



**Camp Gan Israel
Cherry Hill - 2021**

Parent Handbook

Welcome

Dear Camp Gan Israel Parents,

Camp Camp Gan Israel is a safe, fun, Jewish camp. We will give your children the best summer experience possible following strict guidelines put together by the finest experts in the fields of camping and public health. Camp Gan Israel is part of the largest network of Jewish camps in the world, and is proud to provide the best in fun and safety in a nurturing and caring Jewish environment. This year, aside from upholding the standards set by the ACA, we will also strive to uphold the standards of the CDC, OC Health and other federal, state and local offices in regard to COVID-19. We want to implement these guidelines in the calmest, most natural way possible, to ensure both camper safety and happiness. These guidelines may change as things develop, though we successfully ran our camp during the pandemic last year.

Together with our staff, we work to bring out the best in your child's development and growth, physically, socially and emotionally. Using our website, www.WeLoveCGI.com, regular email communication and newsletters, we stay in touch with you about our programs and activities.

Please review this handbook so you will be familiar with the new procedures and policies of our camp. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call the camp office at 856-438-0607 or email the Info@WeLoveCGI.com

Yours truly,

The CGI Team

Pre-camp practices

A healthy camp starts at home. To ensure a happy and healthy experience for your child/ren, here are some things you can do:

1. Monitor for signs of illness.
2. Teach your child to cough and sneeze into a tissue and then dispose of it.
3. Teach your child to wash hands often, especially before eating and after using the toilet.
4. Make sure your child gets enough rest at night.
5. Send spray-on sunscreen to camp and teach your child to apply it. (The counselors will be available to offer limited help to those who need it.)
6. Explain to your child that they should be sure to tell a counselor if they need something or are bothered by something or someone.
7. Monitor your child's temperature for the two weeks prior to coming to camp. Check for signs of COVID-19: fever, cough, shortness of breath, extreme fatigue and/or headache, loss of smell or taste, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and /or diarrhea, and let a camp director know if you observe any of these symptoms.

Prepare your child with the following information:

1. He/she will walk into Kellman by him/herself (parents cannot escort).
2. He/she may have his/her temperature taken daily using an IR thermometer.
3. The entrance to camp will be at the side by the overhang.
4. Talk to him/her about the importance of listening to the counselors and staying with his/her group.
5. If your child is particularly anxious and would benefit from a video call with one of his/her counselors, please get in touch with us.

At camp practices:

1. If your child exhibits signs of illness during the day, you will be required to come pick him/her up. Depending on the situation, your child may be isolated until you arrive. If there are siblings at camp, they may also be isolated until your arrival.

In case of confirmed infection impacting kids at camp:

1. Parents of the children in the specific bunk will be notified;
2. We will follow the recommendations of the local health care agency and our advising physicians.

During camp practices:

1. Reach out to a camp director if you have any concerns or if there is anything we can do to enrich your child's experience.
2. Children should not move from one program to another more often than every 3 weeks.
3. Keep an eye on your child's health. If he/she has a fever or shows any symptoms typical of COVID-19, err on the side of caution and do not bring him/her to camp. Reach out to let the camp office know.

Your Child's Safety

Pickup and Dropoff:

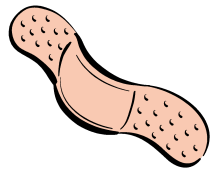
1. Arrival is at 8:55am at the side entrance, under the overhang.
2. Parents and other visitors are not allowed on campus, so please have everyone else remain in the car.
3. Ideally, all communications with the camp should be done via email or over the phone. If you need to have an urgent conversation with the director from inside your car, please wear a mask.
4. The entrance gate will be open from 8:45 am until 9:30 am. After that, please go to the front door for admittance.
5. We strongly advise you to both drop off and pick up your child/ren. If you need to designate another person for any reason, that person must be on your list of authorized alternatives <https://www.ultracamp.com/admin/accounts/editAltPickup.aspx>.



6. Pick up at the end of the day is from 3:30 pm until 3:40 pm. After that we will send your child to after care.
7. When you are picking up your children, please follow the driveway as noted and remain in your car. Your child/ren will be called out from a designated point of release.

Emergencies

1. In case of any medical emergency requiring more than basic first aid, the parents/guardians will be immediately notified. If we cannot reach the parents, the emergency contact on file will be notified. (HW.8.1)
2. Our staff are certified to provide CPR/First Aid if, G-d forbid, this is necessary. Due to COVID-19, counselors will do all basic first aid, and inform the office/medical director of all incidents.
3. After any significant incident or injury, parents will receive notice from the office.
4. Parents may be asked to pick up their child from camp if he/she exhibits symptoms that are related to COVID-19 or if the Health Supervisor deems it necessary.
5. To contact camp in case of an emergency, please see the "Contact Camp" section below.



Contact Camp

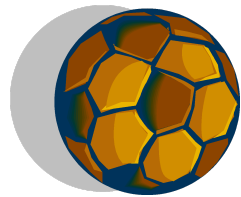
1. Camp's phone number is 856-438-0607 and email address is info@. Counselors will not be available to talk during camp hours as they are supervising the children. In case of emergency, the directors will also be available after hours at this same number.
2. The camp address is 1007 Laurel Oak Road, Voorhees, NJ.



About Our Program

General Information

1. Camp Gan Israel Day Camp provides a wide variety of developmentally appropriate activities and games that provide entertainment and education, and build Jewish pride and self esteem.
2. Activities include (mostly non-contact) sports, arts & crafts, drama, swimming, creative games and hunts. Some of the out-of-the-ordinary activities at camp will be archery, BAM (biking experience), gameroom, imaginarium, silent disco and more. Each activity is designed with creative excitement which engages all participants. Most activities this summer will take place outdoors.
3. Campers must wear masks when spending time with other bunks or when on the bus. It would be ideal to bring a cloth mask from home, but we will have disposable masks available as well.
4. Counselors will reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among campers and staff. When soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for older children who can safely use hand sanitizer). Hands should be washed before and after eating, after using the restroom and before and after high touch activities.
5. Campers are encouraged to participate in all activities to promote unity in the group.
6. If your child wants to be with a specific other camper, please note it in the child's reservation. We will make every effort to accommodate the request, however, once a bunk has been set up, it is much harder to move campers from one bunk to another.



Camp Goals and Outcomes (CR.2)

1. To provide opportunities that stimulate the development of each camper's

self-esteem:

- a. Each camper will participate in at least one activity to promote self-esteem, which could include arts & crafts, values clarifications, sports or special hunts and activities.
 - b. Campers will participate in getting-to-know-you (non-contact) games at the opening sessions.
 - c. Staff will provide the campers with positive comments and encouragement throughout their stay.
2. To care for their environment and look to include others. To this end:
- a. Counselors take an active part as role models in keeping the campus neat, serving as role models for their campers.
 - b. The campers will regularly discuss as a group the importance of taking care of their camp and the type of things that they need to do such as picking up litter, not picking flowers, respecting property (no graffiti), and conserving water.
 - c. Campers and staff will participate in recycling materials such as aluminum cans, cardboard, and paper in clearly marked recycling bins, uncovered so as to prevent contact.
3. To provide situations for each camper to set goals and challenge him/herself while discovering his or her own skills and abilities.
- a. Each camper will participate in at least two activities during the week that will personally challenge the camper - such as arts and crafts, relay races, and learning classes.
 - b. Campers will have the opportunity to work in small groups during activities and bunk time with each camper taking on different roles, while practicing social distancing.
4. To provide exposure to Jewish culture and practices in a fun, non-judgemental and hands-on way.
- a. Campers will participate in daily activities and arts & crafts sessions that educate them in specific Jewish cultural concepts.

- b. Campers will hear stories that contain themes of Jewish culture and practice.
 - c. Each unit will have a Jewish theme of the week around which arts & crafts and activities will be planned.
 - d. Each camper will bring home challah bread that he/she shapes and puts in an individual pan with his/her name.
2. To increase the camper's network of Jewish friends.
- a. By virtue of the fact that the campers are attending a Jewish camp they meet many new Jewish friends.
 - b. Our counselors and campers keep in contact throughout the year, either in person or as pen pals.
 - c. Reunions and holiday activities are scheduled periodically throughout the year to maintain friendships.

Swimming/Waterslides

1. Campers go swimming three times a week at Haddontowne Swim Club
2. The campers are supervised by American Red Cross certified lifeguards, trained in First Aid and CPR certified. (PD.24.1)
3. During swimming, our staff is required to keep all campers in sight and assist with behavior management and rule compliance.
4. On all swim days please send with your child a bag with a clearly labeled towel, swimsuit, water shoes and sunscreen for reapplication. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to apply sunscreen on your child in the mornings before camp.
5. Please refer to the camp calendars as there are some date changes regarding swimming.
6. Swim days are subject to change due to weather conditions.



Extended Day Care, Trips and Transportation

1. Before care is at 8:00am. Aftercare is until 5:30pm
2. Bus from and to the West Side of Cherry Hill

Morning pick up is at 8:35 Drop off at 3:50. You to sign up for it.

The bus can not wait for late comers. Please be sure to be on time!

All campers and staff must wear masks on bus.

There will be a bus monitor taking attendance. Kiddy campers will have to sit in the front 8 seats. Families will be seated together.

Driving on the bus to camp is a privilege that can be revoked if a child is not able to behave appropriately and safely on the bus. Please make sure that your child understands this.

3. Though we do not have any field trips scheduled, if the regulations allow, we may add a few. Parents will be notified in advance of any trips, aside for some possible short trips for the older campers.



What to Send to Camp

Lunch

1. Unfortunately due to restrictions we will not be able to provide our in house CGI hot lunches, but we will be serving snacks.



2. However, on Wednesdays we will have delicious Kosher Pizza Delivered.
3. We will also always have available on site, bread, hard cheese, jelly, fruits and vegetables.
4. What to bring? Packed, non-perishable lunches can be brought from home in a marked, disposable lunch box/bag with the child's full name. Lunches and snacks should be dairy or parve; no meat is allowed in camp. All food needs to be ready to eat; no cooking, heating or refrigeration is available. Please don't send glass jars/bottles. Please do not send any food containing peanuts or peanut by-products. We are a peanut sensitive facility as we have a number of severely allergic children who attend our program.
5. You are encouraged to send snacks with your child. They should be healthy and preferably low/no sugar.
6. Please explain to your child that he/she is not to share food with anyone else.
7. You are encouraged to send your child with a refillable water bottle marked clearly with his/her name. We have a few bottle filling stations on campus in addition to water fountains.

Quick Reference

What to Bring to Camp

- Smile. It's contagious
- Parve or dairy lunch & snacks
- Bathing suit & towel
- Sunblock; applied
- Tzedakah coin(s)
- Mitzvah note(s) (K & 1)

Tzedakah

1. Tzedakah (charity) is a concept that is fundamental to Judaism. Our camp attempts to develop a commitment among our campers to share with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few pennies every day to charity. Parents are asked to send a few coins for tzedakah every day.



Mitzvah Notes

1. Parents should send young campers with a note describing a mitzvah (good deed) performed. Example, "Sara cleaned up her toys." "Max shared his juice with his sister."

Clothing

1. Wearing a camp shirt this summer is only needed on trip days. (security wristbands will be distributed for trips regardless).
2. All campers should bring a bathing suit and towel on swim days. We have safe and fun water activities that the children enjoy.
3. Sunscreen or sunblock should be applied at home and your child should be instructed on how to apply it at periodic intervals during the day. If your child can properly apply the sunblock, that would be the safest way to avoid contact. We strongly suggest a spray-on, tearless sunscreen just in case a camper needs assistance applying it.
4. Shoes or sneakers with laces or Velcro should be worn. Flip flops, sandals and Crocs are not appropriate for our playground and sports activities.
5. As daily activities will be outdoors, we recommend that each child have and wear a hat.



Personal Property Regulations (AD.16.1)

6. WEAPONS, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE PROHIBITED AT CAMP OR ON CAMP PROPERTY. Bringing any of the above items is grounds for immediate dismissal.
7. Camp cannot take responsibility for personal property brought to camp.
8. Cell phones should not be brought to camp. If campers bring iPods, cell phones, digital cameras, or any other expensive items to camp,



and they are used while camp is in session they will be confiscated and returned to the parents.

9. If campers or staff bring potentially dangerous articles to camp, they will be confiscated.
10. Animals are not allowed on campus, with the exception of seeing eye and service dogs, and animals brought in for shows.

Medication and Health Procedures (HW-13.1)

1. Parents should be checking their child for symptoms of COVID-19 and fever. If either of these are present, parents should not bring their child and should notify the camp office immediately.
2. Campers should have their temperatures checked daily before coming to camp. While 100.4 F is the cutoff at camp, parents should use their own discretion about lower temperatures and symptoms, and consider keeping a child home if they suspect that the child is not feeling perfectly well, out of an abundance of caution.
3. Handwashing and other safety signs will be posted around campus reminding campers and staff to wash hands and stay vigilant.
4. Parents should teach their children to cough and sneeze into a tissue when possible and to wash or sanitize their hands immediately.
5. Bathrooms will be the only shared space on campus (where campers & staff of different bunks may be in the same place at the same time), bunks will have group bathroom times to avoid mixing as much as possible. Children should wash their hands immediately after using the bathroom.
6. Medication for campers should be given to the office or a director in a labeled, ziplock bag which includes the doctor's instructions for dosing. It will be stored according to the health orders under lock and key, and dispensed as required. Records will be kept when necessary. In case of a question, the parent or guardian will be notified. (HW.2.1)
7. For campers requiring an epi-pen or asthma inhaler, the counselor will have it on his/her person at all times. Please send it in a labeled ziplock bag with instructions for proper dispensing for the counselor to keep for the duration of the camper's stay at camp.

8. Parents must inform the camp of any contagious conditions and must have a note from a physician to return.

Birthday Celebrations

1. Campers who have a birthday during the summer and would like to celebrate with their camp friends are encouraged to do so. We would be happy to block out a short period of time for the group to celebrate if we know in advance.
2. Cupcakes for \$10 are available to order, please call the camp office one week in advance.
3. Camp will not be allowing goodie bags or other gifts to be given out for birthdays this summer.

Registration and Refund Policy due to COVID-19

1. Campers must register for 5 days per week.
2. Campers must register for a minimum of 2 weeks (for limited exceptions, reach out to a camp director).
3. If your plans change less than 1 week before the session begins, you forfeit the charges, unless it is due to illness, with a written note from your PCP. We have substantial increased expenses to run camp this summer with stable groups, and cannot allow last minute convenience cancellations.
4. If a child is sick or self quarantines because someone in the family is sick or because he/she came in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, you will be billed for that week and can cancel future weeks, with a written note from your PCP. For example, if a child self quarantines on Wednesday morning, you will still be billed for that week, but can email info@welovecgi.com to remove the following week(s) until 10:00 AM on Friday morning.
5. If you decide to add a week, we will accommodate only if we have space in the bunk.
6. If the camp deems it necessary based on our protocol to close camp or to have a bunk close temporarily, we will refund the unused portion of the affected weeks.

These guidelines are accurate as of 6/15/2021, and are subject to change based on changing guidelines from the CDC, ACA, OC Health and other authorities, as well as new information from our medical and legal advisors.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does my child find lost items?

Please mark all belongings with your child's name. Lost & found items are uploaded weekly onto the picture gallery of the camp website.

How do I arrange to pick up my child during the camp day?

If you have to pick up your camper during the day, please notify our office so we can arrange to have him/her ready for you. When planning your pick-up, please take into consideration that campers do go swimming and out to the fields for activities. Pickup during the day is from the front office. Please call when you are a few minutes away (so we may call your child), and when you get to the front door. **Do not exit your vehicle.** Your child will be called to the front and seen out to your car. We cannot release campers without parental permission.



How can I speak with my child's counselor?

A visit to www.WeLoveCGI.com or a call to the camp office will answer most questions. Because counselors are constantly supervising groups and activities, messages will be taken at the camp office. You can also leave a message for, or speak to, the camp directors.



What if my child does not want to participate in a particular activity?

No camper will be forced to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Camp Gan Israel, and all campers will need to stay with their bunk.

How religious is Camp Gan Israel?

CGI is a totally non-judgemental environment made up of campers from all Jewish backgrounds. An individual's level of observance is not stressed. All children enjoy a shared Jewish spirit through activities and projects.