



Town of Old Saybrook

Parks and Recreation Department

308 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475 • Tel: 860 395-3152 • Fax: 860 395-3154

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Tuesday, September 15th we received directives from the state that effective Monday, September 21st all Children 3 years of age and older are required to wear masks while in child care programs. While this has been our policy from the start of our Cohort Camp for both staff and campers, we wanted to share this information to you.

If your child has yet to attend our camp, you may want to try “practicing” at home before the 21st. We will work with all children as they adjust to wearing a mask at school and in our camp. Mask breaks will be taken and masks are not required during snack/lunch time or for some of our outdoor activities.

Per OEC Coronavirus Memo #29:

- Children 3 years of age and older are required to wear masks while in child care programs.
- This change is effective September 21, 2020 and will continue during the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies unless earlier modified by the Commissioner of Early Childhood.
- Children shall not be excluded from the program or isolated from their peers due to the child’s non-compliance with mask wearing.
- The exceptions to the mask requirement in camps and child care settings are as follows:
 - A child with a documented medical condition, special health care need, or developmental need (such as sensory integration) for whom wearing a mask or face covering would be contrary to their health or safety is not required to wear a mask.
 - A child with a documented disability or special education need for whom wearing a mask or face covering would be contrary to their needs may be permitted exceptions. In addition, children and staff involved with certain special education and related services activities like speech and language therapy or where lip reading is required may remove a face-covering mask intermittently.
 - Children are not required to wear a mask while eating, sleeping or resting. Distance between children must be maximized, maintaining at least 6 feet of distance wherever possible when masks are removed.
 - Children who are newly enrolled within the past two months and are working toward mask wearing are permitted to remove their mask or face covering.
 - Children who have just turned three years old may have up to two months to acclimate to wearing a mask or face covering and support developmental readiness.
 - ‘Mask breaks’ may be planned and scheduled throughout the day. Mask breaks indoors must maximize physical distance between individuals, maintaining at least 6 feet of distance wherever possible.
 - Masks may be removed for outdoor activities.

Please reach out Old Saybrook Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Jonathan Paradis, Jonathan.Paradis@oldsaybrookct.gov if you have any questions or concerns. For more information on mask wearing and the guidance, please click on the following links.

1. [CDC Guidance for Masks](#)
2. [American Academy of Pediatrics Guidance](#)
3. [Office of Early Childhood Guidance](#)

Sincerely,

Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation