

# Youth Ministries Covid-19 Safety Policy

Updated September 14, 2020

- This policy will be flexible to reflect any changes made by the BC health authority or NLCC.
- This is a covid-specific safety plan and is an addition to NLCC's Plan to Protect policy

We are opening up spaces at our Walnut Grove Campus for on-site Youth events! Though the atmosphere will be a bit different in order to abide by current health and safety regulations, it will be incredible to gather and connect. We will gather in groups of up to 50 people (including staff, leaders and students) in different spaces in the building that:

- Do not exceed 50 people
- Have their own entrance / exit
- Have their own washroom
- Are big enough to allow for physical distancing

## SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR ON-SITE EVENTS

- Pre-registration will occur of all mid-week programming with cps on group size
- Attendance will be kept for contact-tracing purposes

- Each space will have its own designated entrance, exit, and washroom facilities
- A host will help you *check-in, sanitize your hands*, and direct you where to go
- **Masks**
  - Students and leaders are expected to arrive wearing a face mask and wear them throughout the night. At specific times, the leader may decide to make masks optional when appropriate distancing is assured. Some examples of these times might include:
    - When outside
    - When sitting and practicing physical distancing
    - Other times as deemed safe by the leader in charge
  - Masks will be used when physical distancing could be less than 2 meters. These time will include:
    - When checking in and during mingle time before and after events
    - During some games
    - When in any high traffic areas
  - When masks are a psychological or health risk, an attendee may use a face shield instead of a face mask with the permission of the youth pastor
- No physical touching between people outside the same household including hugging, high 5's, fist-bumps, etc.

- Even if people are from the same bubble or cohort, but not from the same house, they will be asked to physically distance. Students have a hard time maintaining physical distance when they see their friends not distancing
- Hand sanitizer will be used before and after any activities with more than one person touching the same item.
  - ex. passing a frisbee, playing with nerf darts, spikeball
- Any tagging/touching/contact will need to happen through another item like a pool noodle, ball, etc.
- Visiting and conversation before / afterwards events will take place outside whenever possible
- Anyone feeling sick is asked to *stay home* until they are well again or at the advice of a health professional
- If an event exceeds 50 people or what the space can safely accommodate, the group needs to either:
  - Split into smaller groups in different parts of the building
  - Move the event outside into different areas
  - Cancel the event if it can't be done safely
- Snacks and refreshments will only be served if they are individually wrapped or served by a designated food server with a mask and gloves. No communal food service.

## OFFSITE EVENTS & TRAVEL

- Whenever possible, offsite events should do dropoff and pickup at the event location to limit the need to carpool or drive people from different bubbles
- Leaders will not be required to drive other leaders or students if they don't feel comfortable with it.
- If driving with students / leaders outside your bubble:
  - Parents of minors are notified and must give permission before getting in the car
  - Everyone in the car wears a mask
  - Middle seats are not used; so a max of 4 people in a typical 5-seater car
  - Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after the car ride
- HSY won't meet in restaurants for official events; though students and leaders may choose to do so. Leaders need to get verbal or written permission (text) from parents before meeting students in restaurants.
- Small Groups sometimes meet in homes. The same protocols as onsite WG events apply.
  - Attendance needs to be recorded.
  - Masks worn if physical distancing is less than 2 meters
  - Dropoff and pickup will happen at the home

- Anyone feeling sick is asked not to attend
- Events can't exceed 50 people, or what the home / space can safely accommodate
- Hand washing is encouraged and sanitizer made available
- NLCC Youth ministries will not hold overnight retreats / events while these protocols are in place.