



YMCA CAMP MASON DAY CAMP PARENT GUIDE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for choosing YMCA Camp Mason as your child's summer day camp. This Parent Guide will familiarize you with our program and help your family prepare for your child's summer experience. Reading through this guide with your child is important and should answer any questions you may have. Please hold onto this guide as it has important information for before and during your child's experience at Camp Mason's Day Camp.

Sincerely,

Anna Bilton | Summer Camp Director
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GOALS AND OUTCOMES

FRIENDSHIP

Caring adult role models lead activities and games that foster friendships.

ACHIEVEMENT

Campers build skills and confidence through camp activities like archery, boating and so many others.

BELONGING

By participating in Camp Mason traditions, campers feel like they belong.

DAY CAMP GROUPS

AGE-APPROPRIATE PROGRAMMING

All campers are placed in a family group for the week. Each family group will participate in activities as a group to encourage new friendships and allow for age-appropriate structure for activities. Groups are based off of age and number of registrations, an effort is made to keep all campers in a group within two grade levels of each other.

PRE-CAMP CHECKLIST

- Review Parent Packet
- Pay any unpaid balances 2 weeks prior to session
- Complete forms and return to camp prior to your camper's session.
 - ✓ Health History Form
 - ✓ Camper Conduct Form
 - ✓ Program Participation Waiver
- Help your child pack using the daily checklist as a guide.
- Check-in between 8:45-9:00 AM on the first day of camp

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 8:45-9:00 AM | Drop Off |
| 9:15 AM | Family Group |
| 10 AM | Activity 1 |
| 11 AM | Activity 2 |
| 12 PM | Lunch |
| 1:00 PM | Activity 3 |
| 2:00 PM | Activity 4 |
| 3:00 PM | Trading Post/Courts |
| 3:45 PM | Closing Ceremonies |
| 4:00 PM | Pick-Up |

PLANNING FOR YOUR WEEK OF DAY CAMP

DAILY CHECKLIST

Sack Lunch if you are not purchasing

lunch (No nut products, please)

Sunscreen and hat

Water bottle

Swimsuit and towel

Small Backpack

Closed-toed shoe – No flip flops or sandals

Water shoes for boating (No flip flops)

Plastic bag for wet items

Weather appropriate jacket

* Please mark all clothing and equipment with the camper's full name.

The following items are not allowed at camp: money, I-pods, MP3 players, video games, cell phones, snacks containing nuts, chewing gum, makeup, knives, pets, fireworks, aerosol sprays and weapons of any kind.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

The regular day camp program hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day. We ask that all campers are present for these hours. Day camp drop-off is from 8:45 – 9:00 AM, and pick-up is from 4:00-4:15PM. Before/After Camp Care are available as needed. Before Camp Care starts at 7:30 AM & After Camp Care ends at 5:30 PM.

If you have a day when you need to pick up your child before 4:00 PM, please inform the day camp staff in writing/email. If you need to pick up your camper early, **please plan on picking him/her up prior to 3:30 pm, as our staff are busy with closing ceremonies during the last half hour of camp.** Our staff will make arrangements to have your child ready to pick up at the camp office at the time you request. Children must be accompanied by an adult when they arrive and leave the day camp program. You must sign your child in and out daily. For the safety of your child, only you or the other adults you designate in writing on the release form may pick up your child. **Please be prepared daily with photo identification.**

DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

We take the health and safety of our campers and staff very seriously. If your child has any of the following symptoms, they should not come to camp.

Fever—any temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (F) or greater

Vomiting or Diarrhea

Persistent cough or difficulty breathing

Severe pain (like a migraine headache or severe earache)

Severe sore throat that lasts more than 48 hours, especially when accompanied by a fever

A significant rash, especially when other symptoms are present

Large amounts of discolored nasal discharge

Pink eye

These could be signs of a contagious illness, like strep throat, the flu, or even COVID-19.

We will generally accept your child back to camp when they have been symptom free for 24 hours WITHOUT the assistance of medication (ibuprofen, acetaminophen, etc...). We also kindly ask that you call or email any absences related to illness to the Camp immediately. Thank you!

FORMS AND HEALTH INFORMATION

HEALTH HISTORY AND CAMPER RELEASE FORM

All campers are required to have a completed health history form. **Please complete the online form prior to your camper's session. It is located in your Camp registration parent portal.**

INSURANCE

You, as the parent or guardian, are responsible for any medical costs incurred as a result of injury or illness while your child is at camp. Be sure to provide accurate information (carrier and policy number) regarding your health insurance on the health history form.

HEALTH CARE

Our camp staff are trained in emergency first aid and CPR techniques. Emergency transportation is available from the local ambulance department. Should any serious accident or illness occur at camp, parents or guardians are notified immediately.

Please, if your child is ill, do not send him/her to camp. If your child is ill and cannot attend camp for the entire session, we will try to reschedule as space is available. If your child becomes ill while at camp, you will be contacted to pick him/her up. In case of injury, the day camp staff and/or health care staff will take necessary measures to ensure proper emergency care, which may include: treatment by staff for minor injuries, phoning you for your instructions, calling local emergency care providers, or transporting the camper to a doctor or emergency care facility when necessary. We will notify parents as soon as possible about any communicable diseases affecting children in the program. We report outbreaks of diseases to local health authorities. Children absent due to contagious diseases can return to the program when accompanied by a signed physician's statement indicating they are no longer contagious. Children absent due to lice may not return until there is no sign of lice. The child will be inspected for lice by the day camp staff before they can re-enter the program.

It is very important that you provide us with complete emergency contact information. In the case of any injury that requires medical attention, we will make every attempt to contact you prior to treatment. In the event you cannot be reached, we will have your written authorization (on the health history form) on file to treat an injury.

MEDICATIONS

All medications must be submitted to the day camp staff. All prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications must be in their original container with a licensed physician's instructions. Please place your packaged medications in a clearly labeled sack (zip lock bags work well, with masking tape for a label) with camper's name, dosage and directions for administering. Any medications that are coming with your child to camp must be listed on the Health History form. All medications are administered by the camp directors or camp health care staff under the doctor's or parent's written orders. Non-prescription drugs must have a parent note attached. Children should not bring or administer their own medication, except where regulations and standards make exceptions for inhalers. Any unused medications will be returned at the close of the camp session. Any changes to medications or medical conditions must be communicated to camp director prior to program beginning.

CAMPER/PARENT EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES

BEHAVIOR AT CAMP

Our staff will make every attempt to provide positive, realistic expectations, and guidelines for your child. Attending YMCA camp is a privilege that you as a parent/guardian have chosen for your child. Campers that cannot live within camp rules, or are adversely affecting the experience of other children, will be dismissed without a refund. In these rare instances, it is the responsibility of parents to pick up their child from camp.

FOOD AND SNACKS

Camp will provide the opportunity to purchase a snack each day at our Camp Store. You should place money in your store account through your registration portal. Please send your camper with lunch (unless you are purchasing lunch from Camp), and take care to make sure it is nut free (no peanut butter, please). We ask that you discuss with your child about not sharing their lunch with others.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

Day campers are separated into groups based on grade and age. We try first to place campers who are within two grade levels in school, then within one year of age, into the same groups. An important part of camp is meeting and making new friends. Our staff is trained to build unity within the group. Group changes are not possible once camp begins. Camper to staff ratios are approximately 6-8 campers to 1 staff member.

STAFF

Family groups of campers are supervised by camp staff. All leaders are selected for their willingness to work with children and undergo a rigorous training program prior to the opening of summer day camp. Character references and background checks are conducted on each staff. The overall program is supervised by a professional YMCA director. We put a great deal of effort into finding the finest people to lead and inspire our campers.

LOST AND FOUND

The camp experience is an opportunity for children to learn responsibility for their personal belongings. Prior to camp, please discuss with your child caring for and keeping track of their gear. Also consider that summer camp can be hard on clothing and shoes, so new or expensive items are not recommended. Mark all clothing and equipment with the camper's full name. Any unclaimed items left behind will be held for a period of one week after each session, after which they will be donated to charity. YMCA Camp Mason is not responsible for lost or damaged articles.

REFUND POLICY

Deposits are not refundable under any circumstances after May 1. In case of homesickness, dismissal or voluntary withdrawal, there is no refund of any fees. A physician authorized written medical excuse verifying illness or injury is required to be considered for a refund. If camp is must close due to Department of Health restrictions or Governor's guidelines, participants will be given a full refund.