

Health & Safety/Sick Policy:

In light of COVID-19 and the current situation, VisArts is taking every precaution to protect the health and well-being of all students, teachers, and staff members. These policies for camp are mandatory 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 to the camp experience. 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.

Vaccinations

VisArts requires that all students be fully vaccinated by the start of camp. VisArts follows the guidelines as set by the CDC, and therefore considers one to be fully vaccinated two weeks after their final shot. Please upload a picture of your child's vaccine card in the health forms when prompted.* All teachers, volunteers, and staff members are fully vaccinated

*Please note, you may still register for camp if your child is not fully vaccinated at the time of registration. However, all students **MUST** be vaccinated by **MAY 1ST**. Please log into your account when your child qualifies as fully vaccinated and upload a picture of their vaccine card. Those whose vaccine cards are not dated/uploaded by May 1st, will have their registrations canceled and refunds will be given in accordance with our cancellation policy which can be found in our FAQs on our camp home page.

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

Masks, Handwashing, water fountains, bathrooms, and cleaning procedures

Masks

VisArts will be requiring that all students, staff, and administrators wear masks at all times while at VisArts. Please send your child to camp with at least three extra medical grade masks in a ziploc bag with their name clearly marked on it. VisArts will continue to monitor the vaccination rate, and heed the advice of the CDC and other authorities, therefore, this policy is subject to change.

Handwashing

After entering camp and putting away personal possessions, all staff and students are required to 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 they can keep hydrated without removing their mask.

Bathrooms

Students will be escorted to the bathroom by a staff member. Bathrooms will be cleaned several times each day with special attention paid to high-touch surfaces.

Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures

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 Camp Procedures

Arrival and Dismissal - ProCare

Arrival/Dismissal

VisArts Camp has created a safe, low-contact, and efficient check in/out system for campers. We use ProCare, an online database that allows us to provide live camper updates throughout the day, and allows you to check your child in and out of camp without even leaving the car! More information about the arrival and dismissal process can be found in the [‘Arrival and Dismissal Policies’](#) document.

Daily Activities - Class set-up and Lunch/Recess

Class set-up

Artistic Adventures

Campers ages 7-12 attending the two-week Artistic Adventures camp will rotate through different classes each day, with a period for lunch and recess in a separate, designated lunch room or outside as weather permits. Students will be divided into 5 groups, and will be grouped by age. Classes will be maxed at 15 students per classroom. Campers will attend classes, lunch, and recess with their group and may mix for these periods with one or two other camp groups.

Young Artists

Campers ages 5 and 6, attending the two-week Young Artist camp will remain in one room for all of their art classes. Class is maxed at 15 students. Young Artists will have breaks throughout the day for snack, lunch, and play time in a separate, designated eating and play area. Campers will attend classes, lunch, and recess with their group, and may mix for these periods with one or two other camp groups.

Tween/Teen Camp

Tween and teen campers will attend classes with those registered for the same camp.

Lunch/Recess

Students will have lunch and recess in a designated area separate from their classrooms. VisArts has some outdoor space available and we will do our best to bring campers outside for lunch and recess as much as possible, weather permitting. Depending on their group, campers may share their lunch and recess period with another group or groups. Social distancing will be enforced, especially while the campers are unmasked for eating, when social distance will be increased to 10-12 feet. Students will be permitted to remove their masks during outdoor lunch and recess, and their distance will be monitored and enforced by staff.

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 tested negative for COVID.

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 class.**

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 not close down in the case of a positive test result of a camper, teacher, or staff member. We will inform families of the possible exposure, and recommend a monitoring period of several days in which students' symptoms and wellbeing is monitored. If any student begins to show symptoms of COVID-19, they should be kept at home and be tested. The nature of the test depends on how many days have passed since expected exposure.

- A rapid antigen test should be taken if symptoms show within the first 3-5 days after exposure.

- A PCR test will be required if symptoms appear more than 5 days after the initial exposure.

Students who start to present symptoms **MUST** present a negative result in order to return to camp. No refunds or credits shall be given in case of a positive COVID test.

Students who test positive for COVID-19 during camp should be kept at home until they can provide VisArts with a negative test result.