

SDBC Youth COVID-19 Protocols

Fall 2021

At SDBC Youth we will be organizing and running each youth night in a manner appropriate to the current health and safety guidelines from the provincial government and mirroring many aspects implemented in our local schools. With that in mind, here are the precautions that will be implemented at Gap and Gap Jr.

Pre-registration

- We will not be requiring pre-registration at this time for our Gap and Gap Jr programs.
- We will, however, require that all students who wish to attend arrive at our registration table to sign in and give their information for contact tracing purposes.
- Students will also be expected to answer the COVID-19 questions in regards to their current conditions and willingness to participate in the cleanliness and activities at this event.

Masks

- Students will be required to bring a mask with them to these events to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Masks will be worn at all times, except during physical activity when students can choose to remove their mask.

Physical Distancing

- Each individual will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing while attending our event.
- Any games played at these events will prioritize non-direct contact with other students or leaders. Following safety and sanitary protocols, there will be shared surfaces for students who are willing to play (such as a ball or nerf rocket which will only be briefly touched).

Item Use and Distribution

- How items are distributed at these events is crucial in maintaining a safe environment. For this reason, our trusted leaders will be placed in charge of certain areas of use in our facility to control and maintain the contact of our items.
 - Sports equipment will be placed out by one person for students to take or use.
 - Paper and pens will be distributed by one leader to the student.
- At our events there will be some items that students will have the opportunity to share. In all cases, cleanliness will be our top priority as we strive to keep all who attend safe.
 - These items include different types of sports equipment, such as soccer balls, volleyballs, or basketballs.

- All equipment will be properly cleaned and stored during and in-between events at our youth group.

Hand Washing

- At our events all people in attendance will be highly encouraged to wash their hands regularly and thoroughly.
- Effective hand washing is the most effective way to stop the spread of COVID-19.
 - Washing hands for up to 20 seconds can be critical in killing the bacteria.
 - If a student cannot wash their hand at the sink due to it being in use, they need to remember to wait patiently for their opportunity before exiting the bathroom.
 - There will also be hand sanitizer constantly available during our youth nights. All students are highly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to stay clean and safe.

With these protocols in place, here is how you can expect a night at Gap and Gap Jr to look. Each student will be welcomed as they enter the building and be directed straight to our registration table. At this time, the leader behind the table will give the student hand sanitizer and take their name, parent's phone number, and other important contact-tracing information. Students will then be asked the common questions regarding COVID-19 for the group's safety (these questions are listed below for your information). From this point, a student enters the social time section of the night where a student can join in a game of soccer or volleyball lead by a leader. There will be no free-use options in the gym at this time in order to reduce the risk of contamination. Students may choose not to join in these games but rather to socialize in a physically distant manner elsewhere in the church. After the 15 social time, students will be directed into the Youth Centre for our announcements. There will be hand sanitizer available for students to use as they enter the room and pick their seat for the night. Leaders will ensure that physical distancing is upheld as students settle into their seats. Following the announcements, students will be directed downstairs to play a game. Students will be able to temporarily remove their mask during the game. We have taken great care to ensure the safety and comfort level of all students, so games will prioritize non-direct contact between people and all students have the option to not participate in games. Once our game portion is completed students will be directed to transition back into the Youth Centre, but encouraged to sanitize or wash their hands prior to entering. We will also be selling pop as we did prior to the pandemic, with leaders wearing safety gear and keeping students at a safe distance while making their purchase. Students will be told to try and sit in the same seat they used during the announcements as we sit down for the message portion of the night. We will cover our message and engage students in biblical teaching as we near the end of the night. Following the message there will be a similar free time to the beginning of the night as students wait for their parent(s) to arrive.

Disclaimer: All protocols and standards are liable to change as the condition of the pandemic shifts, causing us to become either more strict or lenient on these protocols. All changes will be updated and communicated clearly.

COVID-19 Questions:

1. Have you traveled outside Canada within the last 14 days?
2. Have you recently tested positive for COVID-19 or have you had close contact to someone with the virus without wearing full PPE?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever
 - New onset of cough
 - Worsening chronic cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Sore throat
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - Decrease of loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Chills
 - Headaches
 - Unexplained fatigue/malaise/muscle aches (myalgias)
 - Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
 - Runny nose or nasal congestion without other known cause