



# Response to Coronavirus Youth Activities During Phase 3

DIOCESE of ARLINGTON

## GUIDE for PASTORS & SCHOOL LEADERS

December 11, 2020

(Changes based on the issuance of Executive Order 72 on December 10, 2020.)

Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington seeking to offer youth activities must comply with Commonwealth of Virginia requirements as delineated in the Forward Virginia plan (<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/governor-of-virginia/pdf/Forward-Virginia-Phase-Three-Guidelines-December-2020.pdf>). **Social gatherings should be limited to 10 participants. This does not apply to religious services or educational, instructional settings.** The requirements most relevant to youth activities are highlighted below. Note: for activities occurring at schools, per an order from the Virginia Public Health Commissioner, each private school operating in the Commonwealth must develop and submit a plan to the Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE) for implementing COVID-19 mitigation strategies before reopening.

### General Mandatory Requirements:

- Businesses must strictly adhere to the physical distancing guidelines, enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices, and enhanced workplace safety practices provided in Virginia's "Guidelines for All Business Sectors" document, including strict handwashing practices, and procedures and practices to clean and sanitize surfaces.
- Locations must post signage at entrances that states that no one with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, or known exposure to a COVID-19 case in the prior 14 days, is permitted in the establishment.
- Locations must post signage to provide public health reminders regarding physical distancing, gatherings, options for high risk individuals, and staying home if sick.
- All persons in the Commonwealth aged five and older are expected to cover their mouths and noses with a face covering when entering, exiting, traveling through, and spending time inside a public setting. This applies to any indoor place shared by groups of people who are in close proximity to each other. Adults accompanying minors should use the adults' best judgment with respect to placing face coverings on a minor between the ages of two and four while inside the public areas noted above. Adults accompanying minors aged 5 through 18 shall use reasonable efforts to prompt the minor to wear face coverings while inside the public areas. There are exceptions (noted in Executive order 63) to include: any person who has trouble breathing, persons with health conditions that prohibit wearing a face covering, and participating in a religious ritual.
- **All individuals in the Commonwealth aged five and older must cover their mouth and nose with a face covering, as described and recommended by the CDC, when outdoors and unable to maintain at least six feet of physical distance from other individuals who are not Family members.**

### From the section on restaurants—relates to eating at a school summer camp:

- All parties, whether seated together or across multiple tables, must be limited to **10 patrons** or fewer.
- Provide a minimum of six feet between people at tables, (i.e., the six feet cannot include the space taken up by the seated student). If tables are not movable, seat people at least six feet apart.
- Employees working in customer dining and service areas are required to wear face coverings over their noses and mouths, such as using CDC Use of Cloth Face Coverings guidance.
- Buffets may be open for self-service, with continuous monitoring by trained staff required at food lines, and serving utensils must be changed hourly during peak meal times. Facilities must provide hand sanitizer at buffets, and employees and patrons must use barriers (e.g., gloves or deli tissue) when touching utensils.
- For self-service beverage areas, use beverage equipment designed to dispense by a contamination-free method.
- Perform thorough cleaning and disinfection of frequently contacted surfaces.

### From the sections on fitness, exercise and indoor/outdoor recreational sports—applies to those activities occurring at a school's athletic camp:

- Indoor and outdoor recreational sports may occur if **10 feet** of physical distance can be maintained by all instructors, participants, and spectators, with the exception of incidental contact or contact between members of the same household. This applies during instruction and practice and during competitive events.

### **From the sections on fitness, exercise and indoor/outdoor recreational sports (Continued):**

- The total number of spectators of recreational sports cannot exceed the lesser of 30% of the occupancy load on the certificate of occupancy, if applicable, or 25 spectators per field. **For sports played outdoors, spectators are limited to two guests per player.** Races or marathons may have up to 250 participants, provided staggered starts separate runners into groups of 25 or less, and physical distancing is observed between runners.
- **Spectators must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth at all times.**
- Facilities should separate fitness equipment to ensure ten feet of separation between people using such equipment.
- Ensure anyone who has symptoms of, has tested positive for, or has been exposed to COVID-19 follows appropriate guidelines for quarantine or isolation. Persons with symptoms should stay home until CDC criteria for ending isolation have been met.
- Ensure daily screening are conducted or affirmed for coaches, officials, staff, and players for COVID-19 symptoms prior to admission to the venue/facility. Children should be screened per the CDC guidance for screening children.
- Adults should be asked if they are currently experiencing fever (100.4 or higher) or a sense of having a fever, a new cough that cannot be attributed to another health condition, new shortness of breath that cannot be attributed to another health condition, new chills that cannot be attributed to another health condition, a new sore throat that cannot be attributed to another health condition, or new muscle aches that cannot be attributed to another health condition or specific activity (such as physical exercise).
- Anyone experiencing symptoms should not be permitted in the venue/establishment. Screenings should be conducted in accordance with applicable privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.
- Instructors and all participants of group classes must maintain at least ten feet of physical distancing between each other at all times.
- One-on-one instructors must maintain at least ten feet of distance between themselves and the student.
- Employees are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth, such as using CDC Use of Cloth Face Coverings.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations, including at the entrance/exit and where shared fitness equipment is utilized.
- All shared items must be disinfected between each use to the extent practicable.
- Facilities must prohibit the use of any equipment that cannot be thoroughly disinfected between uses (e.g., climbing rope, exercise bands, etc.). Facilities must also prohibit the use of equipment requiring more than one person to operate, unless those operating are from the same household (e.g., free weights when it requires a spotter).

### **From the section on social gatherings -- relates to youth activities that might involve classrooms and group activities:**

- No gatherings of greater than **10 people** in one location.
- Instructors must maintain at least ten feet of distance between themselves and students.
- Limit the occupancy of spaces to ensure that six feet of physical distance can be maintained between all organizers, staff, volunteers, and attendees who are not members of the same household.
- Reconfigure seating areas to allow six feet of physical distance between individuals by eliminating or closing select tables or seating areas, or by spreading them out to allow for adequate spacing.
- Ensure exits are configured to reduce the occurrence of bottlenecks at the conclusion of the event.
- Practice routine cleaning and disinfection of high contact areas and hard surfaces, including check out stations and payment pads, store entrance push and pull pads, door knobs and handles, dining tables and chairs, light switches, handrails, restrooms, lockers, floors, and equipment. Follow CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection and use an EPA-approved disinfectant to clean. For high contact areas (e.g., in both public and staff areas), routinely disinfect surfaces at least every 2 hours. Certain surfaces/objects in public spaces should be cleaned and disinfected before each use.
- Gatherings should not include close contact between gathering organizers, staff, and attendees not from the same household. Discontinue activities such as face-painting, temporary tattoo application, or audience participation with performers.
- Where applicable, install visible markers for queue lines that separate people by six feet. Provide physical guides to seating areas including floor decals, colored tape, or signs to indicate where attendees should not sit, stand, or gather.
- Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, at staffed front office areas.
- Provide a place for staff and attendees to wash hands with soap and water, or provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers. containing at least 60% alcohol.

