



MCC's program, as always, will aim to keep campers as safe and healthy as possible while still maintaining the essence of the camp experience with fun, outdoor adventure, social connections and relationship building, biblical lessons, and a quality summer program.

Because of how Merriwood is permitted, we will be following the summer camp guidelines from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) as well as guidance from our local health department. Please see our protocol below with the understanding that these policies are subject to modification as our planning continues and as/if guidance changes.

### MCC's Summer Camp Policies and Protocol Concerning COVID-19:

- These policies may be amended if/as NCDHHS guidelines change.
- MCC is now offering a Junior Day Camp option for rising 4<sup>th</sup>-rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders (in addition to the overnight option) this summer, for those feeling more comfortable with a day option this year, in light of COVID-19.
- To minimize outside exposure, MCC's summer team will be primarily on site for 14 days of staff training, leading into the start of camp weeks.
- MCC encourages campers (if possible) to limit their exposure (beyond their household) for the 14 days leading up to their camp week. While we recognize this may not be entirely possible, those who are able to do so will minimize bringing germs to camp with them.
- All campers will be asked health screening questions and will have their temperature taken at arrival.
  - Day campers will undergo this health screening daily at arrival.
  - Overnight campers will have additional temperature checks daily, throughout the week.
  - [Click here to see health screening questions asked at arrival](#)
- MCC will stagger arrival/departure times. Drop off and pick up will be conducted from vehicles. In order to minimize exposure, only campers will be permitted to exit the vehicles at drop off.
- MCC will increase cleaning and sanitation, especially on heavily-used surfaces.
- MCC will encourage hand-washing frequently, as well as offer multiple hand-sanitizer stations.
- MCC will encourage social distancing as much as is reasonably possible.
- Face coverings are recommended by the CDC and will be required when campers are not with their cabin unit, when social distancing is not possible. Overnight campers should bring at least one mask per day. (Day campers should have a back-up mask in their backpacks.)
- MCC Staff will be serving campers water at water stations to increase sanitation and limit exposure to germs, instead of campers serving themselves.
- MCC staff will plate or serve food items to campers to cut down on contamination (rather than each camper serving themselves family style).
- MCC will reduce capacity in the dining hall and chapel area to allow for better social distancing and campers will remain in cohorts.
- Campers will remain with their cabin groups and smaller cohorts to limit contact and exposure to the entire camp body.
- MCC will follow CDC's social distancing guidelines for overnight campers' sleeping arrangements, which means heads will be 6' apart.
- If a camper becomes symptomatic, they will be isolated and parents will be contacted to pick up their child. Campers will be sent home if they have unexplained and/or ongoing headache, fever of 100.4 or above, loss of taste or smell, vomiting, or diarrhea, or unwell and exhibiting symptoms that could be contagious.