

# Important Covid-19 Information for Forest School 2021/22

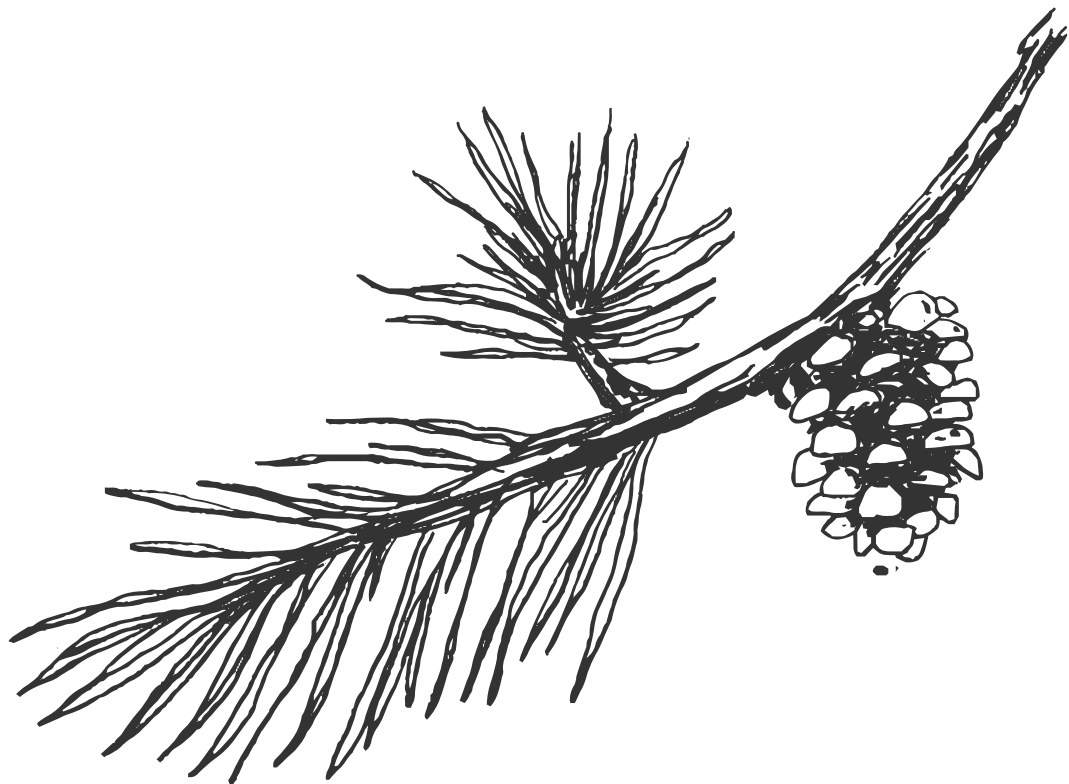
We're ready and excited to offer a safe environment for kids to connect, learn and play again this school year! Thanks to our comprehensive health & safety procedures, our diligent staff, and the incredible support of families, we have had zero reported cases of Covid-19 at our camp and school-year programs to date.

**Below is a summary of our current Covid-19 health & safety measures. Please read it carefully.**

A lot can change between now and the fall! Pine programs will continue to adhere to provincial and municipal public health guidelines as they continue to evolve. We're continuing to closely monitor for updates and we're dedicated to communicating any changes to families as quickly as possible. Our Information for 2021/22 School Year Programs [webpage](#) will be updated regularly and registered families will be emailed directly.

Please reach out to our team with any concerns, questions or comments at [info@pineproject.org](mailto:info@pineproject.org).

We're looking forward to all of the fun-filled adventures ahead!



# Health & Safety

## Screening and Illness

All participants will be required to complete a daily health screening. Screening questions will reflect the most updated public health guidance. Health screenings can take place either:

- At-home Online Screening (preferred)
- In-person screenings at drop-off



**Participants who do not pass the screening will not be permitted to attend program.**



**Monitoring participants for signs and symptoms** of Covid-19 throughout the day

- If a participant falls ill while at program, they will be isolated from the rest of the group. Caregivers will be contacted to pick up their child immediately.

## Physical Distancing

- Establishing small groups, in accordance with guidelines, that do not mix with other groups.
- Encouraging physical distancing between participants, caregivers and staff within a group whenever possible. Physical distancing may not be possible in situations such as providing first aid, managing camper behaviour and emotions, during safety and emergency situations or inclement weather.

## Masks/Face Coverings

- Participants are required to wear masks when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
  - Families are asked to send participants with two clean masks each day (one to be worn and one extra in their bag in case their mask gets spoiled).
- Caregivers are required to wear masks during pick-up and drop-off.
- Staff are required to wear masks at all times during program (unless eating or drinking).

## Hygiene & Sanitation

- **Increased frequency of routine cleaning and disinfection** of high touch surfaces & equipment.
- **Washroom facilities** will be a private portable toilet for the exclusive use of Pine Project participants and staff, which will be regularly cleaned and sanitized.
- **Enhanced hygiene and sanitation practices for participants and staff**
  - Requiring frequent handwashing/sanitizing. Hand sanitizer ( $\geq 70\%$  alcohol) will be used when soap and water is not available.
  - Enforcing strict no-sharing policies for food and personal items.

### Code of Conduct

All participants are asked to agree to our **Code of Conduct, which includes physical distancing, respiratory etiquette, hand washing and respectful interactions with others.**

If participants are unable or unwilling to follow this code of conduct and/or their behaviour puts staff or other participants at risk, warnings will be issued to the participant and their parents. If the participant's behaviour does not improve after positive behaviour management, they may be asked to leave program.



# Behaviour & Expectations

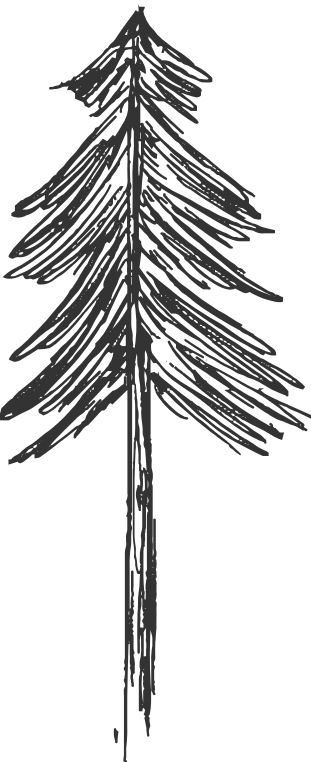
As always, we are committed to maintaining a safe and positive learning environment for participants and staff. Our programs aim to provide space and freedom to explore and learn, supported by clear agreements and expectations for participant behaviour. The reality of Covid-19 requires us all to be even more aware of how we are interconnected, and how our actions impact others.

To ensure everyone's health and safety at program, we are asking that participants honour some basic agreements and are outlining stricter consequences for behaviour that threatens the health and safety of others. Please read and talk about the Code of Conduct with your child.

## Code of Conduct:

**Our core agreements: Take care of 1) Self, 2) Others, 3) Nature.**

Participants must be able to take care of themselves and others by:

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- Physical distancing: Staying at least 2m away from others and using masks when needed
  - Listening to and following staff instructions
  - Following and staying within their group
  - Not sharing items such as food and drinks
  - Practicing healthy personal hygiene, such as sneezing or coughing into their arm
  - Washing their hands themselves
  - Using the washroom themselves
  - Carrying all their items in their own backpack
  - Caring for their own personal needs, such as eating, staying hydrated, changing wet socks (with verbal help and encouragement from staff)

### Communicating with staff:

- Letting staff know if they have a physical need (eg. washroom, feeling sick, thirsty)
- Letting staff know if something is bothering them

### Treating everyone with respect.

- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- Respecting the personal space of other participants.
- Engaging in physical conflict with other participants will not be tolerated.

Participants must also take care of nature by respecting and caring for our natural surroundings.

Supporting participants as they learn to integrate these expectations is a priority for our staff. It is our intention to work with caregivers and participants to address behaviour challenges as they arise. **If these agreements are broken, staff will contact the participant's guardians to discuss strategies and align expectations. If the participant's behaviour does not improve and puts others at risk, the participant may be asked to leave the program.**

# Cancellation & Refund Policies

A \$2,000 deposit is required for each registration. Of this, \$1,000 is non-refundable.

A full refund, less a \$1,000 non-refundable deposit, will be issued to any cancellation made during the notice period of 28 calendar days or more prior to the start date of the program.

Cancellations before December 15th will result in a 50% reimbursement of the program tuition.

No refunds will be issued after December 15th.

**Behaviour:** Students are expected to honour the Pine Project's Code of Conduct. We reserve the right to dismiss a student whose behaviour is out of line with this Code of Conduct in a way that puts themselves or others at risk. No refund will be issued for dismissals.

**Weather:** Forest School runs rain or shine. We don't provide refunds or credits for days missed due to weather. All children should come to school with weather-appropriate clothing and related gear. In the event that extreme weather jeopardizes the health and safety of students and staff, the Pine Project may choose to cancel the school day. No refunds will be issued.

**Park access:** The Pine Project operates in public parks. In very rare circumstances where access to the park has been restricted without notice, school may be cancelled if an alternative location can not be secured. No refunds will be issued.

**Low enrollment:** The Pine Project reserves the right to cancel a program due to low enrollment. A full refund will be issued.

We reserve the right to cancel a program or change a program's duration, price or location.

**Circumstances beyond our control/force majeure:** The Pine Project will determine whether a refund is warranted.

## **Covid-19:**

If we are required to cancel school for any period of time due to government mandate, public health recommendations or other Covid-related circumstances:

- We are not able to guarantee a notice period. However, we will do our very best to advise families as soon as possible.
- Virtual programming will be provided in lieu of in-person programming. No refunds will be issued. Individual cancellation requests will not be accepted.

All cancellations must be requested in writing by emailing [info@pineproject.org](mailto:info@pineproject.org).

We recognize that extenuating circumstances exist. For cancellations due to medical illnesses, or for any other compassionate reason, please apply in writing to [info@pineproject.org](mailto:info@pineproject.org). If the reason is medical- or illness-related please include official documentation.