp.

BUSES: We plan to have our busses pick up door-to-door as normal.

NOTE: On busses, mask wearing, while encouraged, will be optional.

1. Capacity may continue to be reduced on certain buses; however, most buses will return to the normal capacity.
2. Parents are welcome to drive their child/children to camp & pick up at end-of-day.
Drop off time at BT Camps on Delight Meadows Road is 8:40am.
Pick up time at BT Camps on Delight Meadows Road is 4:05pm.

VISITORS

Unless a parent/legal guardian is picking up a child, visitors will not be permitted at camp at any time during the summer.

FOOD

Campers may sign up for pre-packaged lunches or campers may bring their own lunch. Our food service (Knish Shop) will prepare the food, package it, and then deliver it directly to camp where the camper will be the only person to touch the food.

DRINKING WATER

Water Bottles are mandatory for all camper and staff. We will not have plastic cups. Many areas of camp will have water coolers available. Please put the campers’ name on the water bottle. We cannot be responsible for lost water bottles, especially those without names on them. Sharing of water bottles will not be permitted. The camp office will have basic water bottles available to hand out in case a camper forgets theirs.

STAFF TRAINING

As an official Accredited Camp by the American Camping Association, we will train our staff not only during pre-season but also during the summer. This will include 25 total hours or regular training curriculum AND Covid-19 related safety and prevention protocol, including any additional training modules required or recommended to us by MDH, CDC, and the ACA.