



Camp Royall Summer 2021 – Family FAQ

Updated 5/14/21

Registration and Placement

When were placements made for summer residential and summer day camp?

Registration was open from November 9, 2020 through January 15, 2021 to apply for our summer camp lottery. We conducted our lottery in late January and sent notification by email to all families who applied for the lottery on February 2nd, 2021. ***4/19/21 - We added additional campers to our summer residential program.**

How many campers get to come each week?

16 overnight campers will attend residential (overnight) camp each week this summer and 6 day campers will attend our day camp program. This is about half of our normal capacity. ***4/19/21 - We added 10 more residential campers per week at this time. We are not adding any additional day campers at this time.**

Payment and Scholarships

When will I have to complete payments for this summer?

We will work with each family to create a payment plan that works for them. Payment plans must be set up by March 19th, 2021. For families added to camp later on (after initial registration period) the payment plan will be discussed upon placement.

How do I set up a payment plan?

If you received scholarship assistance you need to call the camp office directly (919-542-1033) to set up a payment plan. If you did not receive scholarship assistance you can set up the payment plan online at the registration site or by calling the camp office.

Is scholarship assistance still available?

If you did not already apply for scholarship assistance with us for this summer, you can apply at any time using the scholarship application form found online at the registration website. Contact the camp office for assistance.

Programming Notes

Where do campers and staff come from?

Our campers are all residents of the state of NC. They may come from any county in the state.

Most of our staff are from the area near Camp Royall, but we do have a small number of program staff who come from out of the state. All summer camp staff who will work with campers (those who are local and those who are from out of town) will be arriving to camp early to be trained and prepare for camp.

What will check-in look like this year?

We began a new process for check-in last summer and have been using for all programs since then to help reduce the amount of people sharing space during our typical check-in process, and to permit as little contact as possible. We have had good success using this process and families have reported they prefer it as well. This process includes things like:

- Everyone must be wearing masks during check in and will be temp checked
- According to state guidelines family members of our campers will not be allowed in buildings
- We will assign your camper an arrival time to camp so that there are limited people on the grounds at one time

- We will have staff posted at the entrance to camp to welcome you and conduct check-in paperwork from the car, and control flow of people in and out of camp
- We will conduct a med check-in from your car (we will transport meds to our nurse who will call you to conduct check-in)

What will check-out look like this year?

We began a new process for check-out last summer and have been using for all programs since then to help reduce the amount of people sharing space during our typical check-out process, and to permit as little contact as possible. We have had good success using this process and families have reported they prefer it as well. This process includes things like:

- Everyone must be wearing masks during check out and will be temp checked
- According to state guidelines family members of our campers will not be allowed in buildings
- We will assign your camper a departure time from camp so that there are limited people on the grounds at one time
- We will have staff posted at the entrance to camp to welcome you back and conduct pick up paperwork from the car, and control flow of people in and out of camp
- There will be no live in-person camper celebration this summer

How many staff will be working at camp each week?

- 40 program staff (Counselors and Activity directors)
- 3 administrative staff (Director, Assistant Director, Program Coordinator)
- 10 facility staff (Facility Manager, Maintenance Staff, Lifeguards, Cooks)
- There will be no outside visitors this year

How will my camper be grouped?

For residential camp, we will split campers up into 4 groups based on where they reside - Ash Hallway, Ash Common Room, Birch Hallway, Birch Common Room. If a camper resides in the back hallway of a cabin, all campers in that hallway will be a group for the week, same for the common room. Maximum group size will be 8-10 campers. Campers will move through the day with their small group of campers and their counselors, maximum total group size including staff will be 16.

For day campers, the 6 campers who are attending each week will be split up and added to the overnight groups mentioned above. This will allow us to maintain group schedules we have set forth and give our day campers a great experience. It also allows us to keep group sizes within state guidelines. Day campers will be at camp from 8:30am-5:30pm each day Mon-Thurs and from 8:30am – 1:30pm on Fridays.

Where will my camper live for the week (for residential campers only)?

We will split the 26 campers up between 2 cabins. 13 campers will live in Ash Cabin (6 in private rooms, 7 in the common room) and 13 campers will live in Birch Cabin (6 in private rooms, 7 in the common room). Campers housed in the common room will be placed in the 1 private room present as well as 6 bunks in the main room (the room contains 9 bunks so we are still at reduced capacity and will maintain state recommendations on sleeping positions and spacing). We will provide 3-night duty staff for each cabin.

What are some changes to the set up and movement around camp?

- As mentioned previously, there will be fewer campers and staff this summer to enable optimal social and physical distancing in all spaces.
- **There will be no large all camp activities this summer.** All activities will involve just the members of your campers' smaller group aside from a few activities that will include 2 of the 4 small groups (pool time, hayrides). This includes our end of week camper celebration; we will not host a large all camp celebration.

- We will follow state guidelines about activities offered, assigning equipment to each group of campers for the week, removing any activities that require close physical contact and using protective equipment to enable the level of support that our campers might need.
- We will follow at CDC and state guidance on meal prep and service and will have reduced capacities eating in the dining hall at any one time (no more than 2 small groups in the building at one time). All dietary needs will be met as usual. (*Day campers can bring their own lunch each day or buy a meal plan from camp for the week).
- Campers will be assigned a specific shower, sink and toilet to use in the camper cabins. They will share these facilities with 3-4 other campers and all surfaces will be sanitized between individual use. We will have a rotation of 1 camper and their staff in a restroom at one time.
- We will assign bathrooms around camp to each group and to individuals within each group as well. We will have a rotation of 1 camper and their staff in a restroom at one time.

Keeping Campers and Staff Safe

What are Camp Royall's plans for increased cleaning?

In addition to our regular cleaning (sweeping, mopping, cleaning all surfaces, etc.) Camp Royall will implement a structured, scheduled system of disinfecting following guidance from the NC DHHS, American Camping Association, CDC, and Chatham County Health Department.

- All facility and program staff will be trained on the proper use of disinfectant products. Information will be posted throughout the facility with reminders.
- High-touch areas (doorknobs, faucets, rails, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) several times a day and after groups use an area.
- All shared equipment (balls, life jackets, paddles, etc.) will be properly disinfected after use by each group.
- Counselors will use disinfectant wipes on any high-touch areas in the restrooms they or their campers might have contacted.
- Camper living areas will be cleaned and disinfected between each group of campers.

What additional training will you provide to your staff to ensure safety and sanitation are upheld?

We will provide training in person to our staff on all our usual training topics and we will also add trainings to cover the following:

- Enhanced sanitation practices
- Social distancing guidelines
- Screening practices
- COVID specific exclusion criteria

Will you require campers or staff to be tested for COVID-19 before camp?

At this time, no. If state guidelines require this, we could potentially ask for this as we progress.

What healthcare professionals do you have working at camp?

- We employ a Registered Nurse at camp each week to serve as on-call medical support as well as daily on-site medical support.
 - Our nurse is present for all check-in procedures each Sunday.
 - Our nurse comes to camp as needed to help manage first aid and health needs.
 - Our nurse is on-call 24 hours per day.
- We employ additional nurses (up to 2 more) for our Sunday Medication Check In.

What health screenings will you require for campers and staff prior to and during camp?

- We will have all campers and staff sign an attestation around the risks of COVID-19
- We will have all campers and staff read and sign a statement that they will commit to communicating openly and honestly with camp staff around any symptoms they have or are experiencing. We expect reporting to camp as soon as possible about any symptoms.

- We will also ask all campers and staff to track their health for 2 weeks prior to camp starting using the [Pre-Camp Health Screening Form](#) released by the Association of Camp Nursing.
- We will screen all campers and staff again upon arrival at camp using our screening process.
- We will check all campers and staff for symptoms 3 times daily while they are on site and we will log all information.

What will your protocol be if a camper or staff feels sick or exhibits COVID like symptoms?

- If a camper has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or is presumed positive by a medical professional due to symptoms, the camper will be isolated in our quarantine location and parents will be asked to pick them up from camp ASAP.
- If a staff member has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or is presumed positive by a medical professional due to symptoms, the staff member will be isolated in our quarantine location and excluded from camp until they leave the campgrounds or meet the [CDC criteria for release from isolation](#).

Will campers and counselors wear masks? If not, what might be the reason?

- Face masks will be provided to all campers and staff at camp upon arrival and we will encourage their use when physical distancing of 6 feet or less is not possible. Any staff or camper who wishes to wear a face mask always will be allowed to do so.
 - We understand that wearing a mask may be difficult for some of our campers and we will not force anyone to wear a mask if it is causing sensory issues. We will take extra measures to keep campers safely distanced if they are unable to wear a mask.

Will all staff and campers who are of age be vaccinated?

We do not require that all campers and staff be vaccinated to attend but we hope that all who are able will investigate doing so to help keep all our campers and staff safe this summer. Visit [this site](#) to learn more about getting vaccinated.

My camper is vaccinated, do they have to wear a mask?

At this time (5/14/21) NC State Department of Health and Human Services still recommends that camps have campers and staff (fully vaccinated or not) wear masks when inside and when outside and not able to maintain safe distance of 6 feet. If this guidance changes, we will consider updating our policy. Our focus is keeping all campers and staff safe, and we will be conservative in our precautions.

What will be your hand washing schedule?

Campers and staff will wash their hands on their way into and out of each new building, after using the restroom or blowing their nose, and before and after eating. Hand sanitizer stations will also be provided throughout the camp and campers and staff will be encouraged to use frequently. Portable hand washing stations will be added around the grounds.

How will you help my camper understand the changes at camp and the safety procedures you are putting into place?

On top of the typical visual supports, we use at camp we are preparing added COVID-related visual information to aide your camper in understanding the new daily schedule and expectations.

Examples of the new visual supports include:

- Video models of proper hand washing and sanitizing
- Video models of proper physical distancing
- Video models of proper face mask usage
- Video models of temperature checking via infrared thermometer and ear thermometer
- Social stories to address hand washing and sanitizing ([I wash my hands](#), [Handwashing steps](#))
- Social stories to address physical distancing ([What is 6 feet](#), [Social distancing](#))
- Social stories to address [temperature checking](#) via infrared thermometer and ear thermometer
- Social Stories to address face mask usage ([Wearing masks](#), [Staff wearing masks](#))

- Checklists and schedules to support daily symptom screening processes