



Winter Camp 2021

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and Policies

Last Updated: November 5, 2021

Please note, this is an evolving document and as information changes, so will our COVID-19 guidelines for Winter Camp 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 Winter Camp 2021. We are busy preparing to safely operate camp. State guidance regarding required modifications to camp operations are informing the details in this document.

If you do not already consider Camp Alonim your “home away from home,” then it is only a matter of time before you do. The information in this document will allow you to stay up to date with how we are planning for Winter Camp 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 overnight camp guidance from the California Department of Public Health, as well as COVID-19 best practices for 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 = Winter Camp 2021!

What does this mean? On our end, we are developing policies and procedures to keep your campers safe during Winter Camp. 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



american **CAMP** association®

Capacity

Camp Alonim expects to operate at approximately 80% of our usual capacity during Winter Camp.

Definitions

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

Division: a group of pods/cabins of the same grade(s)

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

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. While the majority of children have returned to in-person learning and many parents are back to work as well, we ask that outside these essential activities, your family does not take on any additional risks. Avoid large gatherings (both indoor and outdoor), crowded places (theme parks, sporting events, movie theaters, concerts etc), and keep your family home as much as possible. When engaged in essential activities such as school, work or errands, follow all best practices: wear a mask, maintain safe distance from others, and wash your hands frequently. Thank you for your cooperation.

Symptom Screening

In the 7 days leading up to Winter Camp, 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 fly. Unvaccinated campers who travel by plane will be required to quarantine within the state of California for a period of time equaling either 7 or 10 days, depending on the family's choice to engage in pre- and post-travel COVID-19 testing requirements. Vaccinated campers do not need to quarantine after flying. For current information on the required quarantine and other travel guidance for vaccinated and unvaccinated campers, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

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, regardless of vaccination status.

Your child must have two negative PCR tests to attend Winter Camp:

Test 1: To be taken within 72 hours of Opening Day (to be taken at your local pharmacy, doctor's office etc).

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

All campers must register with DoctorNow, our partner clinic for on-site COVID-19 testing. A link to register will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to Opening Day. **If you attended overnight camp this past summer, you do not need to register again.**

All campers, regardless of vaccination status, must have a negative PCR test (taken within 72 hours of arrival to camp) UPLOADED INTO YOUR ALONIM ACCOUNT the day *before* Opening Day.

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 attend Winter Camp. Enrollment will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.

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.

Regarding Opening Day testing:

We plan to receive Opening Day test results by 9:00 p.m. that same evening. While we await results, we will maintain strict COVID-19 safety protocols: all campers will stay in masks, eat outdoors (weather permitting) and keep a safe distance all while engaging in the fun and traditional Opening Day activities.

If your child tests positive, we will ask you to come pick them up right away that night.

Camper Vaccinations

As part of Camp Alonim's efforts to provide the safest possible environment during Winter Camp, we **strongly encourage** all eligible campers to get vaccinated against COVID-19 before Winter Camp. The COVID-19 vaccine is now available for children ages 5 and up. Note that in order to be fully vaccinated by Opening Day, the first dose of the vaccine must be administered no later than **November 16, 2021.**

If we can achieve high enough levels of community vaccinations during Winter Camp, we can provide a more traditional camp experience where campers can mix more freely for programs (rather than staying only with their pod), and wear masks less frequently.

If you have concerns or questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, please reach out to your pediatrician to discuss the benefits of vaccination for your child.

We also strongly encourage all campers to receive the flu shot no later than December 7, 2021.

Staff Vaccinations

Camp Alonim has implemented a **mandatory vaccine policy requiring all staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.** We have implemented this policy to do our part in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and to safeguard the wellbeing of our staff, campers, and community. The only exceptions to the policy that will be allowed are for those with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs that preclude them from receiving the vaccination.

Staff Testing

Winter Camp staff are required to take a test upon arrival to camp for staff training.

CAMP STRUCTURE

Pods

Campers and staff should expect to be primarily with their Pod during Winter Camp. 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 (available in your Alonim Account) to see the required number of masks to bring to camp. Campers will be required to wear a clean mask each day. We will also have extra masks available if a child misplaces a mask.

All cloth 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. 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 community safe and free from COVID-19, visitors, guests, and volunteers will not be permitted. Exceptions to this policy are minimal and at the discretion of Camp Alonim's Director Aaron Goldberg.

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 Winter Camp. 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.