

2020 Shoresh Summer Fun Camp Guidelines and Safety Protocols

Our children's health and well-being are our top priority!

As we prepare to open our doors at Shoresh Preschool, we know that there are many different feelings and mixed emotions about making the decision to send your child(ren) to an in-person program while living through this pandemic. The intention of these guidelines is to help our families understand the steps we are taking to ensure this is the safest possible place for your children to be outside your home.

Opening up our doors is an extremely challenging logistical project, but we are committed to supporting our community and doing our best to provide your children with the wonderful experiences that summertime and day camp offer.

Children thrive when they are able to socialize and play with peers while parents and caretakers get the time they need to resume working, promote self-care, and find time for life's demands. It is with this in mind that we hope to ease some of your fears surrounding the idea of your children attending our in-person program.

Included in this packet are procedures we will follow, policies that will be enforced, and a brief description of how the program will run. The sole purpose of this ongoing process is to ensure the safety of all of your children as well as all of our staff members. Camp will look different this year than ever before, but there will be no shortage of fun! **Take the time to read this important packet of information thoroughly.**



Why Attend Shoresh Fun Camp?

Recent studies* have shown that the risk of your child(ren) contracting COVID-19 is low, whereas the benefits of socializing, exercising, playing, and learning are instrumental to their development. We aim to be the safest possible place for your children to be outside of their home while having the most fun with peers.

You can look forward to:

- 4 Weeks of Safe Summer Themed Fun
- Low Ratio of Children to Teachers: Maximum 10:2
- Outdoor Play:
 - 👉 Splash Mats and Sprinklers
 - 👉 Soccer, Kickball, T-ball
 - 👉 Relay Races
 - 👉 Shaded Playground
 - 👉 Movement in Tented Courtyard
- Indoor Play:
 - 👉 Bikes and Scooters
 - 👉 Arts and Crafts
 - 👉 Manipulatives and Toys
 - 👉 Storytelling/Books

Our priority is to provide fun and exciting programming in the safest and most effective way possible. While we will be spending most of the time outdoors, indoors aspects include daily arrival, rainy day activities, table time activities, lunch, and dismissal.

Indoor camp activities will follow all safety protocols and be held in our upstairs classrooms, large recreational space (bike room), and our social hall. When outdoors, we will have full use of our large covered playground (minus our playhouse and sandbox), our expansive lawn area for water fun, our nature log circle, and our enclosed tented courtyard.

*According to the CDC, less than 2% of COVID-19 cases in the US have been children under 18.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html>



How Will Shoresh Protect My Child(ren)?

The following guidelines will be implemented by all staff and they prioritize the health and well-being of all. They have been created directly from the guidelines set forth by the New Jersey Board of Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the New Jersey Department of Children and Family Services, the New Jersey Office of Licensing, and the Office of Governor Murphy. We have also regularly been in contact with other New Jersey camps who are re-opening to learn from their guidelines and practices. Our procedures are in compliance with all COVID-19 preventative measures and practices.

While preschool aged children are **not required** to wear masks, it is **highly recommended** that those who are able to, wear a mask. Every staff member will be wearing a mask and/or a face shield and smock at all times during class. Gloves will be worn whenever practical or necessary. Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available at several stations throughout the building and used throughout the day by teachers and staff. While in the classrooms, teachers will use warm, soapy water to clean all items in the classroom that are being used (i.e. table tops, chairs, toys) followed by the required formula of bleach and water to disinfect.

Upon children and staff leaving the classroom each and every time, EPA required products will be used by our custodial staff to clean and disinfect the classroom. Additionally, they will use these products to disinfect all door handles, toilet seats, sink handles, and highly trafficked touchable surfaces throughout the day. Portable sinks will be installed in classrooms for ease and convenience of frequent mandatory handwashing. It is recommended that everyone wash their hands for 20 seconds. We will be helping your children follow this guideline by singing songs that last 20 seconds, which we have posted in our bathrooms and classrooms.

Car Line Drop-Off

In order to provide as smooth an arrival as possible, we will be requiring that you use the drop-off car line in the mornings, rather than parking your car and walking your child(ren) up to the building. We know that this may be a tough transition for both you and your child(ren) after being having to shelter in place for several months. Please allow extra time and expect this procedure to take at



least 5 more minutes than usual after your child(ren) exits your car. Make sure all your child(ren)'s belongings are easily assessible to the teacher who will be helping them out of the car. We will need that time before allowing your child(ren) to enter the building after their medical assessments (more details provided below). Children will be dropped off curbside at the front entrance of the school. All parents/caregivers will follow a new traffic pattern through our parking lot to minimize traffic build ups on Broad Street.

Car Line Drop-Off Procedure:

- 👤 Drop-off will begin at 8:30am and conclude at 9:15am, it is critical that you arrive on time as this process will take longer than normal.
- 👤 All parents/caregivers need to be wearing a mask during the drop off period.
- 👤 All cars will pull into the parking lot by staying to the left side of the driveway as you pull in from Broad Street (through the traditional parking lot exit).
- 👤 Parents/caregivers will then proceed through the lot, driving around, passing the playground on their left side, and pulling in front of the building with the driver's side closest to the curb.
- 👤 Turn off the car's engine (this extra measure is to ensure safety).
- 👤 Our nurse practitioner will ask the parent/caregiver a series of questions while your child is being greeted and helped out of the car by their teacher (exact questions are outlined at the end of this document).
- 👤 Parents/caregivers are NOT allowed to exit their car at any time during drop-off or enter the building at any time during the day.
- 👤 Once the child's temperature has been taken, the questions have been asked, and the child is cleared for entry, the parent/caregiver may leave.

Registered Nurse

Every day, a registered nurse will take your child(ren)'s temperature with a touch-free infrared thermometer. In addition, she will do a visual assessment of your child(ren)'s general health. She will be wearing gloves, a mask, and/or a face shield. This is a mandatory state requirement and this information must be logged and sent to the New Jersey Department of Child and Family Services office of licensing. It is required that this log be sent in by 11AM every day, **anyone arriving after 10:15am will not be permitted to enter camp that day.**



If you are running late and will not make it by 9:15am, please call our office as soon as possible at 973-338-1500 ext. 120 or 116.

These assessments will be done every day that your child(ren) attends and if your child has a fever, or the nurse concludes that they are coughing, sneezing, or is exhibiting any signs of illness, the teacher will help your child back into their car seat to return home. If it is concluded that they are not exhibiting any signs of illness, they will then be escorted into the building.

If your child exhibits any of the following symptoms, or you think they are showing signs of an illness, please keep them home. Some of the common signs of COVID-19 are:

- 👋 Cough
- 👋 Fever
- 👋 Shortness of Breath
- 👋 Muscle/Body Aches
- 👋 Unexplained Loss of Taste/Sense of Smell
- 👋 Diarrhea
- 👋 Headache
- 👋 Fatigue

If at any time during the camp day, a child complains about any of these symptoms, they will be isolated and sent home immediately.

It is imperative that we be made aware if:

- 👋 A parent/caregiver or your child(ren) has been out of the region or the country within the past month.
- 👋 A parent/caregiver has cared for or lived with a person who tested positive for COVID-19.
- 👋 A parent/caregiver has been tested for COVID-19 and are waiting for results or the result was positive.
- 👋 A parent/caregiver's work at a skilled nursing facility OR assisted living facility that has a concern for COVID-19.



Teacher Procedures

Each teacher will be provided with a removable smock in case they get a child's excrement on them. They are required to remove their smock and put on a clean smock and wash their hands before resuming work. They will be wearing face masks and/or face shields throughout the day and will utilize gloves when cleaning, helping a child blow their nose, dealing with an injury, or any other time when gloves are appropriate. After the use of gloves, they will be discarded and teachers will thoroughly wash their hands before returning to work.

Outside Building Guests

No outside guests will be allowed in the building, especially in any spaces used by Shoresh. The only people allowed in the building other than Shoresh staff and teachers are temple staff and custodians. All temple staff have been given strict guidelines to maintain distance from Shoresh activity spaces and wear masks at all times while outside their office.

In the event that contractors are required to enter the building for necessary maintenance, masks, hand sanitizer, distancing, and proper cleaning measures will be taken. When possible, work will be done while camp is not in session.



What Should My Child(ren) Wear and Bring to Camp?

Using any bag or a backpack **labeled** with the child's first name and last initial, please include everyday:

- 👤 At least 1 extra **labeled** full set of clothing in a separate smaller **labeled** bag.
- 👤 2-3 pairs of extra **labeled** underwear for those out of diapers or at least 3 diapers and an appropriate amount of wipes.
- 👤 1 **labeled** dry towel.
- 👤 1 **labeled** pair of water shoes (or a second pair of sneakers for water play).
- 👤 **Labeled** sunscreen if used (please indicate on your registration form if you'd like us to reapply).
- 👤 A **labeled** dairy, nut free lunch and snack (see details below).

Please send your child(ren) to camp in a bathing suit with clothing over it, wearing sneakers or shoes that tie, velcro or buckle onto their feet. **No flip flops or slip on sandals will be permitted.** This is for their safety when playing throughout the day while they are not getting wet. We will change them into water shoes or second pair of sneakers before water time. Sunscreen should be applied to your child(ren) before they arrive and extra can be provided for re-application throughout the day. All items will be sent home to be washed, at the end of each day.

What Will the Day Look Like for My Child(ren)?

Once your child(ren) has been cleared to enter the building, their teacher will bring them into their classroom where their other teacher will be waiting to greet them. They will put their belongings in their individual cubby and will be free to play through the room with the limited, easily cleaned, activities available.

Each day the schedule of activities will be rotated as follows:

- 👤 Classroom Arrival/Theme of the Week Activity
- 👤 Circle Time and Free Play
- 👤 Playground Fun
- 👤 Snack Time



- 👤 Water Fun – Sprinklers and Splash Mats Only
- 👤 Sports Fun – T-ball Swings, Soccer Goalie Practice, One on One Catch, and Kickball
- 👤 Nature Log Circle - Snack, Storytime, Pretend Camp Fires, Songs
- 👤 Courtyard Movement/Exercise/Stretching/Games/Relay Races
- 👤 Dismissal

Indoor activities will be incorporated into an unexpected rainy-day schedule, or due to excessive heat, and include all activities above except for water fun and nature circle.

Your child will be pre-assigned to a group of no more than 10 children and 2 teachers. This will remain the same for the full 4 weeks and with whom they will do all activities every day. It is not required that children social distance from other children in their group, but it is required that groups social distance from each other.

We will achieve this by ensuring the group they are with in the classroom is the group they will be with throughout the day. Our teachers will be vigilant to prevent children from spreading germs through too much touch or being too close to one another. Each child will have their own labeled bin with toys, manipulatives and art supplies. These items will change at least once a week and will be better matched to their individual preferences once we get more familiar with your child.

In-classroom activities will also include a few classroom centers to be open but will also be limited to those that can easily be disinfected. There will be circle time, a book center, an art easel, a Lego table, and arts and crafts. There will not be a kitchen, a dress up area, dolls, doll clothing, sensory tables, blocks, or any plush stuffed animals available in the classroom.

Snack and Lunch

All campers will have a snack at approximately 10:00AM, outside. We highly recommend, to decrease the possibility of spreading germs, that snack is provided by the family. If a snack is not provided from home, we will provide one for your child (wheat crackers, pretzels, or similar item). Families will provide a lunch every day for their child. Shoresh is a **dairy only and nut free** preschool.



We follow the dietary laws of the temple so please be sure your child's lunch contains no meat or meat products. And in order to maintain the safety of every child with allergies, peanut and tree nut products are not offered or permitted. If your child brings something in with nuts in it, it will be sent home unopened and an alternative item will be provided by Shoresh.

Lunches/snacks will be stored in the child's cubby until lunchtime, so you will need to pack foods that can be kept at room temperature, or use an ice pack. Disposable lunches that include utensils, cups, bowls and plates are highly recommended. Staff will wear gloves when handling any food items and will not touch surface foods. **Label all bags and food items** with your child's first and last name or initial.

Dismissal Process

All classes will be brought into our large social hall and other open spaces with all of their belongings at 1:00PM with socially distanced measures to keep groups separate.

Parents/caregivers will follow the same drop-off car line pattern for pick-up. When the parent/caregiver arrives at the pick-up point (the same place as drop-off), your child will be escorted to the car and helped into their car seat by their teacher.

Be sure to wear a face mask, do not exit the car or attempt to enter the building, and turn off your engine when your child is being brought out to you.



Frequently Asked Questions about Shoresh Fun Camp

1) If I give my child Tylenol at 6:00am and by 8:30am when we are getting ready to leave for camp they seem fine, can I send them?

NO - please keep your child home if they exhibit any sign of illness, necessitating the administering of Tylenol or any medication. Only children who have been fever free without the use of medicine for 24 hours will be permitted back into the building.

2) If I wash my child's hands before we leave our house for camp, do their hands have to be washed again?

Yes, every child and staff member will be required to wash their hands immediately upon entering the building.

3) Can my child(ren) bring their favorite stuffed animal to camp?

No, we will not be permitting any plush toys to be brought from home.

4) What should I do if someone in my household is diagnosed with COVID-19 while my child(ren) is enrolled in camp?

Immediately tell the Shoresh Director, Wendy Blum. The local health department will offer guidelines as to whether or not the center must be closed.

5) Will my child(ren) be socially distanced from their friends during activities and at lunchtime?

Children within the same group do not have to be 6 ft apart at lunch time or throughout the day. Teacher discretion will be used and children will be gently encouraged not to stand too close, hug, kiss, wrestle, or do anything that requires physical contact.

6) Since health reports are due by 11am, what if I am running late for camp?



It is strongly recommended and requested that your child be on time for camp. If you are running later than 9:30am, please contact our office at 973-338-1500 ext.120 or 116. The latest student we will accept is at 10:15am so that they can be properly screened before entering.

7) Will hand sanitizer be used on my child(ren)'s hands?

While hand sanitizer can be used on older children, it is not recommended for the ages of children attending Shoresh. They will be assisted in washing their hands with soap and water frequently.

8) Will staff be tested for COVID-19?

It is not required by the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) that staff be tested unless they are exhibiting signs of the illness. However, we are requiring that staff get tested 2-3 times throughout our 4-week camp session to catch any possible early exposure.

9) If my child(ren) hugs or kisses another child will he be reprimanded?

Teachers will closely follow children in the classrooms and physical contact/touching will be discouraged, but no, they will not be reprimanded.

10) If my 4-year-old refuses to wear a mask, will he be forced to?

It is strongly recommended that children over the age of 2 wear masks and staff are expected to encourage such children to wear them, but it is not mandatory.

11) Will you provide masks or do I have to send my child(ren) in with their own?

Shoresh will have a supply of masks available if needed but it is recommended that you come with your own mask.

12) Will toilets be disinfected after each child(ren) uses it?



No, as per the guidelines for allowable groups, toilets, handles, sinks and doors shall all be disinfected after one group of no more than 10 children uses the bathroom, and before the next group uses it.

13) If my child(ren) doesn't finish their lunch, will it be sent home or thrown away?

In order to minimize the transmission of germs, it is highly recommended that all lunch foods and items sent to camp be disposable. Teachers will use their discretion in disposing of uneaten items while preserving any reusable containers to be brought home.

14) What questions will we be asked upon drop-off?

- Has fever reducing medicine been administered that morning?
- Has the child had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Is the child experiencing any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, trouble breathing, headache, fever, muscle pain, chills, repeated shaking with chills, new loss of taste or smell?
- Is any member of the household experiencing the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, trouble breathing, headache, fever, muscle pain, chills, repeated shaking with chills, new loss of taste or smell?

Let's Get Playing!

We are really looking forward to a fun and exciting 4 weeks with your children. While this is a lot of information to take in and what seems like rigid guidelines to follow, we hope to give your children the chance to be kids again, interact with their peers and enjoy the great outdoors in the most safe and fun way possible!

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any specific questions you may have and direct all inquiries to the Preschool Director, Wendy Blum, wblum@nertamid.org or (973) 338-1500 X120

