Health & Safety Plan
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This plan is subject to change based upon updated public health guidance from the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Should any policies be updated, all impacted parties will be notified.

Purpose

This document serves to communicate pertinent aspects of the Da Vinci Science Center’s COVID-19 Operations Plan to all Program Participants and their parents/guardians. Da Vinci Science Center is committed to safeguarding the health and safety of all individuals who interact with the Center, including, but not limited to program participants, staff, and volunteers. The Standard Operating Procedures contained within this document have been developed using guidance and recommendations from The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as state and local officials and have been designed to coincide with the most up-to-date scientific evidence concerning best practices for preserving public health. The Center’s full COVID-19 Operations Plan details the expectations and policies for all staff and volunteers and has been acknowledged by each individual.

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Communication & Contacts

Importance of Communication

Communication will be the keystone of our Health & Safety Plans for the 2021-22 programming season. Da Vinci Science Center will communicate with each participant’s guardian via email and/or phone using the information provided during registration. A confirmation email will be sent to all participants immediately upon completing registration. Please be sure to adjust email inbox filters to allow these messages to be delivered and read. Should you need to communicate with Da Vinci Science Center, please identify the most appropriate recipient below.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, Da Vinci Science Center will communicate all health and safety measures with parents/guardians. The full Health & Safety Plan (this document) can be accessed at any time online at https://www.davincisciencecenter.org/ for future reference by any and all individuals. Additionally, staff and volunteers will communicate scientifically accurate, age-appropriate health and safety guidance with all participants in friendly, positive ways that promote our culture of inclusion, diversity, and understanding.

Science is the Solution, and we are all in this together.

Email Contact Information

General program questions can be sent to camps@davincisciencecenter.org or clubs@davincisciencecenter.org

Questions related to the Health & Safety Plan can be sent to one of the following individuals:

Rhonda Tomel  Primary Point of Contact  Education Programs Manager
Lindsay Clinton  Secondary Point of Contact  Camps Coordinator
Brian Strohecker  Da Vinci Science Center’s Pandemic Safety Officer  Director of Operations
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Staff & Volunteers

Suspected Exposure to Health Risk

Any staff member or volunteer who is sick, experiencing symptoms, has tested positive or has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 is required to notify their supervisor/HR, stay home, and monitor their health. Da Vinci Science Center will notify all guardians and local health officials should a staff member or volunteer working with their camper receive a positive COVID-19 test, in accordance with all applicable laws.

Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette

All Da Vinci Science Center staff and volunteers are required to lead by example and practice good hand hygiene by washing their hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water and techniques identified by posted signage. Staff and volunteers are also expected to practice good respiratory etiquette, that is, all coughs, sneezes, etc. should be appropriately covered and used tissues immediately discarded.

Enhanced Social Distancing

All staff and volunteers are expected to maintain at least 6 feet of personal space when interacting with one another and when setting up experiences/activities for all program participants. Any time 6 feet cannot be maintained, all staff and volunteers are required to take all applicable actions to minimize the risk of spreading germs, including but not limited to hand washing, using single-use materials, and utilizing personal protective equipment.

Face Coverings

All staff and volunteers are required to wear face covering, specifically, a ‘facemask,’ that covers the wearer’s nose and mouth snuggly at all times, except while eating or drinking in accordance with the Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings and the latest CDC guidelines and recommendations. Cloth face masks will be made available by Da Vinci Science Center to all staff, volunteers, and participants in the event an individual’s is damaged, soiled, or otherwise rendered unusable. Cloth masks must be worn correctly and maintained using the information provided from the CDC.

Wellness Screening

All staff and volunteers must undergo a temperature check and be symptom free when reporting for their shift. Anyone with a temperature over 100.4°F and/or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home to monitor their health.
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Program Participants

Suspected Exposure to Health Risk

Any program participant who is sick, experiencing symptoms, has tested positive or has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 is required to stay home, and monitor their health. Should a Participant satisfy any of the criteria above, guardians are asked to contact one of the Science Center staff listed in the Health & Safety Plan Email Contact Information. Da Vinci Science Center will notify all guardians and local health officials if their participant may have been exposed to an individual that received a positive COVID-19 test, in accordance with all applicable laws.

Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette

Science Center staff and volunteers will coach participants to practice good hand hygiene by washing their hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water while following the techniques identified by posted signage. Staff and volunteers will also encourage good respiratory etiquette, that is, appropriately covering all coughs, sneezes, etc. and immediately discarding used tissues. Personal hygiene items (soap, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc.) will be available to participants in each assigned space and throughout the Science Center. Staff and volunteers will coach participants in a friendly, non-threatening way to instill a culture of good health habits.

Room Plans

Each program will be restricted to no more than 75% of capacity or a maximum of eighteen (18) participants per room. Rooms will be set up so that participants will be seated at least three feet (3’) apart from one another in the classroom and six feet (6’) apart while eating.

Indoor Space Utilization

Increased sanitization practices have been and will continue to be in place throughout the season. Areas of the building where queuing occurs will be labeled to promote ample personal space. Outdoor ventilation will be maximized, and where applicable, windows/doors will be opened, weather permitting.

Enhanced Social Distancing

Program participants will be asked to maintain at least 3 feet of personal space when interacting with one another while engaging in experiences/activities with the exception of 6 feet of space while eating. Tables will be configured to maintain 3 feet of space between participants when seated in their assigned Lab. Any time appropriate distance cannot be maintained, staff and volunteers are required to take all applicable actions to minimize the risk of spreading germs, including but not limited to facilitating hand washing, distributing single use- materials to each participant, and encouraging the use of personal protective equipment.
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Cohorting (Small Groups)

Program participants will be arranged by sub-group, each of which has been limited to no more than 75% of capacity. Each group will occupy specific assigned spaces to minimize/eliminate the number of times a space is used by more than one group. Groups will work alongside the same educator for the duration of their program experience, whenever possible. Any special guests visiting in-person will meet with the participants in larger spaces, prioritizing outdoor spaces whenever feasible.

Face Coverings

All participants are required to wear a face covering specifically, a ‘face mask,’ that covers the wearer’s nose and mouth snugly at all times, except while eating or drinking in accordance with the Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings (effective July 1, 2020) and the latest CDC guidelines and recommendations. Face shields are not deemed an appropriate substitute for a face mask, but may be used in addition to a snugly fit face mask. Extra masks will be made available in the event an individual’s personal mask becomes damaged, soiled, or otherwise rendered unusable.

Participant Drop-Off & Wellness Screening

Health and wellness should be monitored by parent/guardian prior to the start of programming. All participants will be received by a Science Center staff member along the sidewalk outside of the Science Center each day. No guardian will need to park and walk their participant to the building. Participants will be guided inside and escorted in small groups (3-4 participants) to their appropriate Lab.

Participant Pick-Up & Wellness Update

Participants will be escorted to their guardian’s vehicle by a Science Center staff member along the sidewalk outside of the Science Center each day. No guardian will need to park and walk their participant from the building. Upon departure, staff will communicate any developments regarding their participants’ health and/or behavior with their guardian.

Personal Items

Personal items brought to the Science Center by Participants should be minimized, except when necessary. All personal items should be properly labeled and stored in a container (lunch box, backpack, etc.) that can be sanitized easily/quickly using disinfecting sprays/wipes or disposed of after use. Personal lunch boxes, backpacks, sweatshirts, and other belongings will be stored separately from others, inside the students’ assigned camp room and will be accessible to them.

Snacks & Lunch

Participants joining us for School’s Out Science Camp programs who elect to purchase snack plans will be issued individual, sealed juice boxes and snack items. Those wishing to bring their own should ensure that all reusable materials are clearly labeled with the participant’s FIRST and LAST name. It is highly encouraged that all participants bring their own reusable water bottle that is also labeled with their FIRST and LAST name.
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All questions, concerns, and/or comments can be directed to the most appropriate employee identified in the Email Contact Information section on Page 2. We look forward to bringing science to life and lives to science for all this program.