

# Next Level Camp Summer 2020

Last updated: 6/8/20

## Schedule

- Camp will be offered for 4 weeks: July 13 - August 7, Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 12 PM
- AM and PM care are not available, the only hours we are open are 8:30 AM - 12 PM.
- **We would prefer Campers to be enrolled for 2-week sessions.** Enrollment for less than 1 weeks is not available (no flex plans).

*Why are we encouraging a 2-week option?*

- *As you can see from this lengthy document, there are a lot of details that go into camp this summer. It is difficult to orient new waves of campers and families to throughout the summer.*
- *By limiting the number of individuals over the summer, we significantly reduce our circles of exposure.*

## Who is eligible to enroll?

- **Children ages 6 - 12 may be enrolled in camp.** Children must be 6 by July 10, in order to be eligible. While we do serve 5-year old children in a typical summer, we do not feel we can properly meet their unique developmental needs this summer.
- We are also happy to welcome children ages 13 and 14, however we do not have Junior Counselor positions available. Children ages 13 and 14 may be enrolled as campers and may voluntarily serve in a helping role in their group if they would like to.
- Please see the section in this document on limitations on who we feel we can best serve this summer.

## Tuition

- Tuition is \$385 for a week of camp
- If you have already paid for camp, we will refund your original payment

## What will campers be able to do?

For returning campers who know and love Next Level Camp, many favorite activities and experiences will be the same, and some things will look different.

- All campers will be able to play sports, some try some unique activities, and have a lot fun. Unlike other years, these activities will happen within a schedule that ensures that shared areas are either sanitized or sufficiently vacant between groups that viral transmission from surfaces is not a concern. Camp will almost **entirely be outside**.
- Instead of gathering for an all camp morning meeting, individual groups of 10 will start their days with a morning circle to greet each other and get ready for a great day at camp.

## Who are the staff?

- One of the strengths of Next Level Camp is our amazing staff team! Each group of 10 campers will be led by 2 staff
- We will have healthcare staff on campus during camp hours
- We are planning for two camp directors to be on duty at all times in order to provide administrative and logistical support to all groups

### How will campers be grouped?

- We plan to serve 100 campers total, in groups of 10
- **Campers will stay in the same group of 10 children all session.** There will be no mixing between groups at all, such that children and staff are only exposed to those in their immediate group. Groups of 10 campers will NOT have shared arrival, dismissal or play time with other groups.
- We will do our best with friend requests, but given the group size limits, **we may not be able to honor all requests..**

### What health measures is Next Level taking to protect campers and staff?

The Westchester Board of Health (BOH) is the State agency that licenses summer camps. We will be following all of their guidance.

- Each group will have their own outdoor meeting spaces, as well as their own arrival/dismissal spot. There will be no interaction between groups of 10. Even on rainy or thunderstorm days, each group will have their own classroom in order to maintain separation between groups.
- We will be following all recommended cleaning procedures, including cleaning of bathrooms, door handles, and any high touch surfaces throughout the day.
- All staff will wear a mask when indoors and when within 6 feet of campers or staff when outdoors. Current health guidance allows for masks to be removed when outside and at least 6 feet from others, and for the safety of our staff working in the summer heat, we will be encouraging staff to take mask breaks outside, when they are at a safe distance from others.
- Campers and staff will wash hands with soap and water frequently, and hand sanitizer will also be available in all activity areas.
- We will have contactless drop-off and pickup for campers. Parents will not be allowed to exit their car at drop-off or pickup.
- Campers and staff will have their temperature taken upon arrival and no one will be admitted with a temperature of 100 degrees or more.
- The BOH is not currently recommending routine COVID-19 tests for staff who appear healthy. Staff who feel sick or who have a temperature will stay home (and will contact their doctor for guidance on testing), and we have plans for back-up staff.

### Is it safe for children to attend camp?

- Strict adherence to all guidelines for the operation of camps does not guarantee a risk-free camp environment. All campers and staff are at risk for being exposed to coronavirus and contracting COVID-19. Our operations are intended to minimize and contain that risk as much as possible.
- The OEC requires all parents to sign a [waiver](#) acknowledging their understanding of the risks.

- We know that some children are being harmed by social isolation at home, and that some families lack access to childcare. In deciding to offer camp, we are weighing the risk of Coronavirus against the many other ways our community is at risk right now.

#### Do campers need to wear masks or distance from each other?

- Each group of 10 campers and staff will operate like a family unit. Per OEC guidelines, **children are NOT expected to keep physical distance from one another within their group of 10.** Of course, we will enforce handwashing and other good hygiene measures, but we will not prohibit children from interacting within their group. Unnecessary, excessive contact (like games that involve hugging or wrestling or whispering into ears) will be redirected to other ways of playing, but campers should experience social interaction within their group as mostly normal.
- While adults will wear a mask when within 6 feet of others, **we will not be requiring campers to wear masks**, and current guidelines from the OEC do not require that children wear masks. You may send your child with a mask, but we cannot enforce the proper and safe wearing of the mask and cannot be responsible for ensuring that your child wears the mask.

#### What happens on rainy days?

- We will have a rain day (like snow day at school)
- If there is a strong chance of thunderstorms, we will email parents by 7:30 AM to let you know that **we recommend keeping your camper home if possible.**
- If it rains during camp, campers will be indoors in their assigned areas (remaining in their group of 10 campers and staff). However, because the risk of COVID-19 transmission is higher when indoors, we will recommend that campers get picked up as soon as possible.
- Staff will wear masks at all times when indoors. Campers may be sent with or choose to wear a mask (recommended, for thunderstorm days). We will encourage campers to wear masks when indoors on thunderstorm days, but cannot strictly enforce their proper wearing and use.
- *Refunds will not be issued for thunderstorm days. We will credit you for next summer.*

#### What happens if there is a COVID positive case?

- If a child presents with a fever, cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms, we will contact the Health Department, and follow their guidance.
  - There will be a lower threshold for sending a camper home for relatively mild symptoms like persistent coughing or sneezing. While these may be allergy induced, coughing and sneezing can be infectious and even mild illness or allergies may result in the need for a doctor's note to return to camp.
- If a child, staff person, or household member of a camper or staff person has a COVID-19 positive test, we will notify the Health Department and follow their guidance for cleaning, closure of individual groups, and notification of families.
- Families and staff are required to notify Next Level immediately of any COVID-19 positive case in their household while camp is open, or in the 2 days after camp ends for the season.

### What do we ask our NLC parents?

We are in this together! We are on your team, trying to give kids an opportunity to enjoy the summer. We need all enrolled camp families to be on board with the following:

- Next Level will not monitor, judge, or take action on each family's level of social distancing from others outside of camp. However, we ask that as much as possible, if you choose to enroll in camp that you **choose to make camp the primary exposure your family has to others** (not including essential workers in their workplace). Families who plan to have regular playdates and other non-essential direct contact with others outside of camp are more likely to put a whole group at risk of exposure and possible closure. In order for us to stay open, we need families to limit your exposures as much as you can.
- We will all have new routines to learn. We will need parents to **read the information we send and comply with all policies and directions**. We can't do this without all of us on board to participate in communication. If you got this far in the FAQ, you can do this!
- We have some small requests for **supplies you will need to provide**: a water bottle for your camper with a covered mouthpiece, and your own digital thermometer that you can use in your car at arrival time (we will share details with registered families).

### We are limited in who we can serve this summer

- **Children with medical conditions including asthma, diabetes, and compromised immune systems are recommended by the CDC to not attend camp.** Children who live with vulnerable household members are also recommended to not attend camp. Please speak with your doctor about camp if your child or any household member has a chronic medical condition, or if you have a household member over 65 years old. We will not restrict children from registering for camp if they have a chronic medical condition or live with an at-risk household member.
- **Children (with or without diagnosed special needs) who are very sensitive to change, prone to inflexible thinking, or who routinely need individual support for social interactions, safe choices, and/or activity participation may not be best served in camp this summer.** Of course, this will look different for each child, and some campers may enjoy and benefit from the changes to camp. Things to consider as you think about what does and does not work for your child:
  - Our routines will look very different from what your camper may remember or be expecting.
  - We have limited flexibility with activity choices and schedules. Campers will still enjoy almost all of the usual Next Level activities, but their choices between preferred activities and play areas throughout each day will be limited. Campers will need to stay with their group, and group activities and use of specific spaces are scheduled and not flexible due to the need for disinfection of spaces between groups, per CDC and OEC regulations.
  - Adults will be wearing masks, and we know that may make understanding and interpreting communication and social cues very difficult.

### Refund policy

We are moving into a unique time and sharing the financial risk of doing so. If there is a confirmed COVID-19 exposure on campus, it is possible that the Health Dept will require the

exposed group to quarantine for a period of time. Closures are determined on a case-by-case basis and may affect some groups and activities on campus while not affecting others.

- Parents are responsible for 100% of tuition for each incident of required closure of up to 2 business days.
- Each incident of closure that extends beyond 2 business days will be refunded at a rate of 70% per camp day.
- If a child or household member is COVID-19 positive, that child will not be able to return to camp until cleared by their doctor, and a refund of 50% of missed camp days beyond the first three days will be issued to the affected family.
- If you register and then cancel for any reason up until June 10, you will receive a refund of 50%, and the remaining 50% is not refundable
- After June 15<sup>th</sup> there are NO refunds. Therefore, if you choose to withdraw your child for any reason, your tuition payment is non-refundable. No exceptions!
- None of the tuition policies are intended to be punitive, or to sway your decision making in what is best for your family. **These tuition policies are necessary to cover the costs we incur when we commit to you to have camp available this summer.** In order to hire and retain highly qualified staff, who can run amazing activities and who have the training, maturity, and skill to follow all new health protocols, we need to have financial policies that provide some budget stability.

#### How to apply, and how we are determining acceptance

To apply: Go to [Nextleveldaycamps.com](https://nextleveldaycamps.com) and choose appropriate camp

