

JCC Day Camp Summer 2021



Camp Manual





STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

CAMP ADMINISTRATORS

Glenn Wechsler gwechsler@sjcc.com

718.475.5231 (through June 25)

Stephanie Feldman sfeldman@sjcc.com

Camp Administrators may be reached at the camp office as of Sunday, June 27 at 718-983-9000

CAMP DIRECTORS

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

Nitzan (entering grade 1) Amanda Stine astine@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

Marvin's JR. Director Tara Buttermark – tbuttermark@sjcc.com

Marvin's Director Laura Irizarry – lirizarry@sjcc.com

CIT Director Alyssa Connors aconnors@sjcc.com

Program Director – Sara Doyle sdoyle@sjcc.com

Operations Directors - Yoni Wechsler ywechsler@sjcc.com

Inclusion Coordinator – Alyssa Connors - aconnors@sjcc.com



Dear Camp Families,

Welcome to the JCC Day Camp. We are committed to providing a safe, high quality 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. A goal of this manual is to effectively communicate the best practices we have put in place to ensure a safe summer for your child. Please read this handbook carefully and hold onto it for future reference.

Our camp theme for the summer is “Adventure Awaits” and staff have been planning exciting events and programs geared toward this theme. After packing their bags, campers will make their own fossils, create sea creatures, go camping with Amelia Bedellia and spend time with dinosaurs.

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*

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.



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1. WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Please send your child to camp with the following items in a bag or backpack:

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

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

*Please apply sunscreen each morning before sending your child to camp. K'Ton Ton, Nitzan, 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.

**Please have your child carry water bottles in their backpack. It is essential that campers drink water, especially in hot weather. There is ample opportunity to refill water bottles during the day and campers are frequently reminded to do so.

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 strongly recommended that your child 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, please have your child wear his/her special white Shabbat celebration shirt.



3. LOST AND FOUND

An inevitable part of camp is children misplacing things. Due to COVID concerns 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 with a cold 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 or an insulated lunch box with your child's name, division, group number/letter on the lunch bag. 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 June 25. 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 medical team 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 team, your child is not well enough to remain at camp, you will be called to take your child home.

Our camp medical professional team 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 team. 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 team 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

We have made one change to our carpool procedures effective this Tuesday, July 6 that impacts our Chalutz division. We are confident that this will make for a smoother and more efficient carpool for all.

Please see below for our updated carpool procedures.

AM ARRIVAL

1. **Kton Ton, Nitzan, Shalom and Marvin's campers will be dropped off at the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds parking lot.** Drop off time will be between 7:45 – 8:35 am.
2. **Chalutz, Maccabiah, and Teen Travel campers will be dropped off at the Camp Pouch/Boy Scouts parking lot.** Drop off time will be between 7:45 – 8:35 am.
3. If you have children in both drop-off locations we ask that you drop your older child first at the Camp Pouch/Boy Scouts parking lot, and afterwards drop off your younger children at the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds.
4. **CIT's** will be dropped off and picked up, every day, at the location of the division in which they are assigned to work.



PM DISMISSAL

1. **We will be shuttling K'ton Ton, Nitzan and Marvin's campers** and their siblings to the JCC Bernikow building for afternoon dismissal at 3:30 pm. We ask that you park in the JCC parking lot and walk to the front of the JCC building where staff will direct you to pick up your child(ren).
2. **Shalom campers (and their older siblings)** will dismiss at the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds beginning at 4:05 pm. However, parents are asked to line up at the Boy Scouts/Pouch parking lot beginning at 3:50 pm. Please do not arrive earlier than 3:50 pm as carpool will not begin before 4:05 pm. If you arrive between 4:00 – 4:10 pm, you will typically be done with carpool no later than 4:20 – 4:30 p.m.
3. Chalutz, Maccabiah, and Teen Travel campers will be picked up at the Camp Pouch/Boy Scouts parking lot. Pick up time will be between 3:50pm – 4:20 pm.
4. If you have siblings in multiple divisions, they will dismiss with your youngest child at your youngest child's dismissal location.



For your easy reference see below:

CAMP DIVISION	AM DROP OFF TIME	AM DROP OFF LOCATION	PM PICK UP TIME	PM PICK UP LOCATION
KTON TON HALF DAY	7:45 – 8:35 AM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND	1:00 PM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND
KTON TON FULL DAY	7:45 – 8:35 AM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND	3:30 PM	JCC BERNIKOW BUILDING
NITZAN	7:45 – 8:35 AM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND	3:30 PM	JCC BERNIKOW BUILDING
SHALOM	7:45 – 8:35 AM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND	BEGINS AT 4:05 PM (LINE UP AT CAMP POUCH /BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT FROM 3:50 – 4:15 PM)	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND (LINE UP FIRST AT CAMP POUCH /BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT)
MARVIN'S	7:45 – 8:35 AM	HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUND	3:30 PM	JCC BERNIKOW BUILDING
CHALUTZ	7:45 – 8:35 AM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT	3:50 – 4:20 PM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT
MACCABIAH	7:45 – 8:35 AM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT	3:50 – 4:20 PM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT
TEEN TRAVEL	7:45 – 8:35 AM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT	3:50 – 4:20 PM	CAMP POUCH/ BOY SCOUTS PARKING LOT



DETAILED EXPLANATION OF CAMP CARPOOL PROCEDURES

AM ARRIVAL

K'TON TON, NITZAN, SHALOM AND MARVIN'S

In the morning **K'TON TON, NITZAN, SHALOM AND MARVIN'S CAMPERS** **WILL BE DROPPED OFF AT THE HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUNDS LOCATED AT 1131 MANOR ROAD. Drop off time is between 7:45 - 8:35 am**

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.

CHALUTZ, MACCABIAH, AND TEEN TRAVEL

In the morning **CHALUTZ, MACCABIAH AND TEEN TRAVEL CAMPERS** **WILL BE DROPPED OFF AT THE CAMP POUCH/Boy Scouts parking lot which is located across the street from the JCC Bernikow building parking lot. The drop off time is between 7:45 - 8:35 am**

All vehicles will enter through the main entrance of the CAMP POUCH/Boy scouts parking lot on Manor Road. As you enter the lot, JCC camp staff will be waiting and they will direct you to drive your car along a specific designated lane. The lane will be marked by traffic cones.



After driving through the parking lot you will be directed to the drop off zone, where your child will disembark from your vehicle.

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 Boy Scouts parking lot where our staff will help you exit onto Manor Road.

Please note that left turns out of the Boy Scouts parking lot are not permitted. All cars are required to make a right turn onto Manor Road upon exiting the Boy Scouts 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.

PM DISMISSAL

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.

KTON AND NITZAN

We will be shuttling **K'ton Ton and Nitzan campers and their siblings** to the **JCC Bernikow building** for **afternoon dismissal at 3:30 pm**. We ask that you park in the JCC parking lot and walk to the front of the JCC building where staff will direct you to pick up your child(ren).

SHALOM AND MARVIN'S

In the afternoon, **SHALOM AND MARVIN'S CAMPERS WILL BE PICKED UP AT THE HENRY KAUFMANN CAMPGROUNDS LOCATED AT 1131 MANOR ROAD**. Parents, though, are asked to **line up first in the CAMP POUCH/Boy Scouts parking lot which is located across the street from the JCC Bernikow building parking lot**



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 CAMP POUCH/Boy Scouts parking lot.**

Once you are shown where to line-up by JCC staff, you will be given "word of the day" that you will share with the JCC staff member standing at the front gate of Henry Kaufmann Campgrounds (Only parents who know the "word of the day" 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.

Shalom and Marvin's parents are asked to line up at the CAMP POUCH/Boy Scout parking lot no earlier than 3:50 pm and no later than 4:15 pm.

Beginning at approximately **4:05 pm and continuing to 4:30 pm** parents of **Shalom and MARVIN'S campers** will be directed by JCC staff from the Camp Pouch/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 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.

CHALUTZ, MACCABIAH AND TEEN TRAVEL

In the afternoon, **CHALUTZ, MACCABIAH AND TEEN TRAVEL CAMPERS** **WILL BE PICKED UP AT THE Camp Pouch/Boy Scouts parking lot which is located across the street from the JCC Bernikow building parking lot.**

The pick-up time is 3:50 – 4:20 pm

If you have children in different pick up locations (i.e., both the Boy scouts and Henry Kaufmann campgrounds lots) then we ask that you pick them up at the Henry Kaufman Campgrounds during your younger child's dismissal period. If that is problematic, please let us know and we will do our best to come up with an alternative solution.

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



Similar to AM drop-off, all vehicles will enter through the main entrance of the Boy scouts parking lot. As you enter the lot, JCC camp staff will be waiting and they will direct you to drive your car along a specific designated lane. The lane will be marked by traffic cones.

After driving through the parking lot you will be directed to the pick-up zone, where your child will be escorted to your vehicle.

Please remember that parents must remain in the vehicle at all times.

After your child/ren have entered the vehicle you will follow the other cars out of the Boy Scouts parking lot where our staff will help you exit onto Manor Road.

Please note that left turns out of the Boy Scouts parking lot are not permitted. All cars are required to make a right turn onto Manor Road upon exiting the Boy Scouts 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.

8. EXTENDED HOURS PROGRAM

For the parent who needs to drop-off their child beginning at 7:00 am, or who needs to pick-up their child after the camp day, 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. The JCC caterer offers for purchase drinks and light food items to pm extended hours campers.

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.

Parents must pick up their children by 7:00 pm.



9. RAINY DAYS

“Rain days” will take place at the campground. During periods of rain, children will remain under shelters. 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 (e.g. high winds) 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.

10. 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 35-minute activity periods.



Specialist activities typically include:

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

11. SWIM

Our swim program follows American Red Cross swim standards. All campers are encouraged to develop swim skills at their own pace and comfort.

Campers swim daily and a portion of the swim period includes instructional swim.

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.

12. 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 (or Boy Scouts for Teen Travel) 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.**



13. 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.

14. 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.

15. CAMP PICTURES

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



16. 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.

17. VISITING POLICY

Visitors will not be permitted on the campground this summer. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold a “parent visiting day.”

18. 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.

19. 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.