



# BB CAMP

Powered by



---

## 2026 PARENT MANUAL INFORMATION BOOKLET

---

**We ask that you please take some time to read through this packet. The information inside is designed to help prepare you and your child, answer many of your questions, and give you some insight into how we strive to make BB Camp the best summer camp experience available.**

# Table of Contents

Welcome to BB Camp -----	3
Contact Numbers & Information -----	4
2026 Summer Calendar -----	5
Transportation -----	6
Trips -----	7
Packing Guide- 2,3,4 week -----	8
Packing Guide- Maccabee -----	9
Health Care -----	10
Homesickness -----	13
Communication at Camp -----	15
Mail & Packages -----	17
Emergency Procedures -----	19
Camp Life -----	20
Behavior Policy -----	27
Frequently Asked Questions -----	29

# WELCOME TO BB CAMP!

Dear BB Camp Family:

We can't wait to share the 2026 summer season with you and your campers. Their time at Camp will be full of amazing activities, memorable experiences, and a community that will accompany them throughout their session and beyond. It is an honor to take this opportunity to welcome you to BB Camp.

Please carefully read this manual and share it with your child. The most successful campers are those who are prepared for the camp experience. Sharing the information contained in this manual is one of the ways to prepare your child for Camp.

For over 100 years, BB Camp has been a part of the PNW Jewish community, inspiring generations of campers and staff. Since 1921, BB Camp has been dedicated to providing the finest summer experience for today's campers while preparing them to be tomorrow's community leaders. BB Camp not only fosters community and connection but also provides space for campers to learn new skills, gain confidence, explore the outdoors, and connect with their Jewish identities. BB Camp proudly welcomes campers and staff of all backgrounds, abilities, faiths, and identities, and is committed to creating an equitable and loving community.

Our goals for campers include:

- ▶ Living Jewish values and ethics
- ▶ Growing self-confidence & self-reliance
- ▶ Discovering your strengths & respecting the strengths of others
- ▶ Building friendships for life
- ▶ Having fun!

We look forward to a safe and enjoyable camping season.

With *ruach* (Camp Spirit),

Sam Blauer  
BB Camp Director  
[Sblauer@bbcamp.org](mailto:Sblauer@bbcamp.org)

Michelle Koplan  
CEO  
[Mkoplan@bbcamp.org](mailto:Mkoplan@bbcamp.org)

# CONTACT NUMBERS & INFORMATION

## **BB Camp Director**

Sam Blauer

[Sblauer@bbcamp.org](mailto:Sblauer@bbcamp.org)

503-452-3443

## **BB360 CEO**

Michelle Koplan

[Mkoplan@bbcamp.org](mailto:Mkoplan@bbcamp.org)

503-452-3444

## **BB Camp Summer Office- Opens June 12<sup>th</sup>**

*For lost and found, mail questions, transportation, etc. after June 12.*

Summer Phone: 541-994-2218

Email: [campoffice@bbcamp.org](mailto:campoffice@bbcamp.org)

**General Camper Questions or Concerns** (including all mental, emotional, social and physical/medical health)

Leiat Klarfeld at [Lklarfeld@bbcamp.org](mailto:Lklarfeld@bbcamp.org) or 971-599-7127

## **Transportation to and from Camp**

Sarina Kaufman at [Skaufman@bbcamp.org](mailto:Skaufman@bbcamp.org) or 503-452-3429

**After June 12**, contact the Summer Camp Office for questions regarding transportation.

## **Financial Aid and Grants**

Sarina Kaufman at [Skaufman@bbcamp.org](mailto:Skaufman@bbcamp.org) or 503-452-3429

## **BB Camp office hours (during summer season)**

Sunday-Thursday: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Friday: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Saturday: Closed for Shabbat

We check phone messages frequently when the office is closed, including evenings and throughout Shabbat.

## **Camp Mailing Address:**

Camper's Name / Grade in Fall 2026

BB CAMP

P.O. Box 110

Neotsu, OR 97364

## 2026 SUMMER CALENDAR

May 15	Balance of all <b>Payments Due</b> . Payments are processed automatically by our registration system. Parents do not need to do anything at this time unless changes need to be made.
May 15	<b>Camp Forms &amp; Information Due:</b> Health History Form, Transportation Form, Trip Waivers, Photo Permission Form, Camper T-Shirt Form, and Camper Photo.
June 21	<b>Family &amp; Friends Day</b> , 11:00 am to 3:00 pm: Join us at Camp for lunch, fun activities, meet summer staff, & get a taste of Overnight Camp!
June 23	<b>First Day of First Session (2-week &amp; 4-week)</b>
July 6	<b>Last Day of First Session (2-week)</b>
July 7	<b>First Day of Maccabee (1-week)</b>
July 13	<b>Last Day of Maccabee (1-week)</b>
July 14	<b>First Day of Second Session (2-week &amp; 4-week)</b>
July 20	<b>Last Day of First Session (4-week)</b>
July 27	<b>Last Day of Second Session (2-week)</b>
July 28	<b>First Day of Third Session (2-week)</b>
August 11	<b>Last Day for all sessions</b>

# TRANSPORTATION

## BUSES

The camping experience begins with the drive to Camp, and we are happy to offer buses from many cities around Oregon and Washington that start the camp experience with fun and friends.

Depending on the need, we provide transportation to and from the following cities. **If there are not enough campers signed up for a specific location, we will notify camper families prior to the start of their session:**

- **Eugene**
- **Salem**
- **Portland**
- **Seattle**

Specific bus times based on location can be found on the Transportation Form in CampInTouch. After the form is submitted, you will be able to see your child's bus time on their profile. These times are subject to change with bus sizes. As departure approaches, an additional email will be sent with bus information, including arrival and departure times. Text message updates will provide accurate arrival times and any travel delays. Campers taking the bus to camp should arrive at their designated bus stop at the scheduled time.

## FLYING

Campers flying to Camp should fly in and out of Portland International Airport (PDX). Upon arriving at PDX, campers will be greeted and accompanied through the airport by BB Camp staff. Staff will be wearing a BB Camp shirt and will meet campers at their gate. Contact information for travel day chaperones will be provided a few days prior to arrival. Please make sure to include your camper's flight information in the Transportation Form. Any questions about flying to camp can be directed to Sarina Kaufman at [Skaufman@bbcamp.org](mailto:Skaufman@bbcamp.org).

### **Flying TO Camp:**

Flights should arrive at Portland International Airport (PDX) between **8:00 AM and 11:00 AM** on the first day of your child's session.

### **Flying Home FROM Camp:**

Flights should depart from Portland International Airport (PDX) between **2:00 PM and 5:00 PM** on the last day of your child's session.

## CARS

Parents who would like to drive their child to Camp must arrive at Camp **BETWEEN 10:00 AM AND 11:00 AM**. The gates will not be opened before 10:00 AM. When you arrive at Camp, a staff member will greet you at the gate and direct you where to park.

Children who are being picked up by their parents must be picked up **BETWEEN 10:30 AM AND 11:00 AM** on the last day of their session. Please note that the gate will **not** be opened until **10:30 AM**.

# TRIPS

**We are excited for all campers to participate in an overnight camping experience as part of BB Camp's programming.** Trips are designed with age and maturity in mind, so every child feels comfortable and excited about this outdoor experience!

- **2, 3, and 4-week session campers** participate in an outdoor overnight camping trip (no trip included in Third Session, but there will be a Camp-out at BB Camp). Campers will enjoy cookout meals and sleeping under the stars. Camp staff will prepare the meals and supply cooking utensils, plates, cutlery, tarps, food, and lots of fun.
- **Maccabee campers** will camp one night under the stars at BB Camp!

## OVERNIGHT TRIP DATES

### **3rd – 4th graders**

Session 1: June 29-30

Session 2: July 20-21

Younger Unit campers will camp one night under the stars at BB Camp, followed by a day trip to the beach!

### **5th – 6th graders**

Session 1: June 30-July 1

Session 2: July 21-22

Middle Unit campers will camp one night under the stars and discover the beautiful outdoors at a scenic Oregon Coast campground, followed by a day trip to the beach!

### **7<sup>th</sup> & 8th graders**

Session 1: June 28-30

Session 2: July 20-22

Older Unit campers will camp two nights under the stars and discover the beautiful outdoors at a scenic river campground, including a day of white-water rafting down the river and exploring the desert nature.

### **9th graders**

Session 1: July 6-9

Session 2: July 26-29

Teen Village campers will camp three nights under the stars at two scenic Oregon Coast campgrounds, including hiking and exploring the Oregon Sand Dunes, and large-group dune-buggy.

### **10th graders**

Session 1: July 7-10

Session 2: July 27-30

LIT (Leader-In-Training) campers will camp three nights under the stars, including rock climbing, hiking in the high desert landscape, and exploring the waterfalls and natural wonders of the Oregon's National Forests.

# PACKING GUIDE – 2, 3, & 4 WEEK CAMPERS

This list was developed to serve as a guide when packing your child's belongings for camp. Quantities are based on normal camp usage and typical weather patterns. **Remember to keep things simple and inexpensive.** Clothing should be able to survive commercial laundry and should not require ironing or special care. **Please label each item with your child's full name and be sure to label every item!** Make sure to **pack with your camper present**, so that they know where to find the items in their own luggage. For more information on clothing and labeling, please refer to the Clothing section in the manual.

## Clothing

- 10 Short-sleeve shirts or t-shirts
- 2-3 long-sleeve shirts
- 5 pairs of shorts
- 5 pairs of long pants/ jeans/sweatpants
- 3 sweatshirts
- 12-15 set of underwear
- 12-15 pairs of socks
- 2- pairs of warm pajamas
- 1 warm jacket or coat
- 1 raincoat
- 2 swimsuits
- 1-2 baseball caps or sun hats
- 2-3 Shabbat outfits

## Shoes

- 2 pairs of sneakers (MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE)
- 1 pair of flip flops (for shower)
- 1 pair of open-toed sandals (MUST HAVE A BACK STRAP)

## Linens and towels

- 1 Laundry Bag
- 1-2 sheets flat twin
- 1-2 fitted twin sheets
- 1-2 pillow cases
- 1 pillow
- 1 blanket (cabins are heated)
- 2-4 bath towels
- 1-2 beach towels
- 1-2 face towels
- 1 sleeping bag
- Small overnight bag (duffle bag/backpack for overnight)

## Toiletries

- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Soap
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Comb or brush
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm

## Other items

- Reusable water bottle (REQUIRED)
- Pre-addressed & stamped envelopes
- Pens and pencils
- Pair of spare eyeglasses
- Pair of sunglasses
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- 1-2 books for BB Reads
- Swimming goggles

## Optional items

- Camera
- Musical instruments
- Baseball glove
- Tennis racket
- Bug spray (non-aerosol)
- Playing cards

# PACKING GUIDE – MACCABEE

This list was developed to serve as a guide when packing your child's belongings for camp. Quantities are based on normal camp usage and typical weather patterns. **Remember to keep things simple and inexpensive. Please label each item with your child's full name and be sure to label every item!** Make sure to **pack with your camper present**, so that they know where to find the items in their own luggage. For more information on clothing and labeling, please refer to the Clothing section in the manual.

## Clothing

- 7 Short-sleeve shirts or t-shirts
- 2 long-sleeve shirts
- 4 pairs of shorts
- 3 pairs of long pants/ jeans/sweatpants
- 2 sweatshirts
- 8-10 sets of underwear
- 8-10 pairs of socks
- 2 pairs of warm pajamas
- 1 warm jacket or coat
- 1 raincoat
- 2 swimsuits
- 1-2 baseball caps or sun hats
- 1 Shabbat Outfit

## Shoes

- 2 pairs of sneakers (MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE)
- 1 pair of flip flops (for shower)
- 1 pair of open-toed sandals

## Linens and towels

- 1 Laundry Bag
- 1 set of twin-sized sheets
- 1-2 pillow cases
- 1 pillow
- 1 blanket (cabins are heated)
- 1 bath towel
- 1-2 beach towels
- 1-2 face towels
- 1 sleeping bag

## Toiletries

- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Soap
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Comb or brush
- Both of tissue
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm

## Other items

- Reusable water bottle (REQUIRED)
- Pre-addressed & stamped envelopes
- Pens and pencils
- Pair of spare eyeglasses
- Pair of sunglasses
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- 1-2 books for BB reads
- Swimming goggles

## Optional items

- Camera
- Musical instruments
- Baseball glove
- Tennis racket
- Bug spray (non-aerosol)
- Playing cards

# HEALTH CARE

While we expect and hope that most campers will stay healthy throughout the summer, occasionally, campers do get ill or injured at camp. To deal with any such situations, we have a professionally staffed Wellness Center and an on-call physician.

## HEALTH SCREENING & HEAD LICE

All Campers are expected to pass a lice screening by a certified screener within 3 days prior to the start of your Campers session. Proof of screening must be provided at check-in. We will be providing more information about lice checks and the partner organizations that we are working with closer to summer. If you are struggling to find a Lice Screening provider in your area, reach out to the Camp team, who can assist with alternative plans.

## MEDICATIONS

Any medications and over-the-counter health items should be turned in at the check-in table before boarding the bus, or at the Camp Wellness Center if your child is arriving in a private vehicle. All unused medications will be returned to parents at the end of the camp session upon bus or car pick up. **If your child is taking daily or as-needed OTCs, such as gummy vitamins, melatonin, nasal spray, or Zyrtec for allergies, an authorization to administer form (OTC form found in your CampinTouch account) must be completed by your child's pediatrician or primary care provider stating that they are aware of the over-the-counter-medications and be submitted to Camp.**

**All medications or vitamins** sent to Camp must be received in the **original container** with the label from the pharmacy indicating the name of the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, individual who prescribed it, and the name of the child. Vitamins and over-the-counter products such as decongestants or antihistamines, etc. also must be in containers clearly labeled with the item description and the child's name. We maintain a regular inventory of over-the-counter medications.

The staff at the Camp Wellness Center will be responsible for storing and administering all medications. **No one is allowed to keep any medication in their possession (with the exception of asthmatic inhalers and EPI pens). Please ensure that your camper comes to Camp with a fanny pack to be able to have their EPI pen on them at all times.** Campers may keep inhalers with them in their cabins as long as an extra, spare inhaler is kept in the Wellness Center.

**Please do not place your children on "medication vacations."** For a successful experience, youth need to be able to concentrate and focus while at Camp.

For out of Camp trips, the Wellness Center staff will measure and secure the medication and provide an orientation to the Trip Leader regarding the dispensing of medication during the trip. Dispensing of medication and all first aid treatment is noted in a written log during the trip and submitted to the Health Center Manager upon return.

## **ILLNESSES & EMERGENCIES**

The Camp Wellness Center is staffed 24 hours a day. There is a medical professional at Camp or on-call during the entire summer. If you have any specific medical concerns, please contact our Assistant Director of Community Care, and she will coordinate communication with our medical staff.

Treatment at the Wellness Center is consistent with the American Camp Association Standards and Standing Orders (approved treatment for ailments, injuries, and illnesses) which are reviewed and approved annually by a physician. This results in quality and consistency in medical care.

Campers running a fever or showing symptoms of a communicable disease will stay under observation and treatment in the Wellness Center. Medical situations that cannot be handled by the Camp Wellness Center will be referred to the Samaritan Coastal Clinic or the Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital. Both of these facilities are located just 2 miles from Camp. The medical professional on Camp will make the decision regarding appropriate health care for the camper. Parents will be notified as soon as possible in cases of emergency or serious illness. In cases of serious illness, the Camp Director has the right to send a child home for the duration of the session.

Parents of campers referred to the Clinic or the Hospital for non-emergency or emergency treatment will be notified and kept updated on results and progress. Other reasons a parent may be contacted by Camp's Wellness Center include prolonged fever, any ailment that requires an overnight stay in the Wellness Center, or if your child is prescribed medication (such as an antibiotic) by the Camp medical professional. **Parents will not normally be called in case of upset stomachs, colds, sore throats, headaches, scrapes, bruises, etc.**

## **INSURANCE**

**BB Camp does not provide accident or health insurance for campers.**

For accidents, injuries, or illnesses that involve health care outside of Camp, charges and fees will be billed through BB Camp to the camper's parents. If your insurance requires the use of designated facilities, you must make the appropriate arrangements with the hospital and your insurance carrier prior to your child's arrival at Camp.

## **DENTAL & OPTICAL CONCERNS**

Scheduling a dental examination (as well as an orthodontic examination if applicable) for your child is advised prior to their first day of camp. If your child uses orthodontic appliances, rubber bands, fixtures, and/or protective wax, please make sure to send an adequate supply for their entire time at camp. Campers are permitted to keep these items in their bunk.

If your child wears eyeglasses, sending an extra pair is always a good idea. Similarly, if your child wears contact lenses, please send extra pairs and a backup pair of eyeglasses. If a camper needs more contacts or optical care, parents will be contacted by Camp staff.

## **HEAT AND SUN PROTECTION**

Your child will spend a great deal of their camp time outdoors! The following list includes recommended items that can be used to protect them from the sun and higher summer temperatures:

- **A reusable water bottle is required upon arrival**, as campers will be using them daily
- A hat, preferably with a wide brim
- Sunscreen, preferably waterproof, hypo-allergenic, and with a high sun protection factor (SPF)
- Sunglasses!
- UPF Clothing

Please label all items with the camper's name so counselors can help them keep track of their belongings.

# HOMESICKNESS

Whether your child is a new camper or has been to camp for many years, it is normal for them to worry about what might happen at camp or for them to miss home while there. As a parent, you might also be anxious about your child's experience and feelings at camp. Please read below for some tips on how to help your child both before and during camp.

## Before Camp:

- Be positive about the camp experience.
  - Talk with your child about all of the fun things they will do at Camp. If they love swimming, remind them about the time they will spend in the pool and the lake. If they have been to a day camp or a Hebrew school retreat, remind them of how much they enjoyed meeting new kids or singing songs on Shabbat.
- Practice sleeping away and self-care
  - If your child has never spent nights away from home, now is a great time to start practicing with sleepovers at Grandma's or at a friend's home. Use these practices to brainstorm ways in which your child can comfort themselves when they do get homesick.
- Prepare by reviewing information about Camp
  - Having information about Camp can be comforting for some children. Take time to explore our website, read the parent manual, and watch our videos with your child; [check out this video of why our campers love camp!](#)
- Avoid making deals
  - It can be tempting to make a deal with your child that you will bring them home if they want after a few days of Camp. This kind of deal sets a child up to fail because it starts them with negative ideas about Camp. Instead, encourage them to make an effort and remind them of how brave they are and how proud you are of them.
- Share your worries with other adults, not your child
  - Just like your child, it is normal for you to feel anxious about sending them away or to miss them while they are at camp. However, continuously telling your child how much you, grandma, and the family pet are going to miss them will often make children feel guilty about going and having fun at camp. Instead say things like "I love you and can't wait to hear about your new friends, the activities, and your counselors."

## During Camp:

- Send a piece of home with them
  - It can be comforting to have something that reminds them of home while at camp. Send a picture of the family or their pet, a small safety blanket, or pillow (but maybe not their favorite thing in case it gets lost).
- Send letters
  - You can write letters to your child at camp! Receiving mail is always fun at camp. Just remember to keep the letters positive and encouraging.
- Have fun yourself!
  - As we have mentioned, it is completely normal for you to miss your child. Just like you will encourage your child to have fun at camp and try new things, we would like to encourage you to do the same. Take time to check our Facebook, Instagram and

Companion page for updates, but also remember to do fun things that will help you cope with your child being away.

We are proud to have a Community Care Team at camp to support campers and staff during their time at camp. This group is led by our Assistant Director of Community Care who is available to connect with families before the summer to set campers up for success! Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Assistant Director of Community Care, Leiat at [LKlarfeld@bbcamp.org](mailto:LKlarfeld@bbcamp.org).

# COMMUNICATION AT CAMP

## OFFICE HOURS

Our office is open from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, Sunday through Thursday, and 9:30 am to 4:30 pm on Friday. Our office is closed on Saturdays for Shabbat. BB Camp has a modern telephone system, two-way radios, and high-speed internet, to serve our continuous communication needs during summer.

**In the event of a family emergency, Directors can be reached at any time. If the office is closed, call our EMERGENCY NUMBER at 503-597-8084. Please only use this number in case of EMERGENCY.**

## COMMUNICATING WITH US

Maintaining open lines of communication with parents is of prime importance to us. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us. We strive to respond as quickly as possible. However, please keep in mind that the staff spend the majority of their time "in the field" with the campers, and not in the office.

## **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR SOMEONE TO GET BACK TO ME?**

You should allow up to 24 hours for us to return your phone call or respond to your email. We are often able to work faster than this, but your patience is greatly appreciated. Messages received after noon on Friday may not be returned until Sunday due to Shabbat.

## **IF I CAN'T REACH SOMEONE, IS IT BETTER TO TALK TO MULTIPLE PEOPLE?**

NO, please only contact one person. If you contact multiple people with the same concern, the overlap can cause a delay. If you do not hear back after 24 hours, you should email or call the Camp Office for follow-up.

## **WHO WILL BE CONTACTING ME WHEN I HAVE AN ISSUE?**

Senior staff members will return calls concerning your children. Our Community Care Team, Year-Round Team, and Camp Director Team handle the bulk of summer communication with parents.

## CAMP VISITATION

We are very sorry, but **we do not allow any visitors at Camp.** We find that children have more successful camp experiences if their stays are uninterrupted by family visits. It is very important for your child's sense of independence and self-reliance to not have parents or guests "dropping by." Even if your child is not affected by a visit, other children at Camp may be affected. Visitors' days create a major disruption to the normal flow of the campers' experiences, causing campers to go from being happy and well-adjusted to severely homesick. Write often, but do not plan on visiting BB Camp this summer. If you are interested in seeing our beautiful facilities and lakeside setting, please feel free to attend our **Friends & Family Day on June 21<sup>st</sup>.**

## TELEPHONE CALLS

An important part of camp for your child is to learn how to function independently and grow. These are two reasons you send your child to camp, and we are honored to help them develop those skills. For these reasons, **no campers** will be permitted to make phone calls home unless there is an

emergency. From years of experience, we have found that phone calls only inhibit the progress of a camper who is having difficulty adjusting to camp.

Believe us when we say we know how difficult it is (especially in today's age of instant communication) to be out of communication with your child. We understand and ask that you realize this is an opportunity for your child to learn and grow in a safe, warm, and tech-free environment.

Campers will not be able to call home for parents' or siblings' birthdays, anniversaries, etc., so please make arrangements to celebrate these special occasions either before or after camp.

If a camper is celebrating their birthday at Camp, we will set up a phone call, so you may wish your child a happy birthday. A member of our Community Care Team will be in touch with you to host that call.

Should you have any questions or concerns about Camp, or your child's adjustment to the camp program, please call the camp office, and we will be happy to provide an update on your child. Please bear in mind that our unit heads spend most of their time with campers and may require up to 24 hours to get back in touch with you.

## **PHOTOS**

We post and share camper photos **after** the summer camping season is completed.

We are aware that some other camps do share photos during sessions; however, this policy is based on ongoing research and the experiences of our staff and advisors, which shape our understanding of what creates the most meaningful and impactful camp environment. Our board and staff have determined that, while it may be a bit harder on the parents, giving the kids a few weeks in the summer free of their electronic tethers and their parents' loving eyes, significantly enhances their camp experience.

You are giving your children a great gift by sending them to Camp, where they are disconnected from technology and busy experiencing, exploring, playing, learning and, yes, *Building Friendships For Life*. If there is an emergency, rest assured you will receive a call. And as stated in our Communication *Brit* (agreement), we promise to keep you informed on what is going on at Camp in other ways. In the meantime, we hope you understand that we are doing what we think is best for our campers.

# MAIL & PACKAGES

Everybody loves to get mail! It is recommended that you write to your campers at least once a week. Postcards and letters go a long way in helping your child feel comfortable away at Camp.

## WRITING TO YOUR CHILDREN

Correspondence with your children is a critical aspect of the camp experience. It is important that your children hear from you in the form of letters. We have some practical tips for letter writing:

- It's a great idea to send a letter or card before your child leaves for camp so that mail is waiting for them at the beginning of their session at camp.
- Keep your letters positive and upbeat.
- Two to three letters each week is plenty, as too many letters can make a well-adjusted camper homesick.
- If your child complains about a certain situation that is upsetting them, it is okay to acknowledge it when you write back. Please try to focus on a positive aspect and say you are confident they will work it out. We also certainly encourage you to follow up with Camp staff via phone or email regarding any possible negative situation your child communicates to you.
- Avoid phrases like "the house is so empty without you," "dinners aren't the same without you" or "we can't do (an activity) without you."
- Letters **cannot** include food, gum, candy, or any contraband.
- Make sure to put your child's full name and cabin on the letters.

## **Camper's Name / Grade in the Fall**

**BB CAMP**

**P.O. Box 110**

**Neotsu, OR 97364**

Mail received after a session is over will be forwarded when possible or returned to the sender.

## EMAIL

You will be able to write to your camper through your Camp InTouch account.

Emails are free, though if you'd like to add on a boarder, smart words (word definitions based on age), a sudoku or a picture, you will need to purchase camp stamps which can be done through your child's CampInTouch account. If you have multiple children, you can send the same letter to all of them. All emails are printed black and white so keep that in mind when sending, as well as need to be written in English as the system can't print other languages.

## OUTGOING LETTERS

There is time every day for campers to write and read mail. But most campers prefer to read mail more than they like to write home! Every session all campers will receive a postcard with their bunk photo, and the counselors help make sure campers include a note home before sending them. Between these postcards, it is up to each camper how often they would like to write home. Mail is collected daily but has a slightly longer journey from us than from Portland, estimated 3-5 days for letters to get to and from your camper. We also don't collect mail on Saturdays due to shabbat.

Campers are often so focused on friends and new experiences that writing home can be challenging. Getting happy campers to write home is like getting them to come inside on a sunny day to do their homework. We do encourage campers throughout the session to write letters. As parents, please discuss this subject with your children and set expectations with them individually. If you find your child not writing home enough, we encourage you to write or email your child directly and express how important it is to you to hear from them.

For many campers, sending a letter is a new experience. Along with pens and stationery, it is essential that you provide your children with **pre-addressed & stamped envelopes**; this helps ensure letters are delivered correctly. Extra supplies are available for purchase in the camp store.

### **RECEIVING DIFFICULT LETTERS**

There is nothing worse than receiving a disturbing letter from a child away at summer camp. Yet this is a completely normal thing. You may find that you receive a homesick letter or a letter complaining about a certain situation or peer, but by the time you receive the letter, the situation usually has been resolved. We work with and train our staff on how to handle many different types of difficult situations, homesickness, and issues that may arise in a community living setting.

Of course, we welcome your calls but understand that sometimes letters describe a reaction to an event or momentary feeling of unhappiness or frustration. Once vented, those feelings subside or disappear. A good standard is this: a negative letter probably isn't serious, but it is worth checking out if it is a recurring issue. Please let us know if you continue receiving troubling letters or if you hear of something we should be aware of, so we can resolve the situation.

### **CARE PACKAGES**

**Packages are not permitted.** While we see a lot of value in occasional care packages, we have found that care packages take up time in the daily schedule, create unnecessary inequality in cabin groups (campers who frequently get care packages and those who seldom do), and add waste to our environment.

### **CONTRABAND**

**(This term covers all of the items that are not allowed at Camp.)**

**BB Camp will not hold and/or return contraband to campers.** Whether arriving with the camper, brought to, or mailed to the camper, contraband will be confiscated by Camp Staff and collected by the Camp Director Team. This includes items sent to Camp Staff with the intent that they should then give them to a camper. Camp is a special and unique environment; there is no reason or exception for campers to have any of the following items while at BB Camp.

Camp is a place where the kids need to follow many rules for their safety and the safety of others. Before trying to send food or contraband items to your camper in a hidden fashion, please consider the message that this sends to your children about following those rules.

**Contraband includes, but is not limited to:**

Gum, food, beverages, herbs, vitamins, over-the-counter medications, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, e-cigarettes, matches, lighters, candles, incense, fireworks, pets, pornography, television, all internet / wireless devices (i.e. cell phones, iPod touches, laptops, etc.), prank items (i.e. whoopee cushions), shaving cream, aerosol spray cans of any kind, silly string, squirt guns, balloons, slime, silly putty, confetti, loose glitter, skateboards, weapons, knives of any kind.

# EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Since safety is our top priority, emergency preparedness is always an area of intensive focus. We continue to work closely with national agencies and local first responders to develop specific policies and procedures in various emergency situations. We train our staff in emergency readiness and practice throughout the summer.

In an emergency, we will use an automated call/text system to communicate with families. The system lets us quickly relay information to camp families via pre-recorded calls, text messages, and e-mails. We will also use this system in non-emergency situations, such as alerting families that their child's bus has safely arrived at or departed from camp. Parents' contact information will automatically be uploaded into the system; we do ask you to ensure that you have 'opted-in' to receive text messages, in your CampInTouch account.

- Our Security and Emergency Management Committee (comprised of lay leaders, industry professionals, and staff) meets regularly to review our safety and security systems, protocols, and best practices. The Committee actively works in partnership with local law enforcement, the Department of Homeland Security, our Regional Security Director, and our Camp Operations team to ensure that our practices and protocols continue to exceed all safety standards.
- During our summer season, BB Camp partners with an outside security firm to help maintain security on our campuses.
- We maintain strong relationships with the Police, the Fire Department, local first responders, the Department of Homeland Security, and other agencies throughout the year.
- We maintain an Incident Command protocol and train our staff each season on implementation in the face of crises or emergencies.

If a family emergency occurs at home and you need to contact someone at Camp, please call the Assistant Director of Community Care.

# CAMP LIFE

## TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE

The following is a typical schedule for Sunday through Thursday. On Fridays, we have a similar morning schedule and then begin a schedule of showers and preparation time for Shabbat. Our Saturday Shabbat schedule is full of joyous celebration, meaningful services, and relaxed recreation time.

**Boker Tov (Good morning):** A typical Camp Day starts around 7:45 am. Counselors wake up their campers, share the schedule of activities, and help prepare them to get ready for the day.

**Meals:** Campers are served breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks each day at Camp. Meals are filled with tradition and spirit at Camp, and the time when campers fuel up to have energy for the day.

**Chugim (Activities):** Each cabin group participates in 3-4 chugim each day. Examples of chugim include archery, athletics, dance, inner tubing, rock climbing, arts & crafts, drama, Teva (nature/garden), Israeli Culture, and Jewish Enrichment.

**Cabin Clean up:** It is important that the cabin group works together to keep their living space clean. For 45 minutes each day, campers have time to organize their belongings and contribute to the overall cleanliness of the cabin in their daily role (i.e. cabin sweep, sinks & mirrors, trash, etc.).

**Skill builders:** Campers sign up for a variety of activities that meet regularly throughout the session. Examples: tennis, theater, art, soccer, garden/cooking, aquatics.

**Individuals:** A scheduled time each day for campers to choose their own adventure from a variety of activities (i.e. dance, ga-ga, basketball, friendship bracelets, chill on the hill, etc.).

**Menucha (Rest):** This time is dedicated to rest and relaxation. Campers can choose to do a quiet activity in their cabin. Some campers take this opportunity to take a nap, write a letter, read a book, play a game with their cabinmates, etc.

**Cabin Activity:** This is when counselors and campers develop their own activities based on what the cabin group wants to do or any extra activities the counselors have created for their cabin group.

**Evening Programs:** Each night, campers look forward to special evening programs. Sometimes we do all-Camp evening programs, such as a talent show, skit night, or a camp-wide program hosted by teen leaders. Other evening programs are age-appropriate themes and activities for individual units (grade levels). Some examples are, Build your own Camp, team-building field games, scavenger hunts, or silly camp activities such as charades competitions or karaoke nights.

**Lila Tov (Goodnight):** Campers end the day with Friendship Circle, an evening tradition in preparation for bedtime when we gather to sing and appreciate the world around us and the time we spend together. Once they return to their cabins, campers will typically have 15-20 minutes of

“flashlight time,” during which they can read a book or do a quiet and individual wind-down activity before bed.

## **JUDAISM AT CAMP**

BB Camp is a gateway into Jewish life; a catalyst to build long-term relationships and friendships; a place where campers can encounter Jewish ideas, principles, practices, and values; a place where campers encounter Israel and explore the ideal of Jewish peoplehood in their lives; and a special space for convening important Jewish conversations.

We focus on 7 core *middot* (Jewish values) at BB Camp, including Chaverut (friendship), Dor L’dor (heritage), Kehila (community), Ometz Lev (courage), Shalom (peace), Simcha (joy), and Tikkun Olam (repair the world). Our immersive curriculum imparts these values to our camp community. While at Camp, campers are immersed in a Jewish environment with peers, where we believe seeds are planted, and roots strengthened for lifelong Jewish learning. The moment their camp experiences begin, campers and staff know that they are forever a part of something bigger. Under the direction of our Programming team and with input from clergy throughout the region, we work to develop cutting-edge curricula focused on active and engaging participation. We aim to provide everyone at Camp with a true connection to Judaism.

At BB Camp, we live Judaism, whether at the morning *degel* (flagpole gathering), meals, or infused in everyday activities. Our campers feel comfortable and love the *ruach* (spirit) evident throughout Camp. As a community camp serving children of all Judaic denominations and many children from inter-faith households, BB Camp creates an atmosphere where all campers and staff can explore their Judaism.

Every Shabbat, our majestic lakeside setting provides the ideal backdrop for spiritual exploration unique to the BB Camp experience. Shabbat is welcomed on Friday afternoon with a Shabbat walk, followed by a service in our outdoor amphitheater. Our Shabbat celebration continues with a special Shabbat dinner, complete with *challah* and *matzo* ball soup. After dinner, we have our special Shabbat song session and Israeli Dancing. We also offer *Tisch* (Shabbat singing) for those who prefer a quieter environment.

Our Saturday morning Shabbat services allow for choice; campers may participate in both traditional and alternative Shabbat services. Shabbat afternoon is a particularly peaceful time at Camp where campers individually have the opportunity to select structured activities. Many campers spend some of this time reading a good book or relaxing in the pool. Shabbat is then concluded on Saturday night with a beautiful camp-wide Havdalah service under the stars.

Our Judaic program also includes Israel Day, Maccabiah Games, and Global Judaism programming led by our international staff (please note, not all of these programs are included in every session). These programs, and the ongoing Jewish spirit that pervades Camp in general program areas, allow our campers to explore and develop their Jewish identity.

## **CABIN ASSIGNMENTS**

Campers are assigned to cabins based on gender and grade level in school for Fall 2026. Between 15 and 20 campers are generally assigned to each cabin. This is the group with which campers spend the most time, but they interact with other campers throughout the day and evening. A cabin may include campers from different backgrounds, religions, abilities, etc. We have found this diversity to enrich campers' overall experience. Living together with a diverse group provides important opportunities for campers to grow, lead, and build understanding.

Additionally, some cabins might have a mixed age group; for example, 4th and 5th graders may be together. Sometimes more than one cabin will have the same age group, such as two 6th grade girls' cabins. Each cabin will have at least two counselors that live with the campers. Cabins have one large room; they do not have divided areas for sleeping. They do have private toilets and shower areas with communal sink facilities. Cabins have many windows, which can be opened, electric heat for warmth in cooler weather, and air conditioning for warmer weather.

During the online registration process, there was an opportunity to request cabin mates. If you missed this, you may add requests by completing the bunk request form in your CampInTouch account. We will do our best to honor cabinmate requests submitted before May 15. The best camp experience is a mix of new and returning campers in each bunk, so our emphasis is to balance returning campers and past friendships with new campers and new friendships. We put a great deal of thought and effort into the bunk assignments.

Campers must name each other on their respective forms and be within one grade level in the same unit. A camper going into 5th grade and a camper going into 7th grade will not be in the same cabin. This is partly due to the differences in program content. But it is also out of respect for all in the cabin group. One camper who is significantly older or younger can negatively affect their experience at Camp. Campers have many opportunities throughout the day and week to see campers that are outside of their own bunk.

## **OUR STAFF**

BB Camp staff is comprised of approximately 120 young adults and professionals from all over the world. While most of our staff identify as Jewish, we welcome staff from various religious and cultural backgrounds. We partner with the Jewish Agency for the Israel Summer Shlichut program and hire staff from across the globe through other reputable international staffing agencies. Many of our staff grew up attending BB Camp and/or other camps. We screen staff carefully for their maturity, good judgment, kindness, respect, and commitment to Jewish education. Our staff is primarily comprised of college/graduate students, along with professionals and parents. All staff are CPR and first aid certified. For 8 to 11 days, prior to campers' arrival, there is an intensive staff training period where camp leaders and experts from the community cover a variety of relevant topics, such as homesickness, bullying, child development, child abuse, ADD/ADHD, conflict resolution, and our emergency lockdown and evacuation procedures. Our Community Care Team provides additional training on mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health and supports our team in meeting the needs of every camper.

Throughout the summer, the BB Camp Leadership Team supervises staff members very closely. During regular staff meetings, we address staff members' concerns and collaborate to resolve difficult issues and learn from one another. We maintain an open and caring environment where campers are encouraged to communicate openly with their counselors and the leadership staff. Please help us by encouraging your camper to be open and communicative with the staff.

### **CAMP STORE**

You may deposit money into your camper's account through CampInTouch. When visiting the Camp Store, campers can enjoy a tasty treat or purchase a BB Camp souvenir. All the money raised from the Camp Store goes to help fund camper financial aid.

The recommended amount of money for a camper to deposit in their account is \$25 to \$50 per week of attendance. We put all camper money in a bank account so that campers do not need to handle money. Please do not pack money in your child's luggage. BB Camp is not responsible for money that is lost or stolen.

Campers do not need spending money for any off-site trips. We cannot stress enough that campers should never keep money in their personal possession while at camp.

### **BED-WETTING**

This is something that children, even into their teen years, can experience. It is nothing to be ashamed of, but it can become an issue for the child at Camp when families fail to notify us in advance of the possibility of bed-wetting occurring. If you know that there is a possibility that your child may experience an episode of bed wetting, it is very important that you notify the Assistant Director of Community Care prior to Camp. We follow recommendations from our supervising physician and Community Care Team on managing bed-wetting and training our staff to ensure that your child has a successful summer.

### **CELL PHONES & WI-FI ENABLED DEVICES**

BB Camp strictly prohibits cellular and wi-fi enabled devices for campers at Camp. Unfortunately, in recent years, we have seen a rise in the number of campers who attempt to sneak their devices into Camp. We ask for the support of parents to ensure that BB Camp can remain an immersive environment for children to connect with their peers while disconnecting from their phones and screens.

The impact of cellular and wi-fi enabled devices at Camp is incredibly disruptive. It can intensify homesickness, lead to conflicts within the cabins, and cause campers not fully to immerse themselves in the camp environment and activities. You have made the decision to send your child to Camp, so that together, we can provide your child with the best possible experience of personal, social, and spiritual growth.

### **Cellular and Wi-Fi Enabled Device Policy**

Cellular and wi-fi enabled devices are strictly prohibited at BB Camp. If your child comes to Camp with a cellular and wi-fi enabled device, your child will be asked to turn their device into the Camp

Office upon arrival to Camp. Camp will safely store your child's device in the camp office during their stay. Your child will not have access to their cellular and wi-fi enabled device during their stay at Camp. If we find a device in your child's possession, after giving the chance to turn it in on the first day, we will confiscate the device, store it safely, and your child's camp account will incur a charge of a \$250 fine.

Children traveling by plane, or the Seattle-area bus, may travel with cellular and wi-fi enabled devices. Upon arrival at Camp, staff will collect all devices and store them securely until your camper's departure to the airport or home from Camp.

## **ELECTRONICS**

Devices with the following capabilities are strictly prohibited at camp:

- Connect to wi-fi for internet browsing
- Watch a video or movie

This means laptop computers, tablets, and gaming devices are strictly prohibited at Camp. Mp3 players and E-readers are permitted, as long as they do not have wi-fi or video capabilities and that all content other than appropriate music and books have been removed prior to Camp. In specific situations, E-readers with wi-fi capabilities can be approved by the Chief Executive Officer, or designee, prior to being brought to Camp. Devices may be inspected by staff and administrators upon arrival, and any devices with any form of video or inappropriate content will be confiscated.

## **BB READS**

We know how important reading is for the development of children. We have developed an innovative summer reading program so that Camp is never a place where reading skills diminish. Please make sure to pack your child with 1-2 books for them to enjoy while at Camp.

## **CLOTHING**

The packing list is included in this packet. We suggest bringing comfortable and practical clothing. Weather can be chilly on the coast even in the summer; please follow the suggestions for quantities of long pants and other clothing. It is suggested that you only send clothing and items that would not be missed if lost or ruined. We do our best to encourage individual responsibility for personal property.

On Shabbat, we request campers and staff to dress up a bit more than usual. This helps to make our camp Shabbat atmosphere more special. Some campers will usually wear dresses, skirts, or nice pants. While others wear button down shirts and nice shorts/slacks. The BB Camp office welcomes your questions regarding appropriate clothing.

**Labeling camper clothing with first and last names is strongly recommended.**

Note: Returning lost items that are not labeled is nearly impossible.

**Name tapes or name stamps should be attached as follows:**

- Shirt, pajama tops, sweaters, jackets, etc. in the neckband

- Pajama bottoms, shorts, underwear, pants: inside back of waistline
- Blankets, pillows, sheets, towels: on outside corner
- Socks: on toe section of the sock
- Athletic equipment, toiletries, sneakers, etc., should be marked with indelible ink or labels.

You can purchase durable and waterproof labels for everything your child is bringing to camp through your CampInTouch dashboard.

## **LOST & FOUND**

BB Camp does not assume responsibility for lost or damaged items. Unclaimed items go to lost and found. We display lost & found daily throughout each session. During the session, every effort will be made to return clearly labeled lost items to their owner. If your child comes home and is missing items, please contact us immediately. All unclaimed items will be donated to charitable organizations shortly after the summer.

At the end of every summer, we end up with tons of lost clothing. Brand new towels, sweatshirts, socks, etc., amounting to thousands of dollars of merchandise that is unmarked and unclaimed by the children. Items that are not labeled are difficult to identify by campers and camp staff.

**We ask that you please ensure that every single item of clothing has your child's name attached. Also, please label all non-clothing items, books, toothbrushes, and other personal effects.**

## **LAUNDRY**

We offer a laundry service for campers once for 3- & 4-week campers (we do not do laundry during our 1- or 2-week sessions). Laundry is put into large bags as a cabin, separating each camper's clothing into mesh bags. Please only send non-fade, no-iron, and labeled clothing. *We are not able to follow any special care instructions when laundering camper clothing.* When the laundry is returned to the cabins, it arrives dried in the cabin's bag. The campers and counselors then sort the clothes, which is why **labeling is imperative**. This especially means underwear and socks! The labeling does not have to be big, just recognizable to your camper. Unclaimed items go to lost and found, which is shown to all campers in hopes of finding owners.

## **LUGGAGE**

We recommend packing in two duffle bags or one larger duffle bag and a trunk. Storage space in each cabin is limited, so many campers choose to have a footlocker or trunk by their bed and store the remainder of their items in a bag underneath. A set of standing plastic drawers can also be used between the bunks. Please avoid suitcase-type luggage or hard-sided items, as these tend not to store well under bunks.

Luggage restrictions may apply depending on the mode of transportation (i.e. airplane, train) your camper is using to travel to and from Camp.

## **HOW TO PACK YOUR CHILDREN**

Make sure your child's name is clearly written on each piece of their luggage. This enables us to get their luggage to their cabin in a timely fashion on their first day and ensures that their luggage goes home with them on their last day. Please pack **with your camper present so they know where to find the items in their luggage.**

Families with more than one child must pack each child's belongings in ***separate luggage***. When families mix luggage together, there is a serious likelihood that items will get lost, and it becomes impossible to pack your children at the end of their stay.

# BEHAVIOR POLICY

Camp is a communal living experience. The success of this community depends on the cooperation and involvement of all participants. Every effort is made to establish a positive atmosphere and to inspire constructive behavior among both campers and staff. We teach and encourage our campers and staff to respect themselves and others, our Camp and equipment, and our earth and environment. BB Camp is committed to providing a safe camp environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, respect, and equitable treatment.

The BB360 Board of Directors has established codes of conduct and behavior management plans based on those found in public schools. **Infraction of any of the following policies or practices may be cause for the immediate expulsion of the camper from BB Camp with no refund of Camp fees.**

- Campers must stay with their assigned group with appropriate supervision.
- Campers may not leave Camp, except under the appropriate supervision of Camp staff during scheduled programs.
- Campers must attend all scheduled activities, meals, and programs unless excused by the Camp Directors or medical staff, and then only if appropriately supervised.
- Campers must abide by curfew hours for their units.
- Campers must not bully, threaten, or cause any physical harm to other campers or staff. **This behavior will not be tolerated.**

## **Behavior Plans:**

BB Camp is dedicated to creating a positive summer experience for every camper. If a camper's behavior is taking away from their camp experience or that of other campers, a discussion regarding that behavior will occur between the camper, their counselor, and our Community Care Team as necessary. The behavior and discussion will be documented, and the parent(s) will be informed of the behavior and will be asked for possible strategies to help their child. If the behavior persists, the Unit Head, with assistance from their supervisor, will write up a behavior plan that all parties must sign. Parent(s) will be called when a child is placed on a behavior plan. If the child violates the behavior plan, the Camp Directors reserve the right to expel the camper.

## **Health Hazards and Fire Risks:**

BB Camp is a substance and smoke-free environment. Campers may not possess or use any kind of matches, lighters, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, or open flame for any purpose at Camp or on any Camp activity.

## **Raids:**

The only kinds of "raids" permitted are program-planned, supervised by staff, and cleared through the Camp Directors. Removal or destruction of personal property will not be allowed.

## **Weapons:**

Weapons are not permitted at Camp or during off-site programs. In addition to those listed in the contraband list, a weapon includes any items, body parts, or words used in an inappropriate way,

which may pose a threat, intimidation, or harm to others. Pocket knives and other tools supplied by BB Camp are only to be used under direct staff supervision during specified programs.

### **Personal Sports Equipment:**

Campers may bring personal sports equipment to Camp. Any personal equipment is to be used only in the manner for which it was intended. Any other use may cause the equipment to be confiscated and returned only upon the completion of the camper's session. **Personal sports equipment should be labeled with the owner's full name.** Campers and their families acknowledge the risk of damage and/or loss of the equipment while at Camp and will not hold BB Camp responsible for any such damage or loss of Personal Sports Equipment.

### **Relationships:**

BB Camp will not condone or tolerate any display or demonstration of sexual advances, sexual activity, or romantic touch between campers or between campers and staff. Campers are not allowed in the other gender's cabins, porches of cabins, bathrooms, or showers. All campers are required to sleep in their assigned areas.

### **Language:**

To demonstrate respect for others and ourselves, only **appropriate** language is acceptable.

### **Graffiti and Vandalism:**

Parents of campers involved in any vandalism or graffiti at Camp or during any Camp activities will be required to pay for any materials, parts, or labor necessary to repair or replace damaged property. Campers involved in such behavior may be required to participate in the repair of the damage.

### **Cabin Policies:**

Additional rules and guidelines for camp conduct will be developed within cabin groups as appropriate for the age group. These will be determined and agreed upon by the campers, with the help of cabin counselors, and will be required for all cabinmates to adhere to through the entirety of the Camp Session

### **Camp Cleanliness**

All individuals must act as responsible members of the Camp community for the well-being of everyone. As part of this process, Campers are expected to contribute to the overall cleanliness and appearance of their cabins and the Camp as a whole. They will participate in daily tidying of their own belongings (making their beds, putting away clothing), their cabins (sweeping, removing trash), and a common-use area (sweeping the Dining Hall as a cabin, picking up trash as a cabin).

### **Expulsion from Camp:**

The Camp Director reserves the right to expel any camper for infractions of camp rules, inappropriate behavior or language, or verbal or physical abuse of campers or staff. In such a case, the parents or designated emergency contacts are responsible for arranging the child to vacate Camp within 24 hours of notification. There will be no refund of any Camp fees when a camper is expelled under such conditions.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Camper-to-staff ratios:** We use the American Camp Association standards of 6:1 for ages 6 to 8, 8:1 for ages 9 to 14, and 10:1 for ages 15 to 18. We also have extra staff on any offsite trips.

**How will my child's needs be met at camp?** Our camp staff is dedicated to making sure each BB Camper's needs are understood and met. Leiat Klarfeld, our Assistant Director of Community Care, works to create accommodations for individual campers, as well as supporting and training our staff to be accepting, respectful, & encouraging to all campers. Leiat can be reached at [lklarfeld@bbcamp.org](mailto:lklarfeld@bbcamp.org).

**Does BB Camp serve kosher meals?** In our ongoing mission to best serve our community's needs and prompted by the diminished access, variety, and quality of certified kosher proteins, BB Camp sought information from a variety of sources to learn about what other certified kosher protein options are available to us and to discover how our BB Camp families experience Kashrut (or keeping kosher), the Jewish regulations that guide what foods can and cannot be eaten. Thank you to those who participated with your open and honest feedback throughout our research and discovery process. After extensive research, listening sessions, and deep discussions, the Board of Directors has approved the updated Kashrut practice for BB Camp's Overnight Camp programs.

## **BB Camp's Board-approved Updated Kashrut Practice (as of March 2023):**

- BB Camp will offer **certified Kosher protein meals** to welcome and accommodate our campers and staff who **keep Kosher at home**.
- BB Camp will serve **Kosher-style meals** for campers and staff who **do not keep kosher at home**. Our kosher-style meals will not include certified kosher proteins.
- **For all meals**, we will continue our practice of separating meat and milk, separating meat and milk dishes/utensils, and not serving any non-kosher animal products (pork, shellfish, gelatin, etc.).

One of our process outcomes was discovering the opportunity for additional Jewish education surrounding Kashrut for our campers.

**What if my child is vegetarian? What about other special diets?** Many of our meals are vegetarian. We also offer a vegetarian option at all meals, as well as a salad bar at lunch and dinner. In addition, special diets can often be accommodated if discussed in advance with the Assistant Director of Community Care. Please make sure to indicate your child's dietary needs on your camper's health history form.

**Do campers have choices about what activities they do?** Yes. Some of our day is structured so that each cabin group will rotate through activities. Three different *chug* (activity) periods occur each day when campers go as a cabin group to the pool, play sports, create arts and crafts, engage in Jewish Enrichment, etc. Then we have activities that campers choose. These activities are called Individuals and Skill Builders. Individuals are an elective period where campers are given a variety of Individual activities to choose from on a daily basis. Skill builders allow campers the opportunity to

choose the same activity for their entire session (or a given week), which allows them to further develop a skill or complete a project.

***Does everyone get to go on an overnight and day trip?*** Yes, all campers spend at least one night camping (Maccabee Campers and Younger Unit Campers camp under the stars at BB Camp) and travel to an off-site day trip. Unless there is a medical reason or act of nature, all campers will go on overnights and daytrips.

***Are the zip line and high elements at Camp safe?*** We are proud of our high elements, which include an adventure/challenge course, a climbing tower, and a zip-line. Our elements were designed and built by industry leaders Project Adventure and Synergo. Additionally, every spring Synergo closely inspects all of our elements for safety and provides training and certification for our summer staff. In order to ensure we uphold our equipment safety guidelines; we are not able to have participants under 65lbs on the ropes course.

Excitement, surprise, understanding, trust, and teamwork are in store for every camper who participates in our challenge course programs. Trained facilitators supervise all activities. The important foundation of all challenge activities is the term "challenge by choice," which means each participant contracts with the group only to do what they are comfortable with and support each person's choices.

***Is everyone at camp Jewish?*** Most campers and staff are Jewish; however, BB Camp welcomes all without regard to religion, race, color, sex, age, marital status, national origin, disability, sexual preference, or other protected status. We hope everyone who comes to Camp discovers elements about Judaism, Jewish values, and Jewish traditions they never knew before. It is a diverse and strong community that embraces songs, language, traditions, values, and teachings from our Jewish heritage.

***What if my child wants to extend their stay?*** Often, campers desire to extend their stays beyond their original scheduled enrollments. If your child requests a longer stay, a member of the camp administrative team will call you at home prior to the camper's scheduled departure to discuss options. If space is available, and you grant permission for your child to remain at Camp, we will make all the necessary arrangements.