

Guidestone Farmhands Summer Program COVID-19 Health Policy

Due to COVID-19 impacts on the Guidestone Farmhands community, Farmhands is making significant changes to its summer camp program for 2020 to ensure, as best as possible, to ensure the safety of our campers and alleviate some of the fears and uncertainty that our camp parents are experiencing. The health and safety of our campers and staff continues to be Guidestone's top priority. Based on current guidelines and best practices, this policy includes detailed information related to: daily camper and staff health screenings that include temperature checks; what to do if a staff member or camper becomes sick; protocols for duration and frequency of hand washing; protocols for cleaning and sanitizing surfaces and supplies; protocols for snacks and lunch; and the availability and use of protective equipment.

To ensure the health and safety of staff and program participants, Guidestone will implement the following:

1. To reduce the potential for transmission of COVID-19 we have switched to a small group size camp model of 6 or less (60% of the current state childcare licensing recommendation) and will not allow groups to intermingle. We will have 1-2 instructors with each group. In addition, instructors will have between 4 and 11 days of no camper contact between working with different groups of campers.
2. To minimize the chance of transmission, we will only offer 3-day camps, (no weekly, single-day series) in a 2-week-on, 1-week-off, schedule. Teaching sites include the Hutchinson Homestead, Longfellow Elementary School Garden, and Salida Middle School Garden. Camp days will run Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-3pm, and camp dates will be:
 - June 9-11**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
Garden Camp at the LES Garden
 - June 16-18**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
STEM Garden Camp at the SMS Garden
 - June 30-July 2**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
Garden Camp at the LES Garden
 - July 7-9**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
STEM Garden Camp at the SMS Garden
 - July 21-23**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
Garden Camp at the LES Garden
 - July 28-30**
Hutchinson Homestead Camp
STEM Garden Camp at the SMS Garden
3. To ensure staff and student health on camp day arrival:
 - We will ask staff and camper parents to do a temperature check of their camper(s) prior to arrival. We will also have a forehead thermometer available on site as a back up.
 - We will keep a daily health log to record participant health status.
 - All drop-offs and pick-ups will be outside, and we will ask families to wait their turn and stay distanced to check their child in or out.
 - If a camper has symptoms of any kind, we will require they stay home. Full and partial reimbursements will be provided, to avoid financial concerns.

- Seasonal Allergies - If you are 100% sure that your child is experiencing symptoms of seasonal allergies, rather than any other kind of illness, they will be allowed to attend camp.
4. Campers and instructors will stay 6' distanced, and we will develop seating, game systems, and other easily visible spatial clues, props, and landmarks to allow ease for kids in maintaining this distance throughout the day.
 5. Campers and instructors will also wear masks throughout the day, except for water, snack and meal breaks. These breaks will only take place when campers are seated at their assigned distanced locations. We will provide a bandana to each camper on the first day of each camp - their special Farmhands Bandana - to help make this aspect playful.
 6. Campers will have access to public restrooms, drinkable water sources, and outdoor eating areas. Instructors and campers will take multiple hand-washing breaks throughout the day - upon arrival, after any main activities, and prior to snack and lunch breaks. Hand sanitizer will also be provided at the check-in table and in the bathrooms, and will be kept with an instructor at all times. In lining up for hand-washing and bathroom breaks, we will provide pre-marked 6' spacing to help campers know where to wait.
 7. We have typically opened our camps to kids ages 5 and up, but this year we will bump that to 7 and up, to better ensure the fine motor skill and direction-following capabilities of the campers in following these distance and mask guidelines.
 8. Each camper will receive their own set of supplies (markers, pencils, scissors, glue, clipboard, etc...), to avoid sharing materials. These supplies will be washed and sanitized at the end of each camp week.
 9. If a camper begins to feel sick at any point throughout the day, we will provide an isolation area for that child until the child's parent is able to pick them up. That child will need to be monitored at home for 48 hours, and a camp reimbursement will be provided if this break includes missing any camp days. If an instructor begins to feel sick, she will be asked to head home immediately, and a different staff person will step in for the remainder of that day, and for 48 hours (plus additional time as needed) afterward. COVID-19 testing will be recommended for anyone who goes home sick.
 10. Comprehensive cleaning and disinfecting will take place at the end of each camp day, to include all bathroom surfaces, doors, gates, faucets, supplies, and any other hard surfaces.
 11. Guidestone will not provide any shared items this year, including sunscreen, bug repellent, extra jacket or hat, water bottle, etc. Families will be required to provide all of these items from home for their child/ren.

Because this is an evolving and dynamic situation, we will continue to update our COVID-19 health policy throughout the summer and a copy of the current policy based on the most up-to-date guidelines and best practices will be provided to parents one week prior to the start of their child/ren's program. Guidestone has been safely managing the risks associated with running outdoor programs for more than 11 years and our organization has proven itself exceptional at creating and operationalizing policies to keep participants and staff healthy and safe. Guidestone will be applying this expertise with extra vigilance this coming summer to minimize the potential for the spread of COVID 19.