

JCC Day Camp Summer 2020



Camp Manual





STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

CAMP ADMINISTRATORS

Glenn Wechsler gwechsler@sjcc.com
718.475.5231 (through July 2)

Stephanie Feldman sfeldman@sjcc.com

Camp Administrators may be reached at the camp office as of Monday, July 6 at 718-983-9000

CAMP DIRECTORS

K'ton Ton (pre-school-entering grade 1) Lucy Kamil lkamil@sjcc.com

Shalom (entering grades 2- 3) Megan Adinolfi madinolfi@sjcc.com

Chalutz (entering grades 4- 5) Meaghan Denesopolis mdenesopolis@sjcc.com

Maccabiah (entering grades 6-7) Mackenzie Miller mmiller@sjcc.com

Teen Travel (entering grades 8-9) Josh Schwartz joschwartz@sjcc.com

CIT II (entering grade 10) Sara Doyle sdoyle@sjcc.com

Program Director – Sara Doyle sdoyle@sjcc.com

Operations Directors - Dale Oks doks@sjcc.com
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Covid Safety and Operations Director – Alexandria Chirico achirico@sjcc.com

OUR CAMP PHILOSOPHY

We are committed to providing children with a high-quality day camp program designed to enhance each child's physical, emotional, social, and intellectual growth while providing them with opportunities to take pride in their Jewish heritage.



Dear Camp Families,

Welcome to the JCC Day Camp. We are committed to providing a safe, high quality Jewish Day Camp experience for your child with a focus on FUN, FRIENDSHIP and COMMUNITY.

This Family Handbook contains valuable information that will answer many of the questions that may arise as you prepare your child for camp and throughout the summer. Please read this handbook carefully and hold onto to it for future reference.

Our camp theme for the summer is “The World of Stories” and staff have been planning exciting events and programs geared toward this theme. After packing their bags, campers will make bears come to life, be inspired by Joseph’s and his little and building alien robots.

In the shadow of COVID - 19, as we transition our lives out of our homes and look to reintroduce our children to socializing and interacting with friends, camp offers a haven for children to be this summer. Camp is not a risk-free environment, but with our commitment to implement the guidelines set forth by the New York State Department of Health and CDC to minimize risk, we are looking forward to providing campers with a safe and fun summer camp experience.

We have created a Camp 2020 *Safety and Operations Guidelines* manual this summer to more specifically address COVID – 19 questions. [CLICK HERE FOR THE LINK TO THIS MANUAL.](#) Nevertheless, this manual also communicates information related to changes in our camp program due to COVID – 19. We are unwavering in our goal to deliver a safe and healthy summer to your family and have committed all our passion, experience, and knowledge to bring about Summer 2020!

We recognize the role that camp plays in a child’s development and work tirelessly to make your child’s experience at JCC camp a rich and rewarding one. We are dedicated to making each camp day a new and wondrous one and for camp to be a place where your child will develop lasting friendships and life-long memories.

Thank you for joining us this summer!

*Glenn Wechsler
Stephanie Feldman
Camp Co-Directors*



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1. WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Please send your child with a bag with the following items:

- A towel
- 1-2 swim suits
- Ziploc bag to hold wet bathing suits
- Extra articles of clothing depending on the age of your child
- Sunscreen*
- Bug spray (optional)
- Water bottle**
- Hat
- Swim shoes (especially for K'Ton Ton campers)

Please label all items with your child's name and camp division.

*Sunscreen should be applied each morning before sending your child to camp. K'Ton Ton and Shalom staff will be responsible for re-applying sunscreen to campers. Children in other units are responsible for their own application and will be encouraged by staff to do so. Remember to check your child's sunscreen and insect repellent regularly. Counselors are prohibited from applying sunscreen and insect repellent that does not belong to your child.

**Campers should carry water bottles in their backpacks. It is essential that campers drink water, especially in hot weather. There is ample opportunity to refill water bottles during the day.

2. WHAT TO WEAR TO CAMP

Normal attire for camp is shorts, a polo or t-shirt and sneakers. Sandals and open-toed shoes should not be worn. It is wise to wear a hat or baseball cap to avoid heat problems on hot summer days. All campers swim daily. If your child has swim first or second period, it is beneficial to have your child wear a bathing suit under his/her clothes upon arrival. This will save time in the morning.

On Fridays, your child should wear his/her special white Shabbat celebration shirt.



3. LOST AND FOUND

An inevitable part of camp is children misplacing things. Due to COVID – 19 guidelines we will not have a “Lost and Found” section at camp this summer. If found, Unit Directors will return lost items to children. It is imperative that you write your child’s name and camp division (e.g. LeBron James, Camp Shalom) on his or her items.

Items of value such as video games, cellphones, baseball cards, jewelry, etc. do not belong in camp and we are not responsible for them if they are misplaced, lost, stolen or broken.

4. LUNCH

You have the option of packing your child’s lunch or purchasing a Kosher lunch through the camp. Information about the camp lunch program can be found online.

Please pack lunches in a brown bag with your child’s name, division, group number/letter on the lunch bag.

Due to COVID – 19 concerns we ask that you send your child with a brown paper bag. An insulated lunch box is not needed since lunches are collected first thing in the morning and refrigerated. **Please do not send glassware.**

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Your child’s physician must examine your child and fill out the Physical Examination Form which can be found online. [CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FORM.](#) Please complete medical forms and emergency cards by July 1. All campers **MUST** submit their completed forms before they will be allowed to attend camp.

Please make certain to inform the camp directors about your child’s food or other allergies as well as any medical conditions that we should be aware of so that we can ensure a safe camp experience for your child. This vital information will be shared with the camp health professional and your child’s Unit Directors and counselors, as appropriate.

If your child is sick in the morning, please do not send him/her to camp. If, in the opinion of the camp medical professional, your child is not well enough to remain at camp, you will be called to take your child home.



For COVID – 19 health and safety protocols, please review the aforementioned Camp 2020 *Safety and Operations Guidelines* manual

Our camp medical professional is present during regular camp hours and is available to address any medical issues that may arise.

In case of an emergency, you will be notified immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will notify your child’s physician or other emergency contacts. Please make certain that the emergency numbers in your child’s file are up to date.

If a child is diagnosed with head lice, a parent will be contacted and must pick up their child from camp. This policy is maintained in order to prevent spreading to other campers. Parents will be notified if lice are found in his/her child’s camp group. Campers who have lice must be treated and will be rechecked upon return to camp. Campers must provide a note from their doctor that they are lice free.

6. MEDICATION:

Medication brought to camp by your child should be given to his/her Unit Director upon arrival at camp. It will then be transferred to the camp medical professional. Medication must be in its original container and directions must be marked on the bottle. A signed physician’s note must be brought with the medication detailing how and when it should be administered. If a change in medication is to occur, please notify us immediately.

The camp medical professional will be in charge of storing and dispensing medication. Parents are responsible for picking up medication at the end of each camp session.

7. CAR ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

A.M. ARRIVAL/DROP-OFF

CAMPERS IN ALL DIVISIONS WILL BE DROPPED OFF AND PICKED UP FROM THE HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUNDS LOCATED AT 1131 MANOR ROAD.

To assist with an efficient drop-off system, we will be offering **staggered drop-off times** this summer as follows:

K’ton Ton and Shalom campers: 8:00 – 8:25

Chalutz, Maccabiah and Teen Travel campers: 8:30 – 8:55

If you have children in different time periods, we ask that you drop them off during the 8:00 – 8:25 period.



Your cooperation in following your scheduled time will make for a more effective carpool.

All vehicles will enter through the main entrance of Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds (HKC) closest to the traffic light on Manor Road. There will be a separate lane on Manor Road for camp carpool families to enter the HKC campsite. This lane, which will run along the edge of Manor Road (on the north side), will be created using traffic cones. The entrance to this JCC camp lane will be approximately 750 feet from the HKC entrance and will be prominently marked with signage. You will be directed by staff to drive your car along a specific designated line. **Please remember that parents must remain in the vehicle at all times.**

Have your child sit in the BACK SEAT ONLY of your vehicle so that your child can exit the vehicle and be on the side closest to our staff (our staff will open the back door for you). If you must have your child sit in the front passenger seat, PLEASE DO NOT MOVE YOUR VEHICLE UNTIL YOUR CHILD HAS PASSED IN FRONT OF YOUR CAR.

After your child/ren have exited the vehicle you will follow the other cars out of the Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds where our staff will help you depart the drop-off area. Please note that left turns out of the HKC parking lot are not permitted. All cars are required to make a right turn onto Manor Road upon exiting the HKC parking lot. For the safety of all do not make U-turns or speed on Manor Road. Please adhere to posted speed limits and if you need to make a U-turn do so in the JCC Bernikow building parking lot.

SPECIAL COVID – 19 AM CARPOOL PROCEDURES

Prior to AM drop off, you will be required to complete an online questionnaire asking whether your child(ren) is experiencing symptoms of Covid, or has recently been in close proximity with someone who is experiencing symptoms or tested positive for Covid.

When you arrive in the camp parking lot and have come to a complete stop you will be asked to show the results of the survey to the JCC staff member approaching your car. [The link to complete the survey is here.](#)

In brief, the AM screening protocol is as follows:

- A JCC staff member will meet your vehicle and request that you show a copy of the survey results discussed above.
- Afterwards, the staff member will proceed with a temperature check of campers using a touchless thermometer. If a child records a temperature of 100.4 F or higher, they



- will be prohibited from exiting the vehicle.
- Thereafter, a staff member wearing a face covering will escort the camper to their dedicated meeting location for their "family."

Please note, all staff will go through the same health screening questions and temperature check before entering camp.

P.M. DISMISSAL/PICKUP

CAMPERS IN ALL DIVISIONS WILL BE DROPPED OFF AND PICKED UP FROM THE HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUNDS LOCATED AT 1131 MANOR ROAD.

To assist with efficient end of day parent pick up, we will be assigning camp divisions a staggered window of time for pickup as follows:

K'ton Ton and Shalom: 3:30 – 3:55
Chalutz, Maccabiah and Teen Travel: 4:00 – 4:25

If you have children in different time periods, we ask that you let us know during which time period you plan to pick up your children.

All vehicles will line up in the Boy Scout Parking Lot which is located across the street from the JCC Bernikow building parking lot. There will be JCC staff in the parking lot to assist in directing cars to their proper line-up location. **Please note that left turns are not permitted into the Boy Scouts parking lot.**

Once you are shown where to line-up by JCC staff, you will be assigned a number or word that you will share with the JCC staff member standing at the front gate of Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds (Only parents who can recite the number/word will be permitted to pick-up their children). This is to ensure that no one cuts the line thereby making things as fair as possible for our parents and campers.

Kton Ton and Shalom parents are asked to line up at the Boy Scout Parking Lot no earlier than 3:15 pm and no later than 3:45 pm. Chalutz, Maccabiah, and Teen Travel parents are asked to line up at the Boy Scout Parking Lot no earlier than 3:50 pm and no later than 4:15 pm.

Beginning at approximately **3:30 pm and continuing to 3:55 pm parents of Kton Ton and Shalom campers** will be directed by JCC staff from the Boy Scouts parking lot to



Henry Kaufmann campgrounds. **PLEASE HAVE YOUR CARPOOL PASS HANGING FROM YOUR REAR VIEW MIRROR.**

Beginning at approximately **4:00 pm and continuing to 4:25 pm** parents of **Chalutz, Maccabiah and Teen Travel campers** will be directed by JCC staff from the Boy Scouts parking lot to Henry Kaufmann campgrounds. **PLEASE HAVE YOUR CARPOOL PASS HANGING FROM YOUR REAR VIEW MIRROR.**

Upon entering the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds parking lot you will be asked to share your assigned number/word and give your camper's name(s) to the JCC staff member who will call your child's name on the PA system. Thereafter you will move your vehicle up through the parking lot until you cannot go any further. At that time a JCC staff member will open the back door for your child, and after your child is seat belted, you will follow the vehicles out of Henry Kaufmann campgrounds exit way where our staff will help you depart the pick-up area. There are no left turns out of the parking lot.

If you are planning to have someone else other than a parent pick up your child, make sure they have a carpool pass and are listed on the authorized pick up form.

HALF DAY K'TON TON DISMISSAL

Cars will line up (parallel to the parked cars) closest to the main entrance of the Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds, near the traffic light on Manor Road. At approximately 1:00 pm the campgrounds gate will open, and cars will be led into the parking lot where the children will be waiting for pick-up.

8. BUS SERVICE

Due to COVID – 19 guidelines we will not be offering bus transportation to and from camp this summer.

9. CAMP TRIPS

Due to COVID -19 guidelines, we will not be offering trips this summer.



10. EXTENDED HOURS PROGRAM

For the parent who needs to drop-off their child beginning at 7:15am, or who needs to pick-up their child between 4:30-7:00pm, we offer an EXTENDED HOURS PROGRAM. You may sign-up for either the morning or afternoon hours or both. There is an additional fee for this program. See the registration form for prices.

A.M. EXTENDED HOURS PROGRAM

The A.M. extended hours program meets at the Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds. Campers will receive breakfast and enjoy games, playground and other activities.

P.M. EXTENDED HOURS PROGRAM

P.M. extended hours program meets at the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds. P.M. activities include games, sports, arts and crafts, and snacks. P.M. extended hours parents are required to pull into the Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds parking lot after 4:45pm. An extended hours staff person will be waiting to greet you and will have your child brought to you.

11. RAINY DAYS

We are fortunate to have plenty of covered areas on the campground. Large shelter areas with roofs and tents, are effective at preventing campers from getting wet during intermittent or unexpected rain at camp. They also are large enough to maintain social distancing guidelines.

“Rain days” will take place at the campground. During periods of rain, children will remain under shelters, socially distanced from other groups. They will participate in regular camp activities such as arts and crafts, theatre, woodworking, drama, Lego robotics, science exploration, and nature.

If the forecast calls for severe weather in which we feel it is unsafe for the children to be on the campground, we will cancel camp for the day. You will be notified by 6:00 a.m. of this decision.

We recommend sending your child in with rain gear on “rain days” to make them more comfortable during the camp day. Rain gear may include: sweatshirts, ponchos, rain jackets, and closed rain shoes. We do not recommend umbrellas as they are hazardous and easily misplaced.



12. A TYPICAL DAY AT CAMP

Diverse programming is an essential component of the JCC camp experience. The calendar includes weekly shows and special events. Shows range from magicians and musical performers to Game shows and jugglers. Special events include the camp carnival, an Independence Day celebration, Israel Day, a weekly Shabbat celebration and our three-day Olympiad, the Maccabi Games. Unit Directors supplement these shows and events with extra special daily activities.

As a traditional camp we offer a wide variety of activities for the campers. A typical camp day includes daily swimming, a variety of specialist activities and frequent special events. Campers follow a weekly schedule in which each camp day is divided into 40-minute activity periods.

Specialist activities typically include:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Woodworking
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Lego Robotics
- Arts and Crafts
- Sports Galore
- Painting
- Theatre
- Puppetry
- Animal Discovery
- Fun Science
- Archery
- Lacrosse
- Israeli culture

13. SWIM

Campers swim daily. Due to CDC guidelines, we will not be offering instructional swim this summer.

If your camper is unable to go swimming on a particular day, please send a note with your child. If you have any questions about the swim program please contact the camp.



14. EARLY PICK-UP

If you need to pick up your child early, please call the office before coming to camp. When picking up your child please drive into the HKC parking lot. You will be directed to a location to wait for your child. Please do not exit your vehicle. A JCC staff member will assist you with dismissal. As we are situated on a large campground it may take up to 20 minutes for your child to arrive in the parking lot. Please plan accordingly.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR CHILD NO LATER THAN 3:00PM AS COMING LATER THAN THIS IS EXTREMELY DISRUPTIVE TO OUR END OF CAMP ROUTINE. OTHERWISE YOU MUST WAIT FOR REGULAR PM DISMISSAL.**

15. COMMUNICATING WITH DIRECTORS

We recognize the importance of having an open line of communication between parents and unit directors. As such unit directors do their best to be available to parents daily. During the day, unit directors are very busy with the campers and are typically unavailable to answer phone calls. If possible, Unit Directors will try to contact parents during the camp day; more typically they will return calls after 5:00pm or early in the morning. When appropriate, parents are also encouraged to email unit directors any questions or concerns that they may have. Unit Director email addresses may be found at the beginning of this manual. You may also send a note with your child to his/her counselor or to the Unit Director.

We also encourage you to reach out to the camp directors, Stephanie and Glenn, if you have any concerns.

Camp is only eight weeks long and it is best to work out any concerns as soon as they arise. If you have a concern and it is not being addressed, then there is a good chance that we are not aware of the problem.

Additionally, if any unique situations occur at home that may affect your child, please let us know.



16. CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AT CAMP

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at camp, please notify the camp office in advance. If you send food to be served to other campers it must be individually packaged, kosher and nut free.

Please give at least one week's notice to the camp office of any birthday arrangements you plan to make.

17. CAMP PICTURES

Please have your child wear their JCC Camp T-Shirt on picture day. Both group and individual pictures are available for purchase. There are several picture packages available. Picture day will be listed on the camp calendar and information will be sent home with your child prior to their scheduled day. Make-up pictures are available and you will receive information on the date.

18. PROJECT CHALLAH

Families may purchase challah, provided by B and Y caterers throughout the summer. The challah, are distributed to campers on Fridays. For more information see the camp online registration form.

19. VISITING POLICY

Due to CDC guidelines, visitors will not be permitted on the campground this summer. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold a "parent visiting day."

20. TIPPING POLICY

Tipping staff at camp is permissible but entirely at your own discretion. Money, gift cards and other items have been given in the past. Most groups at camp have at least one senior counselor, one junior counselor, and at times a CIT II.

A "suggested" amount to tip for an 8-week camper is as follows:

Senior Counselor	\$50.00 - \$75.00
Junior Counselor	\$35.00 - \$50.00
CIT II	\$20.00 - \$30.00

A reminder, this is only a suggested rate. You may give whatever you feel comfortable giving.



21. CAMP COMMITTEE

Parents are encouraged to join the JCC Camp Committee. The Camp Committee consists of parents who meet on a regular basis with the JCC Camp Directors to help establish policy and programming for the camp. The committee begins their meetings in October and goes through the summer months. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Glenn.