



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Organized Youth Activities

Florida Department of Health

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Frequently Asked Questions

Is it safe to send children to organized youth activities like camps and sports?

- Staff, parents or guardians, and children all play an important role in ensuring that camps and sports are safe. The best way to ensure a safe experience is to maintain a close awareness of symptoms, sending children and staff home when experiencing symptoms and maintaining a clean environment with frequent disinfecting. Operators of organized youth activities should consider developing a process for conducting daily symptom screening and monitoring.

Are children required to wear masks?

- Children are not required to wear masks. If masks are used, they should not be placed on children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Masks are also not recommended during physical activity – particularly outside in the sun and heat.

What type of screening or monitoring should organizations use to identify sick children and staff?

- Organizations or operators of organized youth activities should develop a process for conducting daily symptom screening and monitoring. This should include screening for symptoms during drop off and an assessment of potential exposure through family or close contacts, monitoring for symptoms throughout the day, and isolating and sending home sick children.

What are the best practices for organized youth activities to help prevent the threat of COVID-19?

- In addition to implementing daily screening, staff should:
 - Promote healthy hygiene practices such as frequent hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes.
 - Intensify cleaning, disinfecting and ventilation.
 - Minimize equipment sharing, and clean and disinfect shared equipment between use by different people.

What accommodations should be made for children who are medically vulnerable?

- Staff should communicate with parents or guardians to ensure all parties are fully aware of and comfortable with all activities in which the children will be engaging.
- Staff should pay close attention to the symptoms and feeling of all children, but especially those with any underlying medical conditions.
- Any additional plans or precautions should be made in close consultation and agreement with each child's parent or guardian.

What if a staff member or youth participant tests positive for COVID-19?

- Contact the county health department. The county health department will conduct contact tracing and provide recommendations for next steps.