

Welcome to Summer Camps 2021

We are thrilled that you have chosen the City of Burlington and we can't wait to make your summer one that you will always remember. In this letter, you will find important information about camps as well as information about our safety precautions and much more. We hope that you find this information helpful in preparing for what is certain to be one of your best camp experiences yet!

Health & Safety Precautions

The City of Burlington is working very hard to ensure the safest experience for all participants, families and staff during these times of concern. We have a number of precautions in place and are following all health and safety protocols of the region and province. Although many new precautions are in place, the most significant impacts include the group sizes and physical distancing of participants at all times. We ask you to review the expectations for all participants with your child(ren), and we aim to keep the kids well engaged and safe throughout.

The City of Burlington is an Accredited HIGH FIVE Organization! What does this mean to you as a parent? HIGH FIVE Accreditation is the highest standard of excellence in the delivery of recreation programs. The City of Burlington is recognized for offering high quality programs through: HIGH FIVE Certified Staff, Quality Assessment Tools, and Participant-Centered Policies and Procedures.

Throughout the summer we will be ensuring that your child experiences the 5 principles of HIGH FIVE:

- A Caring Adult - Caring, positive and supportive relationships with adults help participants develop positive social skills, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Friends - Friends help introduce children to the bigger world beyond their family, share in humor, test loyalty, form their first audience and offer support and criticism.
- Participation - According to this principle, children need to make choices, have a voice and do things by and for themselves.
- Play - Play stresses fun, creativity and cooperation. Play allows children to shape their environment, use their imaginations and enjoy the activities they are involved in.
- Mastery - Mastery means providing children with activities and tasks that make them feel they are special, important and succeeding.

For more information on HIGH FIVE, please visit www.highfive.org

About our camps

Our summer camps provide memories that last a lifetime and the City of Burlington is committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment for your child. Our programs aim to:

- be safe and well supervised
- engage participants through age-appropriate activities,
- promote active living and develop new skills through focus on fundamental movement skills,
- provide social interaction helping to develop leadership, team work and fair play!

About our staff

All Camp Staff are trained in HIGH FIVE Principles of Healthy Child Development. Each program location is staffed by a minimum of 2 caring and qualified leaders. Our camp staff are typically university, college and high school students committed to your child's safety and enjoyment. All camp staff have: first aid/CPR, criminal reference check, as well as extensive training in leadership skills, program planning, risk management, communication, behavior management and problem solving, to name a few. Each program site has an on-site Supervisor known as the Senior Leader. These Senior Leaders receive additional training in all areas of supervision and are your first point of contact to address camp comments and questions. www.burlington.ca/play

What do you need to know for camp?

Camp Updates: Parents and participants registered in city camp programs can stay updated with information including site changes. The best number to contact regarding any Camp questions is our Customer Service at 905-335-7600 ext.6262 or e-mail camps@burlington.ca

Summer Camp Dates: This summer, Programs will be running from Monday July 5 until Friday August 27, 2021. Due to current health situation, program dates are subject to change without notice.

Holidays: There will be no camp program on Monday, August 2, 2021 (Civic Holiday)

What to bring to camp: Sunscreen, hat, running shoes (for safety, please keep sandals at home), mask and active clothes that can tolerate some camp fun. Children should be able to apply the sunscreen to themselves as we cannot have staff or other participants help with this. We will incorporate water games to fight the heat at times, so be sure to include a change of clothes (swimwear optional) and a towel.

Food: Participants should bring a nut-free lunch, 2 nut-free snacks, and a labeled refillable water bottle/jug.

Arrival/ Dismissal Procedures: One requirement this summer will be absolute no attendance for anyone who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to someone with it. We will have a daily screening that must be completed each morning before drop-off. The daily screening will be done online and will assist with contact tracing if anyone has issues, and the system will email you the confirmation approval. Upon arrival you will be required to show the approval (green check) with the date to be permitted into the program. We will not allow your child in each day until the daily screening is received as all clear. Be sure to bring the device or print out that can show the confirmed screening each day. For more information visit www.burlington.ca/screening.

Camp arrivals should be as close to 9:00 am as possible, with doors open around 8:45. Staff will ask for the name of the person dropping off at the time they confirm the Screening check. We ask you to notify staff in advance if drop off will be later than 9:15 so camp can get on with activities. We also ask that you notify staff if you will pick up earlier than the scheduled time of 4:00 to 4:15. The group will typically be outdoors and may not be close by the facility in the outdoor space, becoming inconvenient for drop-off and pick-up outside of those main times. The person picking up your child will be asked for identification and will need to be on the registration as an approved contact. Participants may be granted permission to sign themselves in or out, only at designated arrival and dismissal times, and only if the parent or guardian has noted so in the Participant Information Form and the child is over 9.

The Camp programs will spend the majority of the time outdoors, limiting our time indoors to inclement weather conditions and washroom facilities. Please dress appropriately and be prepared to be outdoors all day. Masks must be worn by everyone inside a facility. The children may remove their masks while outdoors and will keep in their personal activity bin/bag, readily available as needed. All participants and staff will maintain physical distancing from others of 2 meters indoors and out. If your child has difficulty with the physical distancing or other behavioural challenges, we will require your support to manage these behaviours. Masks must be worn even outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained.

If your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19, we will isolate them and call you immediately for pickup. We will not allow any child with symptoms to return until 24 hours symptom free and they have a negative result from a test for COVID-19, or isolate for 14 days. If your child has any symptoms, keep them home. If your child has any pre-existing conditions that may present symptoms similar to those of COVID-19 (ie. chronic cough), please inform us early on the Medical update form to assist in understanding your child.

As far as activities in the camp go, we will keep busy each day with plenty of active and social games and crafts, again keeping physical distancing as much as possible. We have modified regular activities to keep the kids at a distance. We will incorporate water games and splash pads to fight the heat at times, so be sure to include a change of clothes (swimwear optional) and a towel.

Extreme Weather: Our camp programs seek to actively engage campers outdoors as much as possible. If you are concerned of your child's health due to the air quality of temperature, we encourage you to keep your child home for the day as not all program facilities are air-conditioned. Should you have any questions about air quality in the Halton-Peel area, check out www.airqualityontario.com/reports/summary.php. During a declared heat event, staff will ensure children are in shaded areas, have access to water and will focus on low intensity games/activities. Please note that in certain declared heat events some programs may be relocated to a different venue. Communication on these changes will be provided on-site and on the Camp Website at www.burlington.ca/camps.

Photographs: Occasionally photographs may be taken either by the Parks & Recreation staff or local papers for promotional purposes. If you have any objections to your child being photographed, please inform the Senior Leader and make a note of it on your child's registration where photo release indicated. A Photo release form is also available at www.burlington.ca/camps and at each camp site.

Trips: Please note there are no scheduled trips for Summer 2021. Campers may participate in off-site programming. Parents/guardians will be made aware of any off-site programming during their week of camp. (i.e. visiting splash pads, neighbourhood parks, special event programming).

Supervision: City of Burlington staff will provide supervision of your child at all times, both on and off-site. If you have any questions about trips or supervision, inquire with the senior leader at your camp site.

Age Policy: The Child Care and Early Years Act came into affect on August 31st, 2015. As a result, all participants registered in the City of Burlington Camp Programs must be 4 years of age on the first day of the program. A participant will not be able to register if they are 3 years of age turning 4 during a program. Please visit the following link for information on the Child Care and Early Years Act:

<http://www.ontario.ca/document/child-care-rules-child-care-and-early-years-act>

Illness/ allergies & Medication

Communicable Illness: Given the nature of camp programs, contact with communicable illnesses such as the flu and chicken pox can be possible. We are dedicated to assist with the prevention of spreading such illnesses. We do this through providing information on the prevention of spreading germs, frequent hand washing within program times and maintain a clean facility. For further information please contact the Halton Region Health Department www.halton.ca.

Medication: In the event that medication is needed during program time, a medication consent form must be completed and can be obtained from staff. All medication must be in the original container, with your Child's name. Please send only enough medication for the day.

Epinephrine Injector and Inhalers: We do request that any participant bringing an epinephrine Injector or inhaler to a program, bring it in a separate fanny pack that the participant can wear at all times. Please check the expiry date on supplies prior to start date of the program. Staff will ask you to fill out a medication consent form for their records.

Participant Code of Conduct

Please review with your camper the expectations outlined below so all participants are aware of what is expected of them, other participants and staff. The goal of our summer camp programs is to provide enjoyable age-appropriate activities in a safe and positive environment. On the first day, camp staff will review and discuss the rules and expectations with campers. Not following the rules and expectations may lead to the dismissal of the participant from camp.

- Show respect and consideration for staff and peers.
- Be cooperative and willing to participate in program activities.
- Include others in play. Bullying and teasing will not be tolerated.
- Physical and verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Respect the facility and program equipment.
- Participants must remain with staff and in designated program areas.

Parents/guardians will be contacted in cases where participants are behaving inappropriately or irresponsibly and may be asked to pick up from camp.

In Respect to the current Health situation with COVID-19

- Complete daily health checks at home and in person
- Tell your camp councilor if you are feeling unwell
- Masks or face coverings must be worn by participants in accordance with Provincial Regulations and mask by-laws when inside buildings and enclosed public spaces. Wearing a mask or face covering is also recommended outdoors when you can't physically distance more than two meters.
- Wash hands when instructed or use hand sanitizer multiple times throughout the day
- Maintain physical distancing between campers and staff.
- Follow instructions when transitioning to a new space during the program (Following floor markers, signage, physical distancing, staff instructions).
- Do not share food or drinks with other campers
- Campers must remain in the designated group for the entire week.
- Comply with Provincial and Regional Health guidelines.

Parents/guardians or alternate contact must be available to support staff, including picking up participants from camp when health issues dictate.

We hope that the information provided in this letter has been helpful! We encourage you to visit our website www.burlington.ca/camps or email us at camps@burlington.ca or call 905-335-7600 ext. 6262 for more information.

We look forward to a safe and enjoyable summer!