

2023 Merri-Mac Health and Arrival Guidelines

General

Camps have a much higher transmission rate of communicable diseases such as Covid-19, influenza and strep throat than schools. For this reason we are asking that all campers follow the pre-camp and opening day protocols.

All Campers Must

- Complete the [Five Day Health Monitor Form](#). Please do not take fever reducing medications while measuring temperatures.
- At this point in time we are not planning to require testing for Covid-19. However, we are watching national numbers and trends for all testable viruses carefully and will communicate via email if our policy changes.

Opening Day

- We will have scheduled drop off times by age. Families with multiple children may come at either drop off time.
- Temps of 99.5 or higher will be turned away. Campers may return when the temp returns to normal for 24 - 48 hours without the use of temperature lowering medication such as tylenol (acetaminophen) or advil (ibuprofen). Be aware that some combination cold/flu medications contain acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- Temps of 98.7 - 99.4 will be kept at camp in isolation until it goes down. If not down within an hour, the camper may be sent home.
- Campers with incomplete health monitoring forms will not be able to remain at camp.

How It Will Work

- Arrive at camp during your camper's assigned time (this is listed in the camper packet, emailed out in mid-March). Drive in the front gate and continue right at the fork. This is where you will present your health monitoring form.
- You will be directed to drive past the Big House to the Back Green. Here you will pop the trunk for our staff to remove your daughter's bags. We'll take her luggage to the cabin from there. Pack everything in one or two duffles (no trunks please) and have these labeled and easily accessible in your trunk.
- You will then be directed to park on Macky's Green.
- From here you will walk to the boathouse (about 300 yards uphill over uneven terrain) where you will meet our directors and take your opening day family photo.

Join us.



- Continue into The Mike to meet with the nurse and shop the clothing room.
- You'll say goodbye in The Mike (deep breaths, you've got this!) and head back to your car. We'll walk your camper to her cabin where her counselor will help her make her bed, get settled and meet her new camp friends.

Daily Health Checks

We will conduct daily health screenings for both campers and staff. These will be similar to those you will conduct at home before campers arrive and any campers with fevers or symptoms will be taken to the infirmary. These daily health checks are a routine part of your camper's day and have dramatically reduced the spread of communicable diseases at camp.

Response Management of Case or Probable Case

A camper or staff member identified as having a potential illness will remain in an isolation room as part of Camp's communicable disease plan.

The Wishing Well will have two areas for camper rest and treatment:

1. A standard room for campers that are clearly non-viral. This will include individuals exhibiting symptoms that are consistent with existing medical history (e.g. cough if recent history of a chest cold).
2. A room for campers exhibiting symptoms of a communicable disease that are not consistent with existing medical history but could have alternative diagnosis (e.g. flu).

If a camper has a persistent fever of 100.4 or higher for 48 hours:

- We will call their parents and ask if they would like to pick up their child or wait 24 hours to reassess.

If a camper has a persistent fever of 100.4 or higher for 72 hours:

- We will call their parents and ask that they pick them up within twelve hours.

A Closed Community - The Imperfect Bubble

No one thing we do will protect our campers completely from sickness, but each adds a layer of security. We also understand that none of these layers can be done perfectly, which is why having multiple layers is important. A relatively closed community will be an especially important layer, and it is something that makes camp better too. We will limit camper trips into the public, but we will take trips to wilderness destinations where we are not likely to have public interaction.

