



Protocol and Safety Guidelines for Youth Programs Fall 2021-Winter 2022

Introduction

Seacoast Science Center (SSC) believes that the safety of its visitors, program participants, and staff and volunteers is of paramount importance. SSC has established a nearly 30-year track record for putting the safety of its program participants first. We also believe that, in accordance with [State of NH Covid-19 Response Universal Best Practices](#), it is important for SSC to continue to provide its trusted educational child care services.

SSC has established rigorous health and safety protocols for infectious disease control and prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic. All procedures and protocols are developed with the best practices advanced by the [US Centers for Disease Control](#) and [State of NH Covid-19 Response Universal Best Practices](#) in mind. This document outlines SSC's Camp, After School Program, and Marine Fellows health and safety protocols, as well as specific measures that we believe are required to foster a safe and healthy program experience at Seacoast Science Center and within Odiorne Point State Park (OPSP).

Environmental Day Camp

Seaside Safari Environmental Day Camp, for children in grades K-5, is offered during regional public school vacation weeks; December 27-31, 2021; February 14-18 and 21-25, 2022; April 18-22 and 25-29, 2022; and all summer long, Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm, with extended care options. Maximum of 12 students per group; maximum child to staff ratio is 7:1.

Nature Detectives After School Program

Nature Detectives After School Program, for children in grades K-5, is offered two afternoons per week (Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays) for 6-week sessions, 3-5pm. Maximum of 12 students per group; maximum child to staff ratio is 7:1.

Marine Science Fellowship

Marine Science Fellowship, for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors, is offered per semester, September 11, 2021–January 8, 2022. Sessions are held on Saturdays, 10am-1pm with additional, flexible hours. Maximum of 12 students per semester; maximum student to staff ratio is 7:1.

Health and Safety Guidelines for Youth Programs, Fall 2021-Winter 2022:

1. Program participants or participants with parents or caregivers that exhibit COVID-19 symptoms or have come in known contact with someone tested positive for COVID-19, cannot attend any SSC program until after completion of the CDC recommended quarantine period.
2. Students will be moved to designated and isolated quarantine space if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other illness while in attendance.
3. Programs will emphasize outdoor activities in lieu of indoor activities whenever possible.
4. Under the supervision of the Director of Camp and Programs, Educators will ensure that all attendees practice infectious disease control hygiene measures at all times in SSC programs
5. Program attendees and staff will wear a face mask at all times indoors, and outdoors when social distancing cannot be maintained.
6. Should a counselor call out sick, a substitute will be assigned. That substitute will be trained in SSC safety protocol.
7. SSC commits to keep in close communication with all parents, notifying them of instances of sickness and potential or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in After School Program, or involving SSC staff.

TRAINING

SSC Staff and Educators will participate in safety protocol and procedures training in advance of Fall Programs, including:

- Infectious disease sanitation and proper use of PPE
- Recognition of potential COVID-19 symptoms and process for quarantining persons suspected of showing symptoms
- Group distancing, both inside the building and outside
- Attendee drop-off and pick-up procedures
- Disinfection of program supplies
- Bathroom procedures, including disinfecting, cleaning and safe, respectful monitoring of children while they are in the bathroom

