

## **Health & Safety/Sick Policy:**

In light of COVID-19 and the current situation, VisArts is taking every precaution as outlined by the Center for Disease Control. These policies for Onsite Summer Camp are non-negotiable and must be followed by students, staff, teachers and everyone who enters our building.

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## **Preparing for camp**

### **How to prepare in weeks leading up to camp**

#### **Health forms/in-depth health information**

Health forms must be filled out with as much detail as possible before the first day of class. Please inform us of ANY medical conditions your child has, (including seasonal allergies) even if it seems unrelated. If your student will need any special accommodations, please let us know ahead of time via the forms, an email, or a phone call. If your child takes medication, VisArts staff must be informed ahead of time. Staff will not be holding on to, or administering any medications, but we can remind students when to take them.

#### **Preparing your child for camp**

Prior to sending your children to camp please discuss with them how to recognize COVID symptoms, as well as how to express themselves if they believe they are sick. Please review the CDC guidelines on how to talk to your children about COVID-19:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/talking-with-children.html>

Please discuss with children appropriate ways to express their feelings/symptoms if they are feeling ill, and help them recognize whether they are feeling bad because of stress or anxiety rather than physical pain/symptoms. Discuss language with students that help them express their different symptoms with staff so we may make an accurate assessment about their condition.

### **What to do each morning before coming to camp**

#### **Evaluating your child's health**

Each morning, please speak to your child about how they are feeling. If you feel like they may be sick in any way, please do not send them to camp. If you feel that they may be exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, please contact a healthcare provider as soon as possible and follow their instructions. Be sure to contact VisArts staff as soon as possible as well.

### **When NOT to send your child to camp**

Students' temperatures must be taken **before** arriving at VisArts for drop-off. Any student whose temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher SHOULD NOT COME TO CAMP. Other symptoms should be reviewed daily, these symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion or runny nose
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue/malaise
- Head or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell

If students begin demonstrating symptoms at home after attending Camp, please do not send them back to camp, contact a healthcare provider, and notify VisArts staff IMMEDIATELY. If you, your child, or someone else in your household has been tested for COVID-19 within the last 3 days, and is currently isolating while waiting for results, **please do not send your child to camp.**

## **VisArts Safety Protocols**

### **Class pods, masks, and social distancing**

#### **Class pods**

This year's onsite camp will use a pod system. Students will be placed in a pod with a certain number of students, and will attend all of their classes with those persons only. The pod will include other campers, and up to 2 teachers/aides. The maximum number of students per pod will be determined by the size of the classroom, the capacity is calculated keeping in mind 3-6 feet of distance between students' work spaces at all times.

Pods will attend class and eat lunch together and will not under any circumstances interact with any other pods for more than the briefest of times (absolutely under a 15-minute threshold.) Interaction with administrative staff members will be limited to the briefest interactions possible.

## **Masks and social distancing**

VisArts requires it's students, staff, and visitors to wear medical grades masks, i.e. blue medical masks, KN95s or N95s. Masks must be worn properly; fitting snugly over the nose, mouth and chin. While VisArts will have extra masks on hand, please pack your child three masks in a clean, plastic bag every day and clearly mark your child's name on each mask.

Social distancing will be strictly enforced at all times at VisArts Camp. Students' work spaces in class will be set up to allow for at least 3-6 feet of distance between them. While students are unmasked at lunch, they will maintain 12 feet of distance between them. This policy will be strictly enforced, please speak to your children prior to camp about the importance of respecting social distance.

## **Hand Washing, water fountains, and bathrooms**

### **Handwashing**

After entering school and putting away personal possessions, all staff and students are required to immediately wash their hands thoroughly. The required hand washing protocol is for 20+ seconds with warm/hot water and soap, while rubbing both sides of the hands, wrists, each finger, and in between fingers before rinsing and drying thoroughly with a paper towel.

Staff and students will also wash their hands throughout the day and may use a sanitizer with 60%+ alcohol when a sink is not feasible.

### **Water fountains**

Water fountains have been turned off at VisArts. Please send your child to camp with a water bottle and a straw that can fit under their mask so that they can keep hydrated without removing their mask

### **Bathrooms**

Students will be escorted to the bathroom by a staff member and only students in the pod can be in the bathroom. Bathrooms will be cleaned several times each day with special attention paid to high-touch surfaces. Supervised handwashing will be carried out after each bathroom visit.

## **Class Assignments and Cleaning/Disinfecting**

### **Class Assignments**

Pods will be assigned a classroom, and that classroom will be used by that pod only throughout the entire session. At no time, Monday through Friday will anyone besides members of the pod, administrative staff, or members of VisArts cleaning crew be allowed inside the classroom. Students will have their own work space set 3-6 feet away from other students' work spaces. The amount of students in the pod will be dependent on the size of the classroom.

### **Cleaning and Disinfection**

Classrooms will be spot cleaned throughout the day and will be thoroughly cleaned after the classrooms are emptied. In addition, disinfectant wipes will be available so that frequently touched surfaces may be cleaned often. Frequently touched surfaces include light switches, sink knobs, door and cabinet handles, tables, chair seats and chair tops, and other surfaces touched by staff or students during the day.

## **Daily Procedures**

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

#### **Arrival**

VistArts will be installing a safe, low-contact check in system for all campers. We will require families to monitor their children's health via temperature and symptom checks as well as safety questions. Families will be given more information about this system prior to the start of camp.

#### **Dismissal**

After students have packed up, they will be led back down the private back stairwell and to the assigned dismissal waiting area with the rest of their pod. Students will wait for their designated pick-up person and will be escorted to them by a staff member.

## Daily Activities

### During Class

Campers will remain in their pod throughout the entire camp session. VisArts has made every effort to create a camp program that is safe and secure, while still providing a fun, creative, educational atmosphere. While the pandemic has limited some of the activities we can do, campers will still have the opportunity to learn about a variety of different visual art methods.

### Lunch

Students will eat lunch with students from their pod only. While they will be unmasked, they will maintain a distance of at least 12 feet between each other while eating. When students are finished eating, they will put their masks back on for the remainder of the lunch hour.

## Sick Policy

Students may not come to camp if they are at all unwell, as they may spread or pick up germs in their compromised state. Whether the child presents symptoms of COVID-19 or another illness, please air on the side of caution and keep them at home. If they have been sick, or have been in contact with a family member who is sick, the child must remain at home until they are better or have been cleared by a doctor (in the case of COVID-19) to return.

## Sick at VisArts

### If a student feels sick while at VisArts

Due to the highly contagious nature of COVID, and the wide range of symptoms that present, VisArts will consider any illness to be serious. The following policy lays out the steps we will take if/when a child complains of illness:

If a child displays signs of illness or expresses that they are not feeling well at VisArts, a staff member will inquire about symptoms and contact a parent/guardian. After consultation with the parent, a decision will be made as to whether or not to send the child home. **If the child is complaining of illness but does not have a fever, it will be VisArts' decision whether or not the child may rejoin their pod.**

If the child has a temperature parents will immediately be contacted to arrange for pick-up of their symptomatic child within 30 minutes or less. Please make sure

emergency contacts and designated pick-up people are up to date when you fill out your health forms.

After the child has been picked up, the staff members will clean and disinfect the classroom. Families of all students will be informed if any child/staff member is sent home because of illness while attending camp. Anonymity of the student/staff member will be respected.

Remember, if your child has seasonal allergies, the health form must indicate that the child is subject to this condition. Parents will be asked to identify what their child's allergy symptoms look like, so they can be distinguished from other symptoms of illness.

### **In case of positive result**

In the event of a positive result of COVID by any staff member or student, VisArts will be following the guidelines laid out by the CDC. VisArts will implement a short-term closure procedure, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Dismissing the staff and students from the pod in question for a mandatory quarantine - the CDC recommends that those with a possible exposure should quarantine for AT LEAST 7 days
  - If you decide to get tested and receive a negative test result, the CDC recommends you continue to isolate for 7 days after possible exposure
  - If you do not want to get tested, it is recommended you isolate for at least 10 days after possible exposure
- Communicating with staff, students, and their families thoroughly regarding any updates. This includes communicating with ALL camp families.
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the site -- including waiting for up to 24 hours after the positive test result to begin cleaning to allow for respiratory droplets to settle, keeping doors and windows open (where it is allowed) to keep circulation as open as possible.

Administrative staff will coordinate with local health officials to determine subsequent steps and course of action.

For more information about our policies for a positive COVID case, please see the 'Important Documents' section on our main camp [website](#).