

BRDC 2021 Covid Update – April 2021

Boulder Ridge Day Camp was one of the only local camps to operate in 2020. We served an average of 200 campers per week for nine weeks, with no confirmed cases of Covid 19. Our director and administration are confident that we can once again provide an exceptional camp experience to our campers while keeping them safe and healthy.

It is important to understand that as of today, the same guidelines and restrictions that were in place for the 2020 season are still in place along with some additional rules. We anticipate that many of these guidelines and restrictions will be changed, relaxed or eliminated entirely. The following is a list of restrictions and program adaptations that we believe may be in place, along with what changes we intend to make if restrictions are relaxed. The progress of the virus and administration of a vaccine will play a large role in determining what mitigation steps need to be taken in summer of 2021. These policies will most likely remain the same for the duration of the summer. If we intend to make any changes not outlined herein, you will be notified by email at least 2 weeks prior to the effective date of the change.

Once again, our overall goal this summer will be to keep the kids outside, keep facilities and equipment as clean as possible, and limit close contacts. And of course we are going to have fun!

Dates of Camp

Camp will run June 21st – August 21st. You may register online at www.boulderday.com

Transportation

We will be providing bussing for the summer of 2021. In order to plan for reduced capacities and possible screening procedures, we have revised the bus stop locations and timing. The full schedule is available on our website. We also ask that parents who are able to drive their campers to and/or from camp please do so**. Staggered pick up and drop off procedures will be implemented. On the busses, we will be instituting assigned seats, with siblings or group mates sitting together. The assignment of seats will be at the sole discretion of BRDC management in order to maximize available space. When choosing to have your camper take the bus, it is important to note that social distancing from other campers outside of your child's group may not be possible. There will be absolutely no eating or drinking on the bus and masks will be worn while waiting to load and unload and while riding the bus.

****IMPORTANT: The health department has already told us that if a camper on the bus tests positive for Covid, the entire bus will have to quarantine for 14 days. This will be the case despite all the protocols we are implementing on the bus. Please keep this in mind when deciding if your family will be using the bus this summer.**

In order to reduce exposure, we will be requiring campers to take the same bus to & from camp each day. The stop can be changed as needed as long as it is on the same bus. Alternatively, parents can utilize the bus one way and choose before/after care or regular pick up or drop off for the other way. Campers will not be allowed to go home with another camper if that camper does not ride the same bus. Campers can be dropped off or picked up at camp in lieu of your regular bus if needed throughout the summer.

We will be accepting campers on the busses at a limited capacity of 25 – 40 campers (depending on the # of sibling groups). Campers, staff and the driver will be required to wear masks while riding the bus. If a bus reaches capacity, we will run additional busses on the same route, provided that we have a minimum of 25 campers per bus. If a bus reaches capacity and there are not sufficient campers registered to warrant an additional bus, you will be notified and placed on a waiting list for bussing. In that case one of two things may happen: 1) we will continue to accept campers on the waiting list and once enough campers are signed up to add another bus we will notify you, or 2) we will notify you that there are not enough campers signed up to warrant another bus and alternate transportation arrangements will need to be made for your camper. Failure of BRDC to provide bussing will not warrant a refund. Please see Cancellation Policies for more details.

Before & After Care

Before and after care will be available this summer. Before Care starts at 7:30 am and After Care ends at 5:30 pm. During Before & After Care, campers will be mixed with other campers outside of their normal camp group.

Lunch

A hot lunch buffet will be offered this summer. The buffet will be served to the campers by our staff. Groups will maintain social distance from other groups while at the buffet. A lunch menu will be published for each week including a main course & sides. In addition, sandwiches, bagels, salads, yogurt and fruit will be available daily. Allergy friendly and vegetarian options will be available. If your camper does not like either the main meal or the alternate options, parents can send a bagged lunch from home which will be refrigerated (nut free please). We will have fresh fruit, yogurt, bagels and sandwiches available for seconds. Water and sports drinks will be served. Weather permitting, most campers will most likely continue to eat lunch picnic style on one of our fields in order to provide additional social distancing while eating. We will also have the tent set up with tables for younger campers and for bad weather.

Masks

Under the current guidelines, campers are not required to wear masks at camp if they are participating in outdoor activities or while eating, drinking or swimming. Campers are required to wear masks at all other times i.e. on the bus and indoors. Campers will also be required to wear a mask while climbing the tower. Even if the mandate is lifted, we intend to keep this policy the same for the entire summer. Currently, staff are required to wear masks at all times unless they are outdoors and at least 6' from all other people. If this mandate for staff is lifted, they will follow the same mask policy as stated above for campers. Campers should come to camp each day with at least 1 mask labeled with their name. Masks must have ear loops or tie behind the head. Bandanas & gaiters are not permitted. If you wish for your child to wear a mask for the whole day please be sure to send at least 3 masks.

Travel During the Summer & CT's Travel Advisory

Parents should refer to Governor Lamont's **travel advisory** before traveling this summer. A quarantine upon return to the state is no longer required but is recommended. We encourage families to follow the guidelines in place. Currently there are no other states which are considered low risk for travel. Instead of destination, families should focus more on what they will be doing while traveling. Activities like camping, going to the beach, eating outdoors, hiking, biking and boating are considered much lower risk than visiting crowded public places, indoor entertainment venues and using public transportation. We are relying on our families to make informed and cautious decisions when making their plans for this summer. If engaging in high-risk activities or traveling by air, we urge families to follow the recommended testing and quarantine protocols.

Anyone traveling outside the US will be required to quarantine for 10 days upon their return, before returning to camp. This can be shortened to 7 days if a negative PCR test is obtained at least 5 days after returning.

Screening Procedures

We will be implementing a text or email based screening process. Each morning, you will receive a link to answer screening questions. This must be completed every day for each camper before arriving at camp and/or the bus stop. More information about this will be shared at least one week prior to your camper's first day. In addition, staff will conduct a visual screening for illness when your camper arrives at the bus stop. Staff will undergo the same screening process.

Social Distancing & Cohorting

Social distancing will continue to be encouraged at camp. We believe that social distancing is a concept that will be around for many years and will implement strategies for the campers and staff whenever possible. Examples include one way paths and stairways, limiting capacity on busses, and adequate spacing between groups at activities. Our activity instructors will generally maintain a 6' distance from all other staff and campers whenever possible. A cohort system, keeping campers in the same groups as much as possible, will likely be in place. We anticipate that regulations may allow for larger cohort groups and some mixing between camper groups. Examples of this include riding the bus and limited elective periods. We do not think all-camp games or special events are likely for 2021. The current cohort limit is 20 campers. Based on this, we may combine 2 smaller groups of 10 or less into a cohort for swimming and other activities. For example, 2 groups of 1st graders with 10 kids each would participate in most activities with their own group but then

may be together for swimming and playground time. For more information on how we plan to implement electives, please see the Electives Section below.

Handwashing & Personal Hygiene

Campers and staff will be required to sanitize or wash their hands before entering the camp program each morning, upon arrival at every activity area, when leaving each activity, before entering the bathroom and after using the bathroom, before & after eating, and after coughing or sneezing. CDC recommendations regarding covering coughs and sneezes will be followed.

Cleaning & Sanitizing

High touch surfaces will be cleaned periodically throughout the day. This includes railings, door knobs, bathrooms, etc... We will limit the use of shared equipment to the extent possible based on the activity. For example, markers will likely be necessary for art projects and will be sanitized after each use. However, community costumes & props in performing arts will be very limited or not used at all. In some activities, sanitizing "low touch" items like a climbing harness is not possible between users. In this case, the camper will be required to sanitize their hands immediately before putting on the harness and again before entering the ropes course. They will then sanitize again before removing the harness. Specific policies regarding every piece of equipment at every activity are in place and the staff are trained on these policies. These examples are meant to give you an idea of the various methods we will be using to prevent the spread of germs.

Groups

Camper groups will mostly consist of all campers in the same grade, however, some groups may combine 2 grade levels (for example 2nd & 3rd grade might have a combined group). We expect that the group size will be in line with our usual group sizes of about 10 – 16 depending on age. Campers will stay with their assigned group for the entire week. Switching of groups mid-week will be highly discouraged and only done when deemed necessary by the administration. Please make sure you let us know in advance of any group requests.

Swimming

Campers will be allowed to swim in the pool or pond with their cohort. Swim lessons will be held for campers entering PreK thru 2nd grade. We feel strongly that teaching water safety is essential. If scheduling and spacing allows, we will also offer swim lessons to grades 3 and/or 4. This may change from week to week based on the number of campers enrolled. All campers who are not scheduled for a swim lesson will receive a free swim daily. At the pool and pond, high touch surfaces and lifejackets will be cleaned between groups. Towels will be provided.

Activities

We will once again be focusing on outdoor activities this summer. Arts and crafts will be moved to an outdoor location. We will not be having cooking, Legos or Robotics except on occasional rainy days. We have expanded our outdoor activities to include 9 Square, Gaga, Yoga/Dance and an Outdoor Workshop. All other activities will be run with guidelines in place for reducing touch points, limited use of shared equipment, and additional cleaning and sanitation.

Electives & Quest

We do not anticipate a return to traditional electives in 2021, however, we are hoping to implement some choice into the camper's schedules. Under the current guidelines, electives cannot be offered. If restrictions are lifted we will be offering a modified elective system. This system would allow campers entering grade 3 and up to choose their activities up to 3 times per day. Although we are still working out the details, this is an example of what we are envisioning: The available activities at camp are divided up into 3 sets of activities and there are 3 elective periods per day. For elective period 1, grade 3&4 may be able to choose from activity set A, while grades 5&6 choose from set B and grades 7&8 choose from set C. Then for elective period 2, grades 3&4 choose from set B, 5&6 choose from set C, and 7&8 choose from set A, and so on for the 3rd elective period. This would allow campers to choose their favorite activities each day but still minimize exposure. During elective periods, activities would be run with social distancing whenever possible but campers may still come into contact with kids outside of their group. The pool will not be offered for elective periods.

For campers entering 2nd grade or below, their 3 elective periods would consist of a swim lesson, playground time and another group activity.

Rainy Days

We anticipate that gathering inside will still be strongly discouraged. With that in mind, in addition to our pavilion we will be installing a large tent for the summer. Each group will have a specified area where they will be based if there is a lot of rain. In light or short periods of rain, activities will proceed as usual as we have done in previous years. In the event of thunderstorms, older children will take shelter on our pavilion and younger children will take shelter in an assigned area of our banquet hall building. In the event of severe weather, like the storm in August 2020, all children will take shelter inside the banquet hall. Campers and staff will wear masks while inside.

Parent's Nights and Field Trips

Parent's Nights will not take place in 2021. If restrictions are lifted, we may be able to take our most senior campers on a field trip once every other week (entering 7th grade or above). This trip would be optional and would be taken at People's Forest right down the street from camp. This would allow a short (5 minute) bus ride and there would not be any other people in the area with our campers. Permission slips and more information will be shared if we determine this trip is possible.

Water bottles

Reusable water bottles will be provided to campers again this summer. We will be implementing a system to safely refill them throughout the camp day. Single use cups will also be available.

First Aid & the Nurse

In order to reduce the number of campers visiting the nurse, we will once again be training all group counselors in First Aid. Group counselors will provide basic first aid to their campers for minor cuts and scrapes, etc... They will also be trained to administer an inhaler if a camper in their group needs one. Illnesses and more severe injuries will be treated by the camp nurse. The nurse's office will be located outside on one of our pavilions and campers will be pre-screened before entering.

Sick Policy

Campers who are experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, fever of 100 or more, chills, diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat, unexplained muscle pains or a new loss of taste or smell cannot attend camp. The camper's physician should be contacted for further guidance and advice. If symptoms remain mild, Covid19 is not suspected and symptoms last less than 48 hours, the camper can return to camp 24 hours after the last symptom resolves without the use of medication. If symptoms last for more than 48 hours, the camper will need a doctor's note to return to camp. If Covid 19 is suspected, the pediatrician will provide you with further details about how to proceed. If your pediatrician indicates that there is a strong suspicion that your camper has Covid 19, you must contact camp immediately.

If a camper becomes ill while at camp, the parent or emergency contact will be required to come pick up the camper immediately. We will be offering free onsite PCR testing for campers or staff who become ill while at camp. See the Testing Section for more information.

If a camper becomes ill and misses more than 3 consecutive days of camp a credit will be applied to your account starting with the fourth day. Credits can be applied to a future week in 2021 or refunded at the end of the summer.

Testing

There is no testing required prior to or during camp, unless otherwise recommended on an individual basis by the health department. We will be providing free PCR tests at camp to campers and staff if they become ill while at camp. If your camper develops a cough, shortness of breath, fever of 100 or more, chills, diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat, unexplained muscle pains or a new loss of taste or smell while at camp you will be called to pick them up. Upon your arrival at camp you will be given the option to have them tested immediately by our camp nurse. We have an arrangement with a local

lab that will yield results within 24 – 48 hours. Your insurance information will be required, but there will be no out of pocket expense to you. We will not allow campers who become ill at home to come to camp to be tested.

Vaccination

The State of CT will not require counselors and staff to receive the vaccine. There is no vaccine available for children under age 16. We will be encouraging our staff to be vaccinated prior to camp. We are able to secure appointments for our staff outside of the normal process for anyone who is not able to obtain an appointment on their own.

What if a camper or staff member becomes infected with Covid 19?

In February 2020, COVID-19 was added to the List of Reportable Diseases. We must report cases of COVID-19 infection immediately to the Connecticut Department of Public Health and to the local department of health in the town of residence of the case-patient by telephone on the day of recognition or strong suspicion of the disease. At that time we would work directly with the Department of Public Health to determine if any other campers or staff meet the guidelines for having been in close contact with the infected person in the 48 hours prior to symptom onset or the test being taken. Many precautions being taken are to minimize the amount of close contact between campers and staff. Any camper or staff member* determined to have been in close contact with an infected person during that time frame will be required to stay home from camp for 14 days. In that case, a credit for days missed due to quarantine will be applied to your account and can be used later this summer or refunded at the end of the summer. **In the event that a camper or staff member tests positive, parents of campers enrolled in that session will be notified even if that camper or staff member was not in close contact with your child.**

*staff members who have been fully vaccinated are not required to quarantine after exposure unless they become symptomatic

What if a camper or staff member is exposed to Covid 19 outside of camp?

If a camper or staff member is determined to be a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid 19, they must quarantine for 14 days from the day of exposure. If a camper's immediate family member has a confirmed or highly probable case of Covid 19, the camper must remain home for 14 days. If the probable case turns out to be negative, they can return to camp at the discretion of the local health department. If a parent knowingly sends their child to camp after they have been exposed to Covid 19, prior to the end of the required 14 day quarantine, that camper and their siblings will not be allowed to return to camp for the rest of the summer and there will be no refund of tuition. Days missed due to a required quarantine will be credited if we are provided a note from the health department stating the required quarantine dates. Credits can be applied to future weeks or refunded at the end of the summer.

Change of Weeks, Cancellations, Refunds and Payments

If you wish to change, drop or add weeks you may do so by contacting the camp office, as long as space is available. Please read the cancellation policy for deadlines to change or drop weeks without penalty.

Adding Sessions: You may call or email the camp office to add sessions if space is available. For extensions after June 1, payment is due immediately, in full by cash, cashier's check, money order or credit card.

Changing Sessions: You may call or email the camp office to change sessions if space is available. There is no penalty for changing sessions as long as notification is made at least 2 weeks in advance. If notification is not made at least 2 weeks in advance, a processing fee of \$50 per week will be charged for each week that is changed.

Partial Cancellation: If you need to cancel some, but not all, of your camper's enrollment, you may do so with no penalty if the camp is informed in writing at least two weeks prior to the start of the session you are cancelling. If the camp is not notified two weeks in advance, you will incur a cancellation fee of \$100 per week.

Full Cancellation: If you wish to cancel your camper's enrollment, we must receive written confirmation from you before it can be processed. \$50 per week of each camper's deposit is non-refundable. Remaining deposit will be refunded if cancellation occurs on or before April 30, 2021. Starting May 1, 2021, the entire deposit is non-refundable. Non-arrival of camper(s) on opening day of any session without prior notification of at least two weeks will result in a 100% forfeiture of tuition. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the Covid 19 pandemic, an additional cancellation option will be

offered for 2021: For a full cancellation prior to May 31, 2021, you may choose to roll your payments to 2022 and a flat cancellation fee of \$100 per camper will be charged. No additional discounts for 2022 will be offered for rolling over your deposit.

Full Cancellation for Deposits Paid in 2020 and Rolled to 2021: For any weeks for which you have rolled over a deposit from 2020, you may cancel by May 31st and receive a full refund. After May 31st, if you cancel with at least two weeks notice, a flat cancellation fee of \$100 will apply. If cancellation is not made with at least two weeks notice, the deposit will be forfeited. All cancellation must be submitted in writing.

Refunds: If you are entitled to a refund under the cancellation policy listed above, please note that refunds will be made at the end of the summer, no later than September 15, 2021, except in the case of financial hardship on the camper's family. If you have rolled payments made in 2020 over to 2021 and do not use those credits this summer, a refund will be made by September 15, 2021.