



As the end of the school year inches closer, kids and parents in the [Seattle](#) area are left planning for a summer that will likely look very different from years' past.

The future of many summer camps this year remains up in the air as the state moves forward with its gradual reopening plan during the [novel coronavirus](#) pandemic. Some organizations have already canceled their summer camp sessions, while others are moving forward with plans in place to ensure the health and safety of campers and staff. Still, other organizations are shifting their focus to a different kind of offering: virtual camps.

A spokesperson for Gov. Jay Inslee said plans for summer camps are still in the works.

"Right now there is an informal work group representing organizations that hold camps and they have been meeting with some of the governor's policy advisors on envisioning what the future may look like this year for both day camps and overnight camps," press secretary Mike Faulk said in an email.

He said most of the discussions right now are focused on day camps.

So far, organizations such as the Girl Scouts of Western Washington and the [Woodland Park Zoo](#) have announced their camps won't be happening this year.

"We can't take the chance of convening girls and volunteers early in the post-outbreak recovery period since other locations have seen infections spike as soon as they've relaxed mitigation efforts," CEO Megan Ferland [said in an update](#) on the Girl Scouts. "The health and safety of our girls and volunteers is not worth the risk."

Still, other organizations are moving forward -- at least for the time being -- with programs that might look a little different from what families are used to.

The [Boys & Girls Club of King County](#) is planning to offer all-day programming over the summer beginning the third week of June. The organization said it is reaching out to families to see what kinds of needs they have to make sure everyone stays safe and is prepared to adapt.

"Our dedicated team of child development experts has stepped up to meet the challenges our community is facing," President and CEO Laurie Black said. "We are focused on safety, while also providing exceptional programming to ensure kids and teens have a fun, educational, positive place to go when not in school or at home."

Black said the organization would continue to be "flexible and forward-thinking" in all its future programming.

Field trips will be evaluated on a trip-by-trip basis. If the organization isn't able to offer field trips this summer, it plans to use technology so kids can "explore beyond the walls."

Some of the steps the Boys & Girls Clubs will take to ensure everyone's safety include taking peoples' temperatures, asking families who have had contact with someone with the virus to quarantine and making sure youth and staff wash their hands often. If someone attending a summer program does test positive for the virus, the organization also plans to close down the facility for at least two days to clean and disinfect.



From left, Max Stemper, 8; Cody Frey, 7; Jack Scheideman, 8; and Roman-Jones, 9, of Wedgwood Summer Camp spent part of yesterday enjoying the International Fountain at the Seattle Center. The temperature in Seattle yesterday reached a high of 76 degrees.[/caption]

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