

During Camp Continued...

Incidentals

New this year is something called an incidentals account. This account is set up and managed separately for each camper so that if they find that they need or run out of certain things while at camp. The account must include at least \$25.00 and can be up to \$100.00. These funds will be used for purchasing things like toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, replacement batteries, flashlights, headlamp bulbs, envelopes, stamps, and water bottles. Each family has the option at the end of the session to have this money refunded, use it to purchase camp shirts, or donate it to the Hawkeye Campership Fund and receive a tax deduction.

Visiting

Family Visiting Weekend is scheduled for the second weekend of each session. This is also changeover time for each two week camper. Families are encouraged to come and spend the morning on Saturday at camp and then to take their child out for the afternoon. All campers must be back and settled in camp and all families are asked to depart prior to noon on Sunday. If these weekends do not work for you and your family's schedule please contact the office. We may be able to schedule an alternate time for a visit.

Communication

As you can probably imagine open and ongoing communication between camp staff and parents makes for the smoothest camp experience for the adults involved. If you have questions please do not hesitate to email us at any time during the summer. You may also call as needed and there will be someone available to answer the phone throughout the day, but remember that most staff, administrative included, will be out around campus at any given time.

We will take responsibility to keep you updated on important issues regarding your child throughout their stay. Do not be worried when we call for we expect to call with news of consistent, positive progress, more than for anything else.

Thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with some of the essentials for camp parents. If this is your first time sending your child away or if you have other questions give us a call and we can talk more about what it will be like for you the camp parent.

Garrett, Director

Parent Shorthand

This handbook is for all camp parents. It is a set of crib notes and covers various things you need to know before and during camp.

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Before Camp

Forms

THE HEALTH FORM IS DUE PRIOR TO MAY 15!

All other forms must be returned to camp's winter office before June 1.

Payment

A non-refundable \$500.00 deposit is due upon registration. The balance of tuition is due prior to May 15. Payment does not have to be made all at once; families may pay in installments prior to the deadline. Please communicate individual needs to the camp office so that we can work together to come up with a workable plan.

What to Bring

Please see the enclosed Packing List for an overview. Note: **DO NOT BRING ELECTRONICS OR FOOD OF ANY KIND!** Clothes get dirty at camp and things may be lost. Do not bring your nicest shirt or favorite (and expensive) pair of pants.

Questions

Please contact the winter office in Waltham by email, info@camphawkeye.com, or phone, (617) 960-6740, and either Jess or Garrett will be happy to answer your questions.

Arrival Day

Travel

Coming to camp on the first day of the session is very exciting and can also cause a lot of stress. Getting the final pieces packed, the kids out the door, the dog in the car, and the directions sorted out can be hectic. Do not be surprised if your son or daughter is irritable as well. It is normal for them to be nervous (even if they have been to camp before) and they may even shed a tear on the way. Do not worry, we will take great care of them and their anxiety will melt away.

If you are driving to camp please note that Mapquest and Google Maps Directions are wrong! You cannot turn directly on to Red Hill Road but must go on Saw Mill Lane when coming from the South.

Checking In

The Check In process includes three stations. Each family goes to the check in table, Health Center, and cabin in turn. When you arrive at camp please follow signs to designated parking areas. Come directly to the table outside of the Main Office. Here you will turn in or complete missing paperwork and find out your child's cabin and counselor information. From here you will head to the Health Center and then to your child's cabin where you will meet their counselors and be able to go on a walking tour of camp before saying goodbye.

Health Center Visit

After checking in at the table each camper and parent heads to the Health Center. Here the nurse will collect ALL medications (prescription and over-the-counter), do an intake exam, and answer any health questions that you have.

Saying Goodbye

It can be difficult to know when to say goodbye. We try and limit the time between arriving at camp and saying goodbye to less than forty-five minutes. Please do not make your child's bed for him/her. We train our staff to begin getting to know each child by helping them unpack and set up their things including making their bed.

This time is a vital part of their transition into our community and we want to make it as comfortable as possible. **DO NOT REMIND YOUR CHILD HOW LONG IT WILL BE BEFORE YOU SEE THEM NEXT!** DO NOT say things like "aren't you going to miss mommy?!" Or "Rex (the dog) is going to be so lonely without you!" Be positive, remind your child that you love them, will write to them, and that you are excited that they have such an exciting opportunity.

During Camp

Calls

Part of the program at camp is to separate campers and staff from the trappings of technology and modern life. We sleep in simple cabins, we eat simply, everyone helps with chores, and we embark on activities that are full of imagination and the grandeur of nature. For this reason and to limit the incidence of homesickness we limit phone calls to campers and staff. There are two designated times for phone calls, the first is during Reading Period from 1:35 - 2:50pm and the second is after dinner and before evening activity from 6:30 - 7:15pm.

Phone calls are limited to four minutes each and are scheduled with two minutes between. For example the first phone call will occur from 1:35 to 1:39pm with the second scheduled for 1:41pm. The next calls will happen at 1:47pm, 1:53pm, and 1:59pm respectively. Please email or call ahead during the day to schedule a phone call with your child. Time slots are reserved on a first come first served basis and are done ahead of time to ensure that your child will be present when you call. Longer calls may be permitted on birthdays and under circumstances of family emergency

Mail

We collect and send out mail every day. Please write letters and or postcards to your child. Kids love getting mail at camp and it is a great way to show them you are thinking of and care about them.

DO NOT SEND FOOD OF ANY KIND IN CARE PACKAGES!

We do not allow any candy at camp or food in the cabin. Any food that you send will be considered a "thank you" to and eaten by the staff. They love brownies and chocolate chip cookies so bake away.

Campers must write a letter home each week. It will be collected on Sunday during Reading Period as their "ticket" to dinner. It may take up to five days for domestic mail to reach you from camp so be patient. If you get a letter that sounds particularly down or sad give us a call and we will take the time to make sure everything is all right. Remember how long it takes for letters to arrive and know that feelings may already have changed.

Emails

We do not encourage emailing your child while at camp. Except in certain situations we will not print and distribute emails that you send. We may share a birthday e-card, exam results, or other information related to certain special occasions.