



To: All parishes and schools

Gov. Henry McMaster issued an executive order recently that allows non-athletic day camps, youth and summer camps, and Vacation Bible Schools to resume, provided that parishes and schools are able to meet the guidelines issued by DSS and DHEC, and the CDC:

- Interim guidelines from the Department of Social Services and the Department of Health and Environmental Control for [Day Camps](#).
- Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control for [Youth and Summer Camp](#).

Those that are unable to comply with all guidelines above should consider cancellation of the activities. Within the listed restrictions and health practices, we would like to highlight the following:

- All staff and volunteers should be provided with the state and CDC guidelines for summer day camps and asked to review them thoroughly. They must confirm with the appropriate personnel when they have done so.
- Prior to any VBS or other parish field day, it should be clearly communicated to those participants, or parents of participants, that anyone who has been in contact with a suspected positive case of COVID-19 within the 14 days previous to the event is prohibited from attendance and participation.
- Signage should be posted in highly visible areas (entrances/exits, restrooms, cafeterias) as outlined in the above linked CDC guidelines under "signs and messages."
- Only activities where six feet of social distancing can be maintained at all times should take place on parish/school grounds.
- Staff should be encouraged to wear cloth face coverings whenever possible, particularly when indoors or when maintaining six feet of distance is difficult.
- A written log/checklist for areas that need to be sanitized following each day should be kept and designated individuals should be responsible for the same tasks each day to ensure completion.

Sports

- Contact sports are not allowed.
- Sharing of athletic equipment is to be avoided.
- Each participant's designated equipment should be disinfected after each session.

- Participants should be taught to place their equipment in a designated location to ensure they are not confused with that of another participant.

Food and Drink

- Participants are encouraged to bring their own food and drink.
- Water fountains should be closed off and are not recommended for public use.
- If any food is prepared by the parish, those preparing the food must wear cloth face coverings and disposable gloves.
- Food should be supplied as a box lunch for individuals, rather than provided in large quantities.
- Where catering of individually packaged meals is possible, this method is preferred.
- Bottled waters and/or other pre-packaged drinks should be supplied.

Illness

- If any participants exhibit signs of COVID-19 (for example, a fever or dry cough), their guardians must be contacted, and they should be sent home.
 - All areas which that participant has occupied should be closed and thoroughly disinfected according to CDC guidelines.

Location

- Large, well-ventilated spaces should be utilized whenever indoors. For example, prioritize use of a large gym or open library versus a smaller classroom for any indoor activity.
- Small groups are encouraged, and those groups should be kept with the same supervisory staff each VBS or field day.
- Ensure that only staff and volunteers enter the building. Guardians should be encouraged to call when they have arrived to drop off or pick up their children so that staff can meet them outside for pick up/drop off. Alternatively, staff can wait outdoors with their groups, spaced at least six feet apart while waiting during pick up/drop off.
- Field trips or any other activity that takes the participants away from parish/school grounds are not permitted.
- Use of playground equipment is prohibited until further notice.

Performing arts

- Equipment utilized for creative and performing arts should be designated to each individual when possible.
- When sharing of any equipment is necessary, it should be immediately disinfected after use, and between each participant's use.

Other gatherings

- Please continue to prohibit use of parish/school facilities outside of Mass and the activities listed above until further notice.
- Please prohibit holding athletic camps.

Guidance will be provided in the future for how to safely resume athletic activities and prepare facilities for team training.

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message from the Diocese of Charleston, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential or proprietary information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited.