



## **COVID-19 FAQ**

*Last Revised: 23 July, 2020*

### **What are you doing to keep the students safe?**

Our first line of defense is:

- Holding programs outside or in open-air classrooms
- Spaces and items are sanitized daily
- Social Distancing
- Masks are mandatory
- Groups are self-contained
- Foot-Powered Hand Washing Stations

### **What will happen if my child doesn't come to Forest School one day because they don't feel good?**

If a person is not diagnosed by a healthcare provider (physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant) with COVID-19 they can return to CNC programs:

- Once there is no fever, without the use of fever reducing medicines, and they have felt well for 24 hours;
- If they have been diagnosed with another condition and has a healthcare provider written note stating they are clear to return to school;
- A negative COVID-19 test.

### **What do I do if my child gets sick and we don't think it is COVID-19?**

See question above.

### **Will the kids have to wear a mask all the time?**

It is critical that students remain socially distanced if they aren't wearing a mask (when they are eating, for example). Instructors will enforce mask wearing when students are closely grouped.

**What if my child can't wear a mask?**

Your child will not be forced to wear a mask if they have a relevant medical reason for keeping their face uncovered.

**What if some kids won't wear a mask?**

Mask wearing is a baseline expectation for us right now. We recommend a buff or neck gaiter mask that can be easily pulled up from around the neck and not lost. It is possible that kids who repeatedly refuse to wear a mask may be asked to leave the program.

**Do students in a specific cohort have to maintain a 6-foot distance from each other at all times?**

No. As a baseline, masks or face coverings are required to be worn any time or place that individuals cannot maintain appropriate social distancing. If students need a break from wearing their mask, then students can step away from others and remove their mask.

**What about lunchtime and snack time?**

Students will need to maintain social distancing while eating.

**How long will these kinds of rules be in place for Cumming Nature Center's programs?**

We don't know. Our hope is that we will be able to relax the rules over time, but that depends on a lot of things. We imagine that once there is a vaccine, things will begin to get back to a more normal world.

**How many students will my child be with?**

A daily cohort of students is around 12. It is possible that if your child attends multiple days of Forest School that each daily cohort is composed of different students. We will work diligently to be deliberate about our groups and how we will build them with both students and staff safety in mind.

**What happens if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a CNC program?**

All program participants will be notified. Most likely, that student's cohort will need to be quarantined for 14 days or provide a negative COVID-19 test to return. Because groups are self-contained, it is our hope that not all groups and cohorts will get cancelled. The Director of Cumming Nature Center along with the Ontario Department of Public Health will determine the appropriate measures for all the students. We hope that we'll be able to offer online programming for the cohort that is cancelled.

**What happens if we go on lockdown again?**

Forest School instructors will be teaching online through whatever time we are back on lockdown. Tuition will not be refunded for that time. It is important to us to keep our wonderful instructors employed through these difficult times.

**What does the Online Forest School look like?**

Typically, there will be 1-2 hours on Zoom singing songs, checking in, telling stories, and generally being a little goofy. Students will be given an activity or mission to do outside like a craft, nature observation, or the like. We have found that the younger students (ages 4-7) usually need parent or sibling help with their activities.

**What reasons might cause CNC programs to close in the middle of the school year?**

Forest Schools or Walden might close if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in any students or staff. We also could close if there is some sort of regional, state, or federal mandated shutdown.