

Field Institute of Taos Health and Safety Guidelines – updated 4/6/23

Please note: These guidelines may change at any time and will be updated on our website. Parents of any children in a session at the time of any changes will be notified directly.

FIT is choosing to give children the **option** to wear non-cloth KN95 masks in indoor spaces (including in vans) at this time. Masking is NOT required and, besides driving in the vans, we spend the vast majority of our time outside in fresh air.

The health and safety of our participants and their families, staff, and community is always our number one priority. We are committed to taking all necessary precautions to limit exposure to and transmission of COVID19 and other contagions with the advice and support of our Medical Advisor.

Camper Health

It is important that all FIT participants, parents, staff, and community members continue to pay close attention to their health and the health of those around them. We aim to keep everyone healthy.

YOUR CHILD SHOULD NEVER ATTEND A PROGRAM IF HE OR SHE HAS ANY SYMPTOMS OF VIRAL ILLNESS OR IF YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH ANYONE WHO HAS THESE SYMPTOMS OR HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID 19. NOT ATTENDING PROGRAMS WITH ANY SYMPTOMS IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT DEFENSE AGAINST SPREADING ILLNESS.

Our vans are confined spaces and it is not ok for a sick child to ride in a van with healthy children. FIT programs can be physically challenging and, even if symptoms are not COVID, your child should rest until they feel well. Symptoms that require staying home include: **fever, sore throat, cough, muscle aches, congestion, vomiting, diarrhea, tiredness, or shortness of breath; lost or experienced an altered sense of smell or taste.** If your child or someone in the household exhibits any of these symptoms, please do not come to FIT programs. Notify us so we can consult our Medical Advisor and determine the best course of action.

Masks and Distancing

Non-cloth masks are optional in vans and indoor spaces for staff and campers. If someone needs a mask, FIT is able to provide one.

Picking Up a Sick Child and Refunds

If a child begins to exhibit any symptoms of illness while in a FIT program, we will not put the child with symptoms in the van with healthy children. A parent or guardian will be required to pick the child up as soon as possible. In the event of a child becoming sick before a session begins or during a session, FIT will issue a full refund of the unused days.

If a child who has been riding in a FIT van becomes sick with Covid, we may need to cancel (and refund) the remainder of that session. This will be looked at on a case by case basis.

The purpose of these guidelines is to support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our community. We understand that everyone may not agree with our approach. We hope you will respect our decision as one that comes from a desire to do what we feel is best for our community.

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