



2022

Get Happy Summer Day Camp – Parent Handbook



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RPAN

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Dear Get Happy Summer Day Camp Parents...

Thank you for registering your child(ren) in the Get Happy Summer Day Camp program. We have an amazing summer planned, filled with special events, special guests, games, crafts, activities and so much more! We cannot wait for it to begin in just a few short weeks.

We are working hard to create a fun and exciting camp experience for all campers. Our goal is to provide an energetic and safe atmosphere in which our campers gain new skills and interests and most importantly have fun! Smiles are guaranteed.

We have put together this package of IMPORTANT camp information, reminders, and contact information to help you and your child(ren) with the transition into camp. Please take the time to read all materials.

Note: our camp is NUT FREE.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us. We look forward to meeting you all as we laugh and play our way through this fantastic summer!

Let's enjoy a FUN summer together!



Staff...

Get Happy Summer Day Camps staff are a minimum of 15 years of age. Staff have participated in a four day training session in Iqaluit and are certified in emergency first aid and CPR and Rookie League.

In addition to learning all the policies and procedures of a Summer Camp program, they learn techniques in child behavior management, positive discipline, team building, group games, emergency action plans, and other necessary issues for running a safe camp. They learn songs, games, skits, and arts & craft projects. At the end of our pre-camp summer training, they are ready to use their new skills and knowledge with campers! We feel that after our trainings, your child is with the best of the best.

Staff goals each day...

- ✓ Create a safe and welcoming environment
- ✓ Inclusion of all campers
- ✓ Total group cohesiveness
- ✓ Happy and safe campers
- ✓ Lead by positive example
- ✓ Promote caring, honesty, respect and responsibility

Camp Hours...

Camp hours in each community will vary. Typically, the camp is run Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. We are closed on July 01st and August 01st (Civic Holiday). Please check with your local camp supervisor to confirm day camp schedule.

Please be sure to promptly pick up your child. Our staff will need to clean up and prepare for the next camp day. Please advise camp staff if your child is able to go home on their own. If you are late in picking up your child and this results in overtime for our staff, you will be responsible for this cost.

Late Arrivals...

It is important that campers arrive each day by 9:00am. Programming begins promptly at 9:00am. Please do not arrive late. We may not always stay at our "home base". If your child is late, you must accompany him/her into the facility to ensure someone is there.

Absent Campers...

If your child is going to be absent from camp, please contact the Supervisor.

What if I need to pick up my child during the day?

Please call the Hamlet directly to make arrangements to meet your child's group at the designated meeting area. It is best if you make arrangements ahead of time, as your child might be away from the main site participating in an activity and it can take some time for them to walk back to meet you.

If your child must leave camp during the day, a permission note must be given to the Camp Staff at the start of the week. Please specify which day and time they will be leaving, who they will be picked up by and when they will be returning to camp.



What should I send for lunch?

The community programs will vary. Some will send children home for lunch, others will include lunch in their program...check with your Hamlet on what your community will do.

Please note: Nut products are NOT permitted at the day camp program. Some of our campers have nut allergies, so please do not send your camper with nuts or any products that contain peanuts or tree nuts!

Your Campers Checklist

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ Running Shoes | ✓ Bug Repellant | ✓ Hat |
| ✓ Weather Appropriate Clothing | ✓ Sunscreen | ✓ Refillable Water Bottle |

Your child should also have a backpack with these essentials all **labeled with their name**. Campers should not bring electronics or money to camp, and the Hamlet cannot be responsible for any lost or stolen valuables.

Photos...

Camp Staff will be taking photos throughout the week for the camp Facebook page, partner promotion and crafts. For any reason you do not want your children's picture taken for these purposes please advise the camp staff if you have not already done so in your registration.

Note: Photo consent for purposes of promotional materials was included on the registration form. Photos of children (without names) will only be used if consent was given.

Special Considerations (Behaviour/Medical/Special Needs Form)...

If your child has any significant behaviour, medical and/or special needs and you did not include this information on the registration form, or feel that you should provide additional information please talk with the supervisor in advance of your child starting day camp.

Prescription Medications...

If your child requires any prescription medications (including Asthma Inhalers) or carries an Epi-Pen, you **MUST** complete the medical form. All prescription medications must be turned in to a staff member at morning sign in.

Prescription medications must be in the original pharmacy bottle, labelled with the patient's name and the physician's ordered dose on the bottle (e.g. pills in ziploc bags are not accepted).

Non prescription/over-the-counter medication, including vitamins and herbal supplements, will not be permitted. Asthma Inhalers and Epi-Pens may be carried on the child.



Note: If you wish to discuss your children's medications or medical conditions in advance, please contact the Camp supervisor.

Behaviour Guidelines...

It is the goal of the Get Happy Summer Day Camp to provide a healthy, safe, secure and respectful environment for all campers and staff. All campers are expected to follow the behaviour guidelines and interact appropriately in a group setting. Please read and review the following Behaviour Guidelines and Program Rules with your children. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated and will help provide a safe, fun, and respectful environment for all campers and staff.

Camp Behaviour Guidelines and Program Rules...

- ✓ Campers are expected to participate in camp activities, follow the directions of the camp staff and stay with their camp group at all times
- ✓ Campers are responsible for their actions
- ✓ Campers must be respectful, honest and considerate of other campers, staff, volunteers and guests
- ✓ Campers must be respectful of Hamlet property, property of other campers, staff or guests, the environment and offsite locations
- ✓ Campers must ask permission to go to the washroom and must go in pairs

If a child does not follow the behaviour guidelines, the camp staff will take the following steps:

1. Staff will redirect the child to more appropriate behaviour.
2. The child will be reminded of the behaviour guidelines and program rules.
3. If the behaviour persists, a parent will be notified of the problem by the Camp Coordinator.
4. If a child's behaviour at any time threatens the immediate safety of themselves, other campers, staff or guests, the parent will be notified and asked to pick up their child.
5. Get Happy Summer Day Camp reserves the right to ask a parent to pick their child up early, temporarily suspend the child from the camp program or expulsion from the program in extreme cases.

The following behaviours are not acceptable and may result in the immediate suspension of a child from the camp program:

1. Endangering the health and safety of other campers, staff, volunteers or guests
2. Stealing or damaging Hamlet or personal property of other campers, staff, volunteers or guests
3. Continual disruption of the camp program
4. Refusing to follow the behavioural guidelines and program rules
5. Using profanity, vulgarity, obscenity or acting in a lewd manner.



Bullying Policy

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Bullying happens when a person or group of people want to have power over another and use their power to get their way, at the expense of someone else. Bullying can also happen through cyberspace: through the use of e-mails, text messaging, instant messaging, and other less direct methods. This type of bullying can also lead to persons being hurt during or between the camp seasons and be especially hurtful when persons are targeted with meanness and exclusion. All acts of bullying are strictly prohibited.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if my child is going to be absent?

If your child is going to be absent please call the Hamlet and leave a message.

What if my child loses something?

To help ensure all belongings return at the end of the day, teach your child to put items back in their backpack when they're finished with them. It also helps to label all items with your child's name and to have your child help pack their backpack so they know what's inside — many kids don't recognize their own stuff, especially if it's new! It's important that children bring a backpack, since it's easier to carry and more sturdy than a plastic bag. Any found items at the end of the day are collected and stored at camp. If your child loses something, call your camp directly or visit to look through the lost and found. The Hamlet is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Please encourage your child to bring only what's needed for the program to camp. Do not bring electronic toys or money.

Lost and Found Disclaimer: Our staff will do their best to ensure campers keep their belongings in their backpacks, but sometimes things get left behind. Please check daily to ensure your child is coming home with everything they left with! Lost and found will be kept on site for one week and then donated.

What if my child needs medication at camp?

If your child requires medication during the day, you must complete the medication form as provided by the Hamlet. The medication form, with the medication, must be provided directly to the camp staff on the first day of the program.

If your child requires non-prescription medication, please obtain a doctor's note that indicates:

- ✓ Your child's name
- ✓ Name of medication
- ✓ Dosage
- ✓ Expiry date of the note
- ✓ Doctor's signature
- ✓ Times to administer, or specific signs and symptoms that indicate medication needs to be administered.



All medications need to be in the original container with your child's name and the date of the prescription on the container. All medications are locked in storage at camp and can be refrigerated if required. If the medication is for emergency use (e.g. inhaler or EpiPen) the counselor will carry it in their emergency waist pack. If your child self-administers their medication, they can carry it in their waist pack.

What if my child becomes ill during the day?

If your child is too ill to participate fully in all aspects of the program, please keep them home from camp. In the event your child becomes ill at camp we will call you to come and pick them up at the camp site.

Will my child get a t-shirt for camp?

YES!! One shirt per camper for the summer. We will not have extra t-shirts. If your child loses his/her t-shirt, we will not be able to replace it with another one. So please label the shirt with their name on it.