

Camp Gan Israel

Naperville, IL

Parent Handbook and Information Guide

Summer 2025

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Have a great summer!

CAMP LOCATION

Our camp is located at the Abrams Center for Jewish Life and is uniquely suited for a great camp experience. The spacious indoor and outdoor facility enables us to provide our campers with all sorts of fun activities, games, and projects in a warm Jewish environment.

Abrams Center for Jewish Life (Chabad of Naperville) 651 Amersale Dr. Naperville, IL 60563

DATES AND TIMES

Camp begins on Monday, July 14th, and runs through Friday, July 18th.

Camp begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 1:00 PM daily.

Please avoid dropping off your child earlier than 9:00 am or picking up after 1:00 pm unless you are registered for the before care and after care program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administration Office: 651 Amersale Dr.

Camp Director Mrs Alta Goldstein: 630-386-1848

E-mail: Alta@chabadnaperville.com

Rabbi Mendy Goldstein 630-957-8122

SAFETY

Safety is our number one priority.

Camp activities will be run by our Camp Director Alta Goldstein and her qualified assistants.

In case of a medical emergency, G-d forbid, parents (or guardian) and family doctor (listed on the registration papers) will be contacted immediately.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND MEDICATION

If your child has any special challenges or conditions (i.e. medical, social, behavioral), that were not marked on their registration form, please bring it to our attention, as this will greatly help us in caring for them and maximizing their camp experience. It will allow us to address these needs properly and eliminate unnecessary difficulties.

All medication that must be administered during camp hours must be clearly marked with the camper's name, **be provided in its original container and handed directly to Alta Goldstein**. A separate note containing dosage instruction and parent's signature must be sent as well. If you would like to discuss your child's health situation, please call the camp director

COMMUNICATION

Communication is extremely important to ensure a smooth and safe summer at Camp Gan Israel. If at any point in the summer, night or day, you have concerns or questions, please reach out directly to Camp Director, Alta Goldstein via email or phone.

Parents wishing to have their child released during camp to anyone other than themselves or their designated person must make prior arrangements in writing with the Camp Director.

Throughout the day, we will be posting pictures and videos of your child on our whatsapp group. Please download the app so you can get a peek into our fun days.

Feel free to share feedback regarding any aspect of the camp's program with us. Your input allows us to constantly improve and upgrade our program, and we value it greatly.

*If you would not like your child's pictures to be posted, please let Alta know prior to camp.

YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS/WHAT TO BRING EACH DAY

Every day, each camper must be sent to camp with a water bottle, and sunscreen (applied before camp by parent). On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, each camper must bring a swimsuit and towel in addition to the above mentioned items.

LUNCH AND SNACKS

Your child should bring a dairy or pareve (non-meat) kosher lunch, snack and drink. If you need any help with this, please contact the office.

The camp will provide extra snacks and drinks throughout the day.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if my child does not want to participate in a particular activity?

No camper is forced to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Gan Israel.

We appreciate parents encouraging their children to try each activity.

How does the transportation system work?

Parents pickup and drop off their children at Camp (The Abrams Center for Jewish Life) every day regardless of trips or activities planned.

How religious is Camp Gan Israel?

CGI is a non-judgmental environment made up of campers from diverse Jewish backgrounds and levels of observance. An individual's level of observance is not stressed. All children enjoy a shared Jewish spirit through songs and projects.

How can I become more involved with Camp Gan Israel?

The camp is always in need of volunteers. If you are interested please inform Alta.

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VALUES & JUDAIC PROGRAMMING

Our Judaic programming is designed to instill campers with a love for Judaism and pride in their Jewish identity. The camp Judaic experience consists of engaging activities, hands-on projects, stories, songs and crafts. Camp is filled with programming that teaches children positive values and character traits, taught in a fun, exciting way.

We warmly encourage boys to bring along a kippa and all children bring some pocket money for charity every morning to embrace and support our Jewish values. Donating to charity is a beautiful way to instill the spirit of giving and compassion in our young ones. We appreciate your support in nurturing these meaningful traditions and helping us create a positive impact in our community.