

# SAGA SUMMER CAMPS FAQ 2021

The following information is subject to change based on the latest development of the COVID-19 pandemic. This document was last updated on **June 16th, 2021**.

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## **Refund Policy**

### **What if my child can no longer attend a future week of camp?**

We ask that you give us a minimum of 2 weeks notice if your child will no longer be attending camp in order to receive a refund. Within 2 weeks of camp, no money will be refunded, although your child can transfer weeks up to the Thursday before the next week of camp begins (space permitting).

### **What if camp gets cancelled due to health regulations?**

If a future week of camp is cancelled because of health regulations, full refunds will be given.

## **Registration and Payment**

### **When and where can I register?**

Registration for our summer 2021 season opened on May 28th, 2021. If spots are still available, you can register up to the Thursday before the next week of camp begins. Otherwise you can always be added to the waitlist. Registration can be completed at <https://saga.campbrainregistration.com/>

## **What happens if payment is not made?**

Registration is only complete when payment has been received. We ask that payment is completed 2 weeks before the week of camp you have registered for. Camp administration staff will follow up with you if payment has not been received.

## **I need an extension for payment or have questions about subsidies, who do I talk to?**

We understand that this is a difficult season for many. If you have any concerns with paying camp fees this summer please reach out to Ryan McKerlie by emailing [ryan@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:ryan@clarksonchurch.ca) or by calling 905.855.5001 ex. 27

## **I live outside the L5J postal code, is camp offered?**

Yes! We had originally restricted our registrations to those living in the L5J area, however we are very excited to offer our registration to everyone, regardless of their postal code.

## **If I am on a waitlist, how will I know if a spot has opened?**

If a spot opens, the camp administration staff will be in contact with you about the next steps for registration.

## **Camp Programming**

### **What does a typical week at camp look like?**

Camp is full of exciting activities such as outdoor games, crafting activities, bible lessons and more! Campers will get to experience lots of engaging activities while building relationships with campers in their group and leaders who really care about them. We will spend as much time outdoors this summer as possible, weather permitting, to give kids fresh air and to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

### **Will there be off-site trips this year?**

There is potential that this summer we will be able to plan camp with the use of Lewis Bradley Outdoor Pool. We are waiting to receive information regarding the safety protocols Lewis Bradley has in place, if we are able to use their facilities.

### **Will there be a BBQ once a week this year?**

We are planning towards having a BBQ lunch provided once a week. We are following public health guidelines for serving food in the safest way possible. If your child has any dietary restrictions, please email us at [summercamps@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:summercamps@clarksonchurch.ca) so we can arrange any accommodations.

## **What will camp groups look like this year? How will campers be separated?**

This year all campers will be placed into a small group called a cohort. Each cohort will contain a maximum of 15 other students in the same grade, plus a cohort leader and volunteers. There is one cohort per grade (Grade 1- 7).

## **What are the hours of camp? Do you provide extended hours?**

Supervised sign-in is from 9:00-9:15am. Camp hours are from 9:15-3:45pm. Supervised sign-out is from 3:45 until 4:00pm. If your child is not picked up from camp by 4:00pm, you will be charged an extra \$10 per 15 minutes to cover the extra staff costs. Unfortunately we are not able to offer any extended hours this summer with current public health guidelines due to the mixing of cohorts.

## **Where will I drop off and pick up my child?**

All campers must be signed in and out of camp. Drop off and pick up locations will be at Clarkson Community Church, unless otherwise communicated. Please check signage when you arrive as we keep cohorts separate. For the safety and security of all campers, we will require those who have permission to sign your child out to have photo ID in order to pick up the camper.

## **Will camp be fun?**

Yes! Not only do we want to keep campers safe, we want to do everything in our power to make camp FUN! Anyone who has attended Saga Summer Camps can tell you about how much fun it is! All our summer staff and volunteers are extremely creative, finding the best and most engaging activities for campers with a wide variety of interests.

## **What outdoor facilities are available at camp?**

Campers will be outdoors for as much of the camp day as possible (weather permitting). We will also make use of the parks and fields near our camp area. We will have shaded areas and water jugs, but we also encourage campers to bring their own water bottles, a hat, and sunscreen.

## **What indoor facilities are available at camp?**

Saga Summer Camps takes place at Clarkson Community Church. While we are aiming to be outside for as much of camp as possible, campers will have access to washroom facilities located inside, as well as rooms for each cohort to use if weather conditions require us to be inside.

## **Will camp also be online this summer?**

Yes! This summer we have decided to provide online programming in addition to our in person camp. Online summer camp comes at no cost, and our website can be found at <https://camp.clarksonchurch.ca/>. We want all campers to feel connected and comfortable participating in camp this summer.

## **Camp Leaders**

### **What is the ratio of campers to leaders?**

Our camper to leader ratio is approximately 1:15, in addition to volunteers who will help out with our cohorts. Cohorts will be composed of a maximum of 15 campers. In addition to your child's cohort leaders and volunteers, there are also camp directors and year-round staff available to help and provide extra support to campers as required.

### **Who will my child's leaders be?**

Your child will interact with leaders who really care about them – both paid staff and volunteers. Paid staff are mostly 18 years of age and older with a few exceptional high school students. Many of our volunteers are in highschool. If you are interested in volunteering at Saga Summer Camp please contact Juliana at [campvolunteers@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:campvolunteers@clarksonchurch.ca)

### **What type of training do leaders receive?**

General camp training includes emergency management, behavior management and de-escalation, and training on all camp plans and procedures. All our staff and volunteers undergo Plan to Protect, a module that trains in vulnerable sector protection. Additionally, many of our staff are trained in Standard or Emergency First Aid and all of our staff are trained on CRP, Choking, AED First Aid as well as prevention and management of campers with epi-pens and asthma. This year additional training will be included on the most up to date COVID-19 protocols including proper use of PPE and cleaning equipment, signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children to look for and more.

## **COVID-19 Health and Safety**

### **Will my child be required to wear a mask indoors? What about outdoors?**

In accordance with the Ontario Summer Camp COVID-19 Guidelines, campers will be required to wear a face covering that covers their nose, mouth and chin at all times while indoors. While outdoors campers will be expected to wear a mask except for during meal and snack times, or when a distance of 2 meters can be assured. We will ensure that there is ample time in a day

where we can properly physically distance to provide kids with a mask break. We will have spare masks available in case a child needs one.

### **Will staff and volunteers be required to wear a mask? What about outdoors?**

Yes, all staff and volunteers are required to wear a mask indoors. Staff and volunteers will be strongly advised to wear a mask while outdoors, however are not required if 2 meters distance can be assured. In accordance with Public Health guidance there will be situations where they will be required to wear additional PPE, such as eye protection (face shield or eye goggles).

### **Will staff and volunteers be vaccinated?**

We strongly encourage that all our staff and volunteers are vaccinated however, the vaccine is optional for all staff and volunteers so we cannot guarantee that all volunteers and staff will be vaccinated.

### **Which cleaning products do you use?**

We will be using a variety of cleaning products, all of which are designed to kill bacteria and viruses (Lysol, Clorox, etc). Depending on the surfaces in which we are cleaning, either wipes, spray, or other cleaners will be used.

### **Will I be notified if my child is exposed to COVID-19 at camp?**

Yes. We will follow public health guidelines and recommendations for contact tracing. If your child has been exposed to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, you will be notified and advised how to proceed.

### **Will I need to pre-screen my child for symptoms before attending camp?**

Yes. We ask that parents arrive having completed the online screening that is found at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. When you arrive to have your child signed into camp, please provide proof that your child has been approved by this screening survey. Alternatively, you will be asked these screening questions as your child is being signed in.

### **Will leaders be required to pre-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before attending camp?**

Yes. All camp leaders (volunteer and staff) will be required to use a pre-screening tool daily before arriving to work.

## **What public health guidelines are directing your decisions?**

We received the current guidance from the provincial Public Health on May 28th and are basing all decisions off of it. We will continually check for updates and adjust as required. To see the Ministry of Health guidance for summer day camps for 2021 please go to [https://www.prontario.org/public/PRO%20File%20Newsletter/Day\\_Camp\\_Guidance%20V-1-0%202021-05-26\\_.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2LfJ07XbcqFWV3JdYhj2Xs14b0WJtn4h1\\_IXu4QUJY6xiXAlzntCGR3E](https://www.prontario.org/public/PRO%20File%20Newsletter/Day_Camp_Guidance%20V-1-0%202021-05-26_.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2LfJ07XbcqFWV3JdYhj2Xs14b0WJtn4h1_IXu4QUJY6xiXAlzntCGR3E)

## **How will good hand hygiene be encouraged?**

Children will be asked to sanitize and/or wash their hands upon entering camp, before meals and at other times throughout the day. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers have been placed throughout the building in high traffic areas and use will be encouraged throughout the day.

## **How many people will my camper be exposed to?**

The only close contacts your camper will have is with other campers within their cohort. Every effort will be made to keep cohorts a minimum of 6ft away from each other at all times. Cohorts will have no more than 15 campers in them. In addition to campers in their cohorts, campers will also spend their camp day with their cohort leaders. Each cohort will have a staff member to supervise and additional volunteers. There may be times when a camp director and/or a children's ministry staff member need to enter your child's cohort but that will be limited, and only as necessary.

## **Will my child need to be physically distanced from others in their cohort?**

Program will be designed in a way to encourage more space between campers however close contact between members of the same cohort may be unavoidable. Where close contact is unavoidable between members of a cohort, face masks will be worn as much as possible.

## **Will my camper come into contact with other cohorts? How will cohorts be separated?**

Cohorts will not be permitted to mix with other cohorts. There may be times when they are in the same space, but we will do everything possible to keep cohorts 6ft apart. When it is not possible for campers to be outside, each cohort will have their own room. Each cohort will also have dedicated equipment. If equipment sharing between cohorts is required, it will be cleaned between cohorts. Shared spaces, such as the washrooms, will be cleaned regularly and thoroughly.

## **How will toys, equipment and surfaces be cleaned?**

Depending on the type of equipment, we have a variety of cleaners we will be using. Any equipment that is to be used by more than one cohort will be disinfected before use. High-touch

surfaces will be cleaned a minimum of twice daily. We will aim for single-use materials where possible.

## **How will you ensure COVID-19 safety during nutrition breaks and other mealtimes?**

Weather dependent, campers will be eating their snacks and meals at nutrition breaks outdoors while maintaining a minimum distance of 6ft from other cohorts. If campers are not able to eat outdoors due to the weather, campers will eat indoors with a minimum of 6ft between each cohort and extra spacing between campers and leaders in the same cohort.

## **What happens if a camper develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at camp?**

The camper with symptoms will be separated from others in a supervised area until they can go home. The parent/guardian will be notified immediately and must come pick up the camper(s) immediately. Public health will be contacted, and we will follow their advice. Environmental and equipment cleaning will take place immediately in the areas and to the equipment that camper used. Items that cannot be disinfected will be removed from camp program for a minimum of 7 days. If you are notified your camper needs to be picked up by camp due to COVID-19 symptoms you will be expected to arrive as soon as possible.

## **Volunteers**

### **Who is able to volunteer?**

Anyone who has completed grade 8!

### **Can participants get volunteer hours for this?**

Yes, after camp has finished volunteers will receive notice of their participation at camp and the number of volunteer hours completed.

### **What is the application process like?**

Our volunteer applications this year are online. Please complete the form found at <https://saga.campbrainstaff.com/>. Once your application has been received, you will be contacted about the next steps for volunteering this summer. If you have any questions throughout the application process, or want more information do not hesitate to contact our volunteer director Juliana, who can be reached at [campvolunteers@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:campvolunteers@clarksonchurch.ca)



## **What can I volunteer to do?**

In person volunteers can expect to be placed with a cohort of 15 campers maximum. They will be leading games, crafts, and other activities working alongside our staff team to ensure camp runs safely and smoothly. Volunteers are also able to help out behind the scenes with organizational tasks, and other administration. Online volunteers can expect to help with filming video content, editing videos, creating graphic designs for content and the website, and helping out with our camper care!

## **How many spaces do you have available?**

Due to the COVID-19 guidelines of running camp in-person, we only have a limited number of spaces available for working directly with our camper cohorts and within the building in another capacity. If you are interested in volunteering for our online camp, there are no limits to the number of spaces available!

## **When should I apply?**

If possible, we encourage you to apply as soon as you can. You can sign up to volunteer at any point throughout the summer, although you are more likely to be placed in a position you request the earlier your application is received. As mentioned previously, we can only accept a limited number of volunteers to help in-person, so it is important that you send in your application as soon as possible!

## **Other**

### **Is this the final plan? How will I know if the plan changes?**

This is not the final plan, but it is the plan we are currently working with. There will likely be changes to this plan based on the best practices advised by public health at that time. We will do our best to keep this page updated (we will update the date at the top if we make changes) and provide further communication to any major changes.

### **Who should I talk to if I have more questions?**

Feel free to contact camp administration at any point by emailing [summercamps@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:summercamps@clarksonchurch.ca) or by calling 905.855.5001 ex. 24.