

Parent Information Book

Camp Gan Izzy Berkeley



Summer 2024

"A Summer of Friendship & Fun Jewish Experience"

Parent Information Book

Camp Gan Israel Berkeley Summer 2024

Welcome!

Dear Parents,

It is with great excitement that we welcome you and your child to the Gan Izzy Family. We look forward to providing you and your family with an enriching Jewish summer experience full of fun times, new friends and great memories. Our staff are eager to get to know your child and give them a summer experience of a lifetime!

What makes our program unique is our focus on campers as individuals and our commitment to providing each one of them with a nurturing experience. We design our program to provide for your child's social, emotional and cultural wellbeing. The daily schedule is infused with activities, arts n' crafts, songs and stories relating to their Jewish identity. It's a place where Judaism comes alive in a fun way.

Our staff here at Camp Gan Israel is dedicated to giving each child an unforgettable experience. Your child will grow and form special relationships with friends and role models to cherish for a lifetime. Every decision that is made in the planning and operation of camp is always made with a focus on safety.

Please review this handbook to familiarize yourself with camp procedures and policies. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Mendy & Menucha Blank

Directors

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Communication

Camp will be sending the latest camp updates and messages through the Playground App. We will also have a Whatsapp broadcast group as well that you are welcome to join.

It is best to keep communication in the playground app if it is not urgent.

If it's an emergency please call Rabbi Mendy 510-859-8808. Counselors will not take calls during camp hours.

Dates & Times

Camp this year begins on June 24th and continues till August 2nd.

Early Care: 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Camp Hours 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

After Care: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Early care and after take place at camp 2800 Forest Ave.

Drop Off /Pick Up

Morning drop off is **9:00 am**. Please do not drop your child off earlier than 8:50am.

When you drop off and pick up your child, please use the QR code to check them in or out. End of the day pick up is from **3:00pm-3:15pm**.

Make sure to add anyone who will be picking up your child to the Playground app.

We ask that you make an effort to be on time for drop off and pick up. Please contact us if you anticipate being late.

Swimming

Swimming takes place twice a week at El Cerrito Swim Center. The center has a heated activity pool with a barrier dividing the 2 ft shallow play area from the rest of the 3.5 ft pool area. The center also has a splash pad play area that we will be using. There are certified lifeguards watching and we will have our staff watching the campers and in the water as well.

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Food

Camp will be providing lunch but not breakfast. Campers should eat breakfast before coming to camp. If your child has any food allergies please make sure we are aware of it and it's added to their profile on the app.

Please send your child with 2 large kosher snacks every day, including a drink. Drinking water will be available on camp grounds and campers will be encouraged to hydrate often, especially during outdoor sports and activities.

Here is the general menu for camp. Each week we will send out the menu for the week. If you will be packing a lunch for your child please make sure it is Kosher.

General Lunch Menu Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Fish sticks, Mashed Potatoes2. Macaroni and cheese/bread/salad3. Sandwiches: Peanut butter, Jelly, Tuna, Cheese4. Hot dogs, buns, fries5. Pasta and meatballs, or meat sauce6. Pizza, Fries,
Veggies: Cherry Tomato, Cucumbers, Baby Peppers, Veggie Sticks, Shredded Iceberg/Carrots
Dessert/Snack: Fruits, Banana/Apple/Orange/Plum, Cookies, Granola bars

What to Bring to Camp

- **Water Bottles** Please bring a reusable water bottle daily, marked clearly with the camper's name. We will provide water for them to fill up with and campers will be encouraged to hydrate often.

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- **Sunscreen** Please apply sunscreen each morning before camp. Please send sunscreen labeled with a name as your child will be encouraged to re-apply during the day.
- **Cap / Hat**
- **Camp T-shirts** -Camp T-shirts *must* be worn on trip days.
- **Bathing Suits/Towels/Goggles/Plastic Bag for wet clothes**
Swimming takes place twice a week on Monday and Thursday
- **Shoes** Campers should come with shoes or sneakers. Flip-flops and sandals are not recommended as it makes sports and activities difficult.
- **Sweater** Many mornings it is cool in camp. Please make sure your child has a sweater.

What Not to Bring to Camp

Cell phones and electronic devices are *not* permitted to be used during camp hours. We ask you to please not send your child to camp with a cell phone. Cell phones tend to detract from group activities and the camp spirit.

Camp Gan Israel cannot take responsibility for toys, jewelry, sports equipment, or other valuables that are lost or broken during camp hours.

Lost & Found

We encourage you to mark items your child brings to camp with his/her name. Shirts, backpacks, etc. at times are identical to theirs and individual items are difficult to identify without a label. Lost & Found items will be placed in a bin at camp. If needed please contact us regarding specific items and we'll do our best to help you locate them.

Special Events

Each week campers will have a dress up day/contest . Also please look out for our communication with details for the "CGI Family Evening" towards the end of camp.

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Looking forward to another wonderful summer at Camp Gan Israel!

Our Staff:

Senior Directors: Rabbi Yehuda and Miriam Ferris

Directors: Rabbi Mendy and Menucha Blank

Head Counselors: Chaya Srugo and Esti Dorn

Counselors: Menucha Baitelman, Shaina Baitelman, Lieba Greisman,
Devorah Leah Raeburn.



Get Ready for the Summer of a Lifetime!

See You Soon!