

TPS Day Camp Wearing of Cloth Face Coverings Protocol

On April 21st, 2020 the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) updated their general guidance including wearing of cloth face coverings in Day Camp. It is important to note; 6 feet of social distancing and personal hygiene actions remain important to slow the spread of the virus. Our Day Camp sites are designed, to be in alignment with the guidance for the Washington State Department of Health, to provide the needed 6 feet social distancing for staff and students throughout the day. Frequent hand hygiene with soap and water as well as alcohol-based hand sanitizer are also practices being use on site.

CDC issued [new recommendations](#) that wearing homemade cloth face coverings may help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. **When able, staff members and older children should wear cloth face coverings within the child care. To decide if cloth face coverings are possible, consider:**

- Cloth face coverings may reduce the risk of someone who may be infected but is not showing signs from spreading the disease to others.
- All social distancing guidance for child care facilities must still be followed, even if cloth face coverings are worn.
- When wearing cloth face coverings, keep hands away from the face and do not touch them.
- Cloth face coverings should be washed with soap and dried between uses.
- For safety, children under the age of 2 should not wear cloth face coverings.
- **Face coverings are not for anyone who cannot take it off themselves.** – We cannot safely have adults helping children place and remove masks on Day Camp Sites; parents/guardians should review face covering use with their child.

Staff or students can choose to wear a cloth face covering on Day Camp sites. **There are two different options for cloth face coverings.**

- 1) A limited donation of cloth face coverings has been provided to our Day Camp sites. Staff or students may request to receive one of these face coverings while available. They are expected to properly wash their face covering in a washing machine nightly at home.
- 2) Staff or students can use and provide their own cloth face coverings on Day Camp sites. Staff or students who choose to wear a cloth face covering on Day Camp sites are expected to properly wash their face covering in a washing machine nightly at home.

Staff or students who choose to wear a cloth face covering on Day Camp sites are expected to follow the CDC guidance for cleaning and removal while on site (see back side of this document.) The CDC language states cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under the age of 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance. Students who are wearing cloth face coverings while on Day Camp sites may receive consulting from the onsite nurse to review safe removal if screened while a nurse is on site. Students who are unable to follow the safety procedures or misuse their cloth face covering during Day Camp will be asked to not wear a cloth face covering while on site.

Staff or students who choose to wear a cloth face covering on Day Camp sites are expected to remove their mask carefully, not touching their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering and washing hands immediately after removal. Staff or students who choose to wear a cloth face covering on Day Camp sites are expected to properly wash their face covering in a washing machine nightly at home.

Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19

How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

CDC on Homemade Cloth Face Coverings

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

Should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned regularly? How regularly?

Yes. They should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?

A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a cloth face covering.

How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their cloth face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

