



Summer 2021

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and Policies

Last Updated: March 19, 2021

Please note, this is an evolving document and as information changes, so will our COVID-19 guidelines for Summer 2021. These guidelines are subject to change.

Dear Alonim community,

We are thrilled to be planning for campers to come back to Camp Alonim for Summer 2021. We are busy preparing to safely operate camp and are planning to re-open for Summer 2021, pending the approval of local authorities. **As of 3/11/21, the California Department of Public Health announced overnight camps can open with modifications, provided they are in the Red, Orange, or Yellow Tier of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.** Camp Alonim is in Ventura County, which as of 3-16-21, is in the Red Tier. Further State guidance regarding required modifications to camp operations is forthcoming.

If you do not already consider Camp Alonim your “home away from home,” then it is only a matter of time before you do. We also recognize that Summer 2021 will likely look different than past summers. The information in this document will allow you to stay up to date with how we are planning for Summer 2021.

The following information outlines how Camp Alonim is adapting its current policies and procedures to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 in camp. The practices and policies laid out here are subject to change. They are based on current best practices and they will evolve as more is known. Our approach in all areas of camp is based on COVID-19 best practices for summer camps published by the CDC and American Camp Association. Our policies and guidelines are reviewed by our Medical Committee as well as other subject matter experts when needed. Our commitment is to ensure the physical and emotional health and safety of our campers and staff.

Community Mitigation Strategies + Partnership = Summer 2021!

What does this mean? On our end, we are developing policies and procedures to keep your campers safe during Summer 2021. We will need the entire camp community (campers, parents, and staff) to buy in to this Culture of Compliance in order for camp to run.

CULTURE OF COMPLIANCE



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Capacity

Camp Alonim expects to operate in Summer 2021 at 60% of our usual capacity. This may increase pending State guidance.

Definitions

Pod: the campers and counselors in your child's cabin or bunk (where your child sleeps)

Division: a group of pods/cabins, not to exceed 60 individuals

Bubble*: session, a period of time where campers and staff** remain at camp without leaving camp property, with very few exceptions (i.e., for emergencies).

Community Mitigation Strategies: handwashing, physical distancing, mask wearing, cleaning/disinfecting, programming outside whenever possible

*Due to the nature of the Brandeis-Bardin campus, we are unable to operate as a fully closed site. Each session at Camp Alonim will act as an isolated bubble to the greatest extent possible.

**Based on CDC recommendations for vaccinated individuals, staff policies may change.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Pre-Camp Risk Mitigation

In order to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 being brought into camp, campers and their families must remain vigilant and refrain from non-essential contact with people outside of their households and immediate family for 10 days leading up to camp.

Symptom Screening

In the 7 days leading up to their session, all campers will be required to monitor and track their symptoms. The purpose for requiring symptom screening is for our campers to build habits prior to their arrival so they know what to look for independently while they are at camp, as well as prevent campers from arriving to camp with symptoms of COVID-19. We will continue to monitor symptoms during camp.

Transportation and Out of State Campers

To reduce risk of exposure while traveling to California prior to camp, we strongly encourage that you drive as opposed to air travel. As camp gets closer, we will provide more specific guidelines surrounding travel, including for anyone that may be traveling internationally. Campers who travel by plane will be required to quarantine within the state of California for a period of time (length to be determined) before arriving to camp. Presently, the required length of time is 10 days. For current information on the required quarantine, please see: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Travel-Advisory.aspx>

Pre-Arrival Testing in the Days Before Camp

*please note: our testing policy is based on the information we know **today**. Our testing protocol is subject to change.*

COVID-19 testing is mandatory for ALL campers and staff. Families will receive instructions with a specific timeline for testing two weeks before your Opening Day and based on the current recommendations of the CDC.

All campers must have two negative PCR COVID-19 tests in order to attend camp:

Test 1: To be taken within a few days of Opening Day (exact number of days to be determined), at your local pharmacy, testing site, doctor's office etc.

Test 2: To be taken on Opening Day at camp, provided and administered by Camp Alonim.

Regarding the first test: It is imperative that a few days prior to the test and once taken that campers and families are overly cautious, refrain from non-essential contact with people outside of their households and immediate family, practice social distancing, mask wearing, and handwashing, until arrival at camp. **YOU are our partners in risk mitigation.**

If a camper has a positive test before camp or on Opening Day: the camper will not be permitted to stay at camp and will only be able to rejoin the camp bubble following a 10-day isolation at home starting the day symptoms begin. Symptoms must also be improving throughout that 10-day isolation and the camper must go at least 24 hours with no symptoms and no fever.

If a camper tests positive for COVID-19 in either the pre-camp or Opening Day test, and cannot attend their session in its entirety, a full refund will be provided. This is also true if a **member of the camper's household** tests positive before camp and the child is required to quarantine, per CDC guidance.

Staff Testing

Staff will largely be following the same protocols as campers. Staff will be required to take a test prior to arrival and must arrive at camp several days before campers for Staff Orientation. Further testing for staff will depend on CDC guidance for vaccinated individuals.

Staff Vaccinations

All staff members will receive a letter of employment which may enable them to make an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine based on current state and county eligibility guidelines. Because the available vaccines for COVID-19 are currently approved under an Emergency Use Authorization, we cannot legally require our employees to get vaccinated.

CAMP STRUCTURE

Pods

Campers and staff should expect to be primarily with their Pod during the initial few days of each session. We will conduct a COVID-19 test on Day 5 of camp. Assuming all campers are negative, programming will expand to Divisions, for some programs. The majority of time at camp will be spent in Pods and Divisions, and whenever multiple Divisions of the camp community gather, we will require masking, distancing, and being outdoors as much as possible. We will continue planning for camp programming with our mitigation strategies while keeping the camp magic and community feel alive.

Mask Wearing Policy

At this time, all campers and staff will be required to wear masks when inside buildings, except when eating or if only with their Pod. Some outdoor activities where physical distancing cannot be maintained will require mask wearing as well. Campers will not be required to wear a mask when inside their cabin with their Pod.

Please refer to the packing list (once available) to see the required number of masks to bring to camp. Campers will be required to wear a clean mask each day and we will arrange a laundry schedule for masks that ensures they always have a clean mask to wear. Each bunk will have their own garment bag to put masks into to be washed weekly. We will also have extra masks available if a child misplaces a mask.

All masks must be legibly labeled with first and last name.

FACILITIES

Dining Hall

Meals and time spent in the Dining Hall are a special aspect of the Alonim experience. This will be an area that will likely look noticeably different this summer. Meals will be served with recommended community mitigation strategies. This may include staggered times and utilizing additional dining spaces. We have added new hand washing stations as well as touchless hand sanitizers outside of the entrance of the Dining Hall.

Health Center

There will be a separate triage and quarantine area for any campers or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. If any staff member or camper is identified as having a potential or confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be housed in the separate quarantine area with a dedicated health care professional to monitor their health and well-being, until they can go home.

If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19: the camper will be immediately separated from other campers and will be supervised by a medical professional. Parents will be notified to pick the camper up. Campers in the same Pod and any others who may have had exposure, will be immediately quarantined, will be tested, and will remain quarantined together continuing their regular activities and meals separate from all other Pods, until all test results are received.

If your camper is in direct contact with a confirmed case, we will communicate with you specifically regarding the status of your child's health and wellness.

We will notify all campers' families of a confirmed case by email while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with current privacy laws.

We will notify state and local health officials of any confirmed positive test as required.

Cleaning, Handwashing & Sanitization Protocols

To minimize transfer of COVID-19 at Camp Alonim, cleaning methods will be employed to reduce the risk of transmission. Protocols will include cleaning of communal spaces, shared items, frequently touched surfaces and overall handwashing and sanitizing.

- An electrostatic spray will be used in programmatic areas of camp with EPA hospital-grade disinfectant.
- Hand-sanitizer stations will be placed in all buildings, cabins, and high-traffic areas.
- Handwashing will be required prior to all meals and snacks.
- Our staff will clean all communal bathrooms, shared spaces, and highly touched surfaces multiple times a day.
- Campers and counselors will be given a designated time each day to thoroughly clean the cabin.
- Program equipment used by each Pod will be sanitized before and after each use.
- Additional signage will be posted throughout camp as a reminder of health protocols.

Visitors

To ensure we keep the camp quarantine "bubble" safe and free from COVID-19, visitors, guests, and volunteers will not be permitted.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for partnering with us to provide a safe, healthy camp experience in 2021. We will all be relying on one another to ensure a safe Summer 2021. This plan is written to reflect what camp would look like if it were to run today. We are regularly updating this document to reflect any changes made to policies and best practice recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Check our website FAQ for our most current plans.