



"The Ultimate Camp Experience"



# Family Handbook 2026

**43 Candee Road**  
**Prospect, CT**  
**holidayhilldaycamp.com**  
 **holidayhilldaycamp**



# WELCOME

Holiday Hill Day Camp (HHDC) welcomes you to the 2026 summer camp season! Camp will be operating Monday, June 22nd to Friday, August 14th.

Here at HHDC we pride ourselves as being an accredited camp that provides a range of experience for our campers. We are excited for camp to begin and look forward to a fun-filled summer of memory making for both staff and campers.

At Holiday Hill Day Camp, our philosophy surrounds providing exceptional day camping to the youth of southern Connecticut. We put careful consideration into developing our program and running our state of the art program areas.

Learning to take risks is an important part of growth and development. Holiday Hill provides a safe, comfortable environment for children to take that extra step toward making them more confident.

Thank you for trusting us with your children this summer. This handbook is intended to provide key information for parents and guardians. We look forward to 2024's "Ultimate Camp Experience".



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## **A MESSAGE FROM YOUR DIRECTOR**

The Administrative TEAM and I would like to extend another warm welcome to the camp season. We have been actively preparing for everyone and are excited. Summer camp provides endless opportunities for campers and at Holiday Hill, there are no exceptions. The unprecedented times we are in has allowed us to reflect and ensure an experience for your campers that address their emotional, physical, and social needs.

Emotional/Social- We have staff that have undergone various training (ie, Diversity training, Mandated Reporter, Bullying, Mental Health) and are prepared to help your camper with anything they may need. We are aware that campers have experienced different circumstances in general and specifically throughout the pandemic. Daily structures such as morning meetings help foster relationships.

Physical- We are a camp that prides itself on active campers. All activities are designed to be age-appropriate and encourage kids to foster self-confidence and get them moving. Our activities which ranged from dance to lake require campers to get up and move.

Diversity- At Holiday Hill Day Camp, we believe in recognizing each individual and staff member for who they are. We are a camp that serves children across Fairfield, New Haven County, and surrounding towns. We provide transportation throughout the towns and cities. Your camper will have the opportunity to make new friends outside of their neighborhoods with differences in race, gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, abilities, and more. We are also an equal opportunity employer and have an amazing staff that is diverse.

# **CAMP STAFF**

## **❑ ADMINISTRATION**

Administration consists of the Director, Assistant Director, Program Director, Health & Wellness Director and a Pool Director. The administrative team is committed to creating a program where both campers and staff thrive.

## **❑ INSTRUCTORS**

Instructors are adults 18 and over. Here at Holiday Hill, we are proud to boast that the majority of our instructors are adults with a background in education. (i.e. certified elementary and high school teachers)

## **❑ COUNSELORS**

Counselors are ages 16 and up. Many of our counselors have grown up at camp and have experience as both campers and CIT's.

## **❑ CITs**

CITs are counselors in training. CITs are trained under the direction of counselors in the hopes to then become counselors themselves when they are of age. CITs aid in the supervision of campers as well as tasks that help to promote a fun and safe camp experience.

## **CIT PROGRAM**

The goals of the Holiday Hill Counselor in Training (CIT) Program are multi-faceted:

- to teach young adults core philosophies and skills related to leadership
- to provide them opportunities to put these skills and understanding to use
- to provide a fun and meaningful summer for this focused age group
- to provide the camp a chance to evaluate who would make a good counselor in future years

Within the program our CITs will be able to participate in courses such as babysitting and first aid. We also encourage them to build friendships that will last a lifetime. They are given a daily 40 minute free swim as well as a CIT period to interact with their fellow CITs. Our CIT program has a discounted rate and is available on our site during registration.

## ☐ LIFE GUARDS

Our Pool Director is a certified lifeguard instructor. All Lifeguards have up to date certification. During the season they participate in weekly drills and training. They are all trained to give swim instruction at all levels.



## **HHDC PROGRAM**

As a day camp program, our goal is to maximize your camper's day with fun-filled activities and positive interactions with staff and other campers.

Campers range from ages 3-13. Girls and boys are assigned to different cabins (Munchkins and Minis are the exception) and organized by the grade they will be entering in the fall.

They are categorized as follows:

Munchkins- 3/4- year olds

Minis- 4/5 year olds

B1/G1- Campers going into the 1st grade

B2/G2- Campers going into 2nd grade

B3/G3- Campers going into 3rd grade

B4/B4- Campers going into 4th grade

B5/G5- Campers going into 5th grade

B6/G6- Campers going into 6th grade

B7/G7- campers going into 7th grade

B8/G8- campers going into 8th

Super B8/G8 8th/9th grade

### **THE FACILITY**

We are fortunate to have a camp with 152 acres. Our campus features a lake, two lodges, a playscape, a baseball field, a kickball field, two basketball courts, two tennis courts, two gaga pits, a soccer field, hiking trails, ropes courses, an archery range, a horseshoe pit and two swimming pools. We also have special activity cabins. Our cooking cabin contains a full kitchen and we have a cabin designated for wood making. We also have a medical health office to meet the needs of our campers and staff.

# TRANSPORTATION

## **CAR**

Campers should be dropped off between 8:45 and 9:00. You will be directed by staff to the designated area and your camper will be brought right into the lodge for breakfast. Pickup time is between 3:40 and 4:00 if your camper does not need an early dismissal.

## **LATE DROP-OFF**

If your child is dropped off after 9:45, he or she must be dropped off at the nurse's office and signed in. The office will locate your camper's group and a staff member will escort them to the correct location.

## **BUS**

Transportation will be provided to and from camp on school buses. All of our bus drivers have a certified commercial drivers license (CDL).

We do not provide door-to-door service but rather utilize commuter lots and community locations as meet up points for our families.

Each bus is assigned a bus counselor. The bus counselor is responsible for the attendance on the bus as well as to relay any behavior concerns to the camp administration. Camp administration will handle any and all behavior issues on the bus.

Bus counselors are instructed to leave a bus stop 3 minutes after the designated bus time for both the morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off. If you are going to be late to a bus stop, please call the camp at **(203) 387-2267** to coordinate the best stop to pick up your child.

If you need your camper to take another bus home or get off at another stop, this too needs to be emailed before noon on the day of the request. Approval of request is based on availability.

If you are picking up your camper from camp please send an email address:

[director@holidayhilldaycamp.com](mailto:director@holidayhilldaycamp.com) as well as a written note with your camper in the morning.

All communication regarding travel must be received by noon of the same day.

## 2026 Bus Locations and Times

BUS	Town	Location	Pick-up	Drop-off
1	New Haven	Nica's Market, 603 Orange St	8:15am	4:35pm
1	Hamden	Spring Glen School, 1908 Whitney Ave	8:25am	4:25pm
1	Hamden	Miller Library, 2901 Whitney Ave	8:35am	4:20pm
2	Madison	I95 Exit 61 Commuter Lot	8:05am	4:55pm
2	Guilford	I95 Exit 58 Commuter Lot	8:10am	4:50pm
2	Branford	I95 Exit 55 Walgreens	8:15am	4:45pm
2	East/West Haven	I95 Exit 51 Wendy's(am)/Chili's lot (pm)	8:25am	4:35pm
3	North Haven	Walgreens, Rt 5/22	8:15am	4:40pm
3	North Haven/Hamden	Rt. 40 Commuter Lot A	8:20am	4:35pm
3	Hamden	Uptown Consignment, 4137 Whitney Ave	8:35am	4:20pm
3	Cheshire	Big Y, 1021 S Main St.	8:45am	4:10pm
4	Milford	East Shore Middle School	8:00am	5:00pm
4	Milford	Merrit Parkway, Wolf Harbor Commuter Lot	8:15am	4:45pm
4	Orange	Mary Tracey School, Orange Center Rd	8:25am	4:35pm
4	Bethany	Town Hall, Peck Road	8:50am	4:10pm
5	Wolcott	Rt. 69 Woodtick Recreation Area	8:10am	4:35pm
5	Prospect	Prospect Fire House on Rt. 69, 26 New Haven Rd	8:25am	4:25pm
5	Cheshire	Doolittle School, 735 Cornwall	8:40am	4:15pm
5	Cheshire	St. Thomas Becket Church, 435N. Brooksvale Rd	8:50am	4:05pm
6	Newtown	Youth & Family Services, 15 Berkshire Road	8:15am	4:45pm
6	Southbury	Community House Park, Rt. 67	8:30am	4:30pm
6	Oxford	Market 32 Plaza, Rt. 67	8:40am	4:20pm
7	Woodbury	Labonne's, 238 Main St. South	8:00am	4:55pm
7	Middlebury	I84 Exit 17 Commuter Lot	8:20am	4:35pm
7	Waterbury	Chili's, I84 Exit 23	8:35am	4:20pm
8	North Branford	Northford Plaza, Rt. 22/17	8:00am	5:00pm
8	Wallingford	Doolittle Park, 78 S. Elm	8:15am	4:40pm
8	Wallingford/Durham	Barnes Rd Commuter Lot, Rt. 68	8:25am	4:30pm
8	Wallingford	Yale Plaza, 950 Yale Ave	8:35am	4:20pm
8	Wallingford	Yalesville Elementary, 415 Church	8:40am	4:15pm
9	Trumbull	Rt. 111/25 Commuter Lot	8:05am	4:45pm
9	Shelton	Rt. 8/108 Exit 13 Commuter Lot	8:25am	4:30pm
9	Naugatuck	Crosspoint Plaza at Rt 63, 799 New Haven Road	8:45am	4:10pm
10	Southington	I84, Exit 29 Commuter Lot	8:20am	4:35pm
10	Cheshire	I691 Exit 3 Commuter Lot	8:25am	4:30pm
10	Cheshire	Cheshire Park, Basketball Side, 1000 Highland Ave	8:30am	4:25pm
10	Cheshire	Highland School, 490 Highland	8:35am	4:20pm
10	Cheshire	Cheshire High School, Rt. 10	8:45am	4:10pm
11	New Haven	Ronald McDonald House, 860 Howard Avenue	8:00am	5:00pm
11	New Haven	Deja Brew, 763 Edgewood Avenue	8:20am	4:40pm
11	Woodbridge	The Center, Meetinghouse Lane	8:40am	4:20pm
25	Fairfield	Merit Parkway, Exit 28 (GE Commuter Lot)	8:15am	4:40pm
30	Westport	Unitarian Church, Merit Parkway, Exit 21	8:15am	4:45pm
36	Westport	Merit Parkway, Exit 20 Commuter Lot	8:10am	4:50pm
40	Westport	Sherwood Island Connector, Exit 18 Commuter Lot	8:10am	4:45pm
43	Fairfield	Round Hill Road, Exit 22 Commuter Lot	8:10am	4:45pm
45	Norwalk	Merit Parkway, Exit 15 Commuter Lot	8:05am	4:55pm
45	Stamford	Merit Parkway Exit 10 Commuter Lot	7:55am	5:05pm

# SAFETY BUS RULES

Riding the bus is an efficient way to transport your camper to and from camp. We want to ensure that every child arrives and departs in a safe manner and therefore expect the following:

## **AT THE BUS STOP:**

- Campers are to stay at a safe distance from the road while waiting for the bus.
- Campers should be respectful of the property near the bus stop location.
- Bus monitors do not check identification of the adults picking up the campers. It is the responsibility of the family to make sure the appropriate adult is waiting at the bus stop. If the camper shows concern or verbalizes that no one is there to greet them, the bus monitor will check with the camp office to determine how to proceed.
- The pick up adult is to be at the bus stop 10 minutes before the listed time.

## **WHILE RIDING THE BUS:**

- All campers must be seated with feet on the floor at all times and facing the front of the bus.
- Campers are not allowed to hang or throw anything out of the windows; this includes their arms or any body parts.
- Campers must keep their hands and feet to themselves.
- All backpacks and other equipment brought to camp must be stored out of the aisles.
- Bullying of any kind; verbal or physical, will not be tolerated.
- Campers are to treat bus drivers, bus monitors and other campers respectfully.



## Camper Pick-Up Procedures

In order for a camper to be released from camp:

- A camper must be picked up by someone ages 16 and over.
- This person must be on the approved pick-up list (as noted on the registration form)
  - Emails and handwritten notes that are signed can be sent in
  
- Photo ID must be shown

## Late Camper Pick-Up Procedures

- If a child has not been picked up five minutes after dismissal has been completed, the staff will contact the child's parent/guardian.
- 15 minutes after dismissal and if they are unable to reach the child's parent/guardian, emergency contacts will be called.
- One hour after dismissal, if our staff is still unable to contact an authorized person to pick up your child, we will contact the Prospect Police Department for further assistance.



# CAMPER ESSENTIALS - WHAT TO BRING

## ☐ UNIFORMS

Tops: We are a uniform shirt camp. All campers must wear the camp shirt. Campers can wear sweatshirts in the morning while it is cool outside. Always be sure to check the weather for the day.

Bottoms: We recommend comfortable shorts or leggings. Campers are required to wear sneakers everyday. No open toed shoes.

All shirts can be purchased on our website and shipped directly to your house prior to the start of the camp season. Any shirts needed after that can be purchased at camp. Forms of payments accepted are cash or check. Please make all checks out to Michael Youngman. Each shirt costs \$23.

## ☐ BACKPACKS

Because we offer such a wide variety of activities and our grounds are so extensive, packing a backpack is essential. Here are some recommendations for what to pack daily.

- One/two bathing suits and one/two towels. Campers swim twice a day. It is a great idea to put the bathing suits in ziplock bags after swimming. The wet bathing suit goes back in the ziplock bag to keep other items dry.
- Sunscreen
- **NO WATER BOTTLES. Our 32 water stations are supplied with cups and replenished when needed.**

*Please do not put any food or medicine in the backpack.*

## PERSONAL PROPERTY POLICY

Campers should only bring what is deemed as necessary for camp. Campers are expected to be responsible for all the items in their backpack along with supervision from the counselors and CITs. We do have a Lost and Found area where campers may identify any missing items.

Please note that personal equipment (ie. cell phones or other electronics) are solely under the care of the camper. Holiday Hill Day Camp cannot accept responsibility for such personal items. Weapons, alcohol and drugs are prohibited.

Medication should be handed to the nurse prior to camper attendance. There will also be a medication drop-off day prior to the start of camp. However, in the event that a camper is required to carry specific medications (ie. an inhaler), it should be both communicated and documented with the camp nurse.



# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Only 6s, 7s and 8s go on field trips (campers going into the 6th, 7th & 8 grades). Field trips are optional, but greatly encouraged. Depending on the program, trips may include a day at the beach, an amusement park, bowling, etc. Parents will receive a permission slip listing the trip destination, items needed (if any) and any additional fees. Unfortunately, your camper will not be able to attend a trip if the permission slip has not been signed and returned to the counselor. Lunch must be provided by the camp on field trips and include a sandwich, chips, and beverage. Campers who do not attend the field trip have the option to stay at camp and participate in the scheduled activities.

## **FAMILY NIGHT**

On Family night your camper can either go home on the bus or they can wait for you at camp (activities and supervision will be provided at no extra cost). That evening your camper and the whole family can enjoy all of our activities at your leisure. You can take a ride in a canoe, go for a swim, or play a variety of sports. We will serve a delicious dinner followed by dessert. It is an amazing evening of family, fun and friendship. Event date is July 17th. All registered campers and families are invited to this event.

# **CAMP SPIRIT**

We are proud to be a part of HHDC and camp spirit has a bold presence. Your campers may be coming home and singing specific songs or using specific camp lingo. We want to help. There are some examples as follows:

## **The HILL**

Camp is often referred to as The Hill. You may notice in emails and posts that we also make reference to camp as The Hill.

## **I SAID A BOOM' CHICK A' BOOM**

Campers know this phrase as a call and response phrase intended to call campers' attention.

## **BRODY THE BEAR**

He is our camp mascot. He is a big fun loving bear who is always around on special camp days.

## **THE GROVE**

This is where all of our cabins are. The office, arts and crafts, discovery, etc. are all located there.

## **CAMP SONGS**

Camp songs are shared in large gatherings such as breakfast and lunch. Many are call and response songs and get the whole camp involved. Here are some examples of our most popular songs.

### **Hey Burrito**

Hey Burrito, Hey Burrito  
 Hey hey hey Burrito, Hey hey hey Burrito  
 Mmmm Yeah Burrito Yeah, Mmmm Yeah  
 Burrito Yeah  
 Taco Bell, Taco Bell  
 Guacamole Cinnamon Twist, Guacamole  
 Cinnamon Twist  
 Sour cream on top, Sour Cream on Top

### **Coast to Coast**

From coast to coast, From coast to coast  
 The Hill is the most, The Hill is the Most  
 From city to city, from city to city  
 The Hill is really pretty, The Hill is Really Pretty  
 From east to west, From east to west  
 The Hill is the best, The Hill is Best  
 From town to town, from town to town  
 The Hill is getting down, The Hill is getting  
 down

# REGISTRATION

Registration is available online via our website [holidayhilldaycamp.com](http://holidayhilldaycamp.com). Under the tab Future Families, select Registration.

Campers are not required to enroll for all 8 weeks. We do encourage as many weeks as possible as it helps promote lasting friendships and staff relationships.

Pricing is as follows:

\$1400 for 1 Session (Early bird pricing through 12/1)

5% discount for 2nd sibling

10% discount for each additional sibling after that

**2026 Summer sessions are as follows:**

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
June 22 - July 3	July 6 - July 17	July 20 - July 31	August 3 - August 14



## SAFETY OF CAMPERS

Safety is our highest priority. Each camper is triple checked upon arrival and dismissal.

A staff member is placed at the bottom of the Hill at all times. Parents/guardians must stop at check-in to be allowed to pass to the top. The other entrance is open in order to allow staff, buses and counselor drop-offs to pass through. It is then locked immediately after.

Gates do not open unless a staff member is leaving and/or product deliveries are being made. Outside adults are monitored closely until deliveries are completed and they have departed.

All staff members undergo a background check through a licensed and certified company.

We give a lot of time and attention to our emergency procedures during our staff training in June. We have specific procedures for severe weather and medical emergencies amongst others. These procedures are practiced during staff training and throughout the summer so that campers and staff will be prepared in the event of an emergency.

### **FAMILY VISITS AND CAMP TOURS**

For the safety of all campers and staff, visitors are not allowed and no tours will be given during camp hours.



# FOOD

Breakfast and lunch are served daily. We take food allergies very seriously and work very closely with our kitchen staff. Key ingredients are displayed daily for the food served. Gluten and dairy free options are also available. While the menu is changed weekly, there are foods that are kept consistent. Each counselor is provided with any necessary food allergy information for the campers in their cabin.

## **BREAKFAST**

Each day bagels, various cereals, fresh fruit and muffins (gluten, nut and dairy free) are provided to campers and staff. Special breakfast days are Mondays (cookies and milk) and Fridays (hot breakfast and an oatmeal bar).

## **LUNCH**

Each day we provide the following options; a hot entree ( such as chicken fingers or cheeseburger), a cold cut sandwich, a full salad bar or a sun butter sandwich.

## **SNACKS**

Depending on the day, snacks are provided. Campers with cooking on their schedule also have an opportunity to make and eat their culinary delight.

Each afternoon a cold treat is provided. Campers can choose from a variety of popsicles and ice cream novelties.



# **MEDICAL PROTOCOLS**

Per the state of Connecticut youth camp regulations, a “Health Assessment Record” must be on file before your child can attend camp. The exam date on this form must be within 36 months of the camper’s first day of camp. **NO CHILD WILL BE ADMITTED INTO CAMP WITHOUT A COMPLETED HEALTH ASSESSMENT ON FILE.** A copy of a previously completed form is acceptable if the exam date is within 36 months and if all information is up-to-date and accurate.

## **NURSING STAFF**

Holiday Hill employs a licensed registered nurse from the hours of 8:30 am-3:30 pm. During busier weeks, a nurse’s aide provides assistance.

## **VISITING THE NURSE**

Our Nurse’s Office is equipped with all medications provided by parents. All trips are well documented and recorded in the First Aid Log Book. We attempt to notify the parents/guardians of any trips to the nurse via phone. If we are unable to reach them, then a nurse’s slip will be sent home with the camper/CIT.

## **FIRST AID**

All campers who receive first aid will have their injuries recorded in the First Aid Log Book by the Camp Nurse or Nurse’s Aide. Our Camp Nurse sees many campers each day for sunscreen, band-aids and minor first aid treatments. The Camp Nurse will call parents to notify them of mild injuries at his/her professional discretion and all serious injuries that occur at camp.

## **MEDICATION**

If your camper needs to take medication (either over-the-counter or prescription) during the camp day, our Camp Nurse or certified personnel can dispense medication only if the following requirements are met:

- ★ The medication is in its original container with the child’s name on the prescription.
- ★ A physician has filled out and signed an ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION FORM SPECIFICALLY FOR CAMP PERSONNEL.
  - This form must also be signed by the parent and must be on file in our Camp Office.
- ★ The medication has not yet expired.

All medication **MUST** be picked up by an adult within 1 week of the child's last day at camp. It is the parent's responsibility to provide all medications and authorizations for their child. If both of these are not provided, Holiday Hill Day Camp cannot be held responsible for or guarantee the health/safety of your child while at camp.

*ALL MEDICATIONS MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE CAMP NURSE* by the parent/guardian and can not be carried or dispensed by campers unless specific written permission from a physician and parent has been given to do so.

*NOTE: There is no nurse on the grounds after 3:30 PM. Any medications needed after that time will be administered by certified personnel.*

If we have received an Administration of Medication form, and your child's medication is for a potentially life threatening condition (i.e: asthma, diabetes, food or bee allergy), the medication **MUST BE RECEIVED AT CAMP BEFORE** your child can attend camp.

**YOUR CHILD CANNOT BE AT CAMP WITHOUT THE MEDICATION PRESENT.**

### **MEDICATION DURING BUS TRANSPORTATION**

It is highly recommended that personal transportation be provided for campers who have medical concerns that may require medication while being transported to and from camp. Because bus monitors who are qualified and trained to administer medications are not always available. We cannot have medications accessible on the bus.

### **INDIVIDUAL CARE PLANS (ICPs)**

If your child has special health care or developmental needs you will need to complete the appropriate individual care plan for your child. Care plans will be required for severe allergies, asthma, seizure disorders, chronic illness, specific dietary needs, hearing or visual impairments, history of contagious disease or specific behaviors such as developmental delays or court documentation relating to custody and/or pick up of children. If your child has special health concerns, please contact our camp director to obtain the appropriate care plan. For all custody agreements please provide Holiday Hill Day Camp with a copy of any legal court documentation and a care plan to keep on file. This form is used to ensure all staff caring for your child are aware of his/her specific needs.

# AQUATICS

Our aquatics programs are a major highlight of a camper's day. We have two pools. The smaller pool ranges from 3 to 5 feet. The larger pool features a diving board and ranges from 3 to 11 feet.

We strongly believe in providing a fun and safe atmosphere at our waterfronts. Campers will be encouraged to swim everyday.

Swim instruction is given daily for all campers in addition to a free swim period.

On the first day of each session, all campers will be given a swim test. This procedure allows the waterfront staff to decide whether campers are shallow or deep end swimmers. It also allows us to place campers into a swimming group appropriate to their ability.

The "buddy system" is used during Free Activity swimming. Each swimmer is paired with another camper. "Buddy Checks" are conducted every 6-8 minutes to be sure all swimmers are accounted for.

The swimmer-to-lifeguard ratio is 15:1 with additional counselors assisting in the supervision for free swim. Swim lessons swimmer-to-counselor ratio is 8:1.



## EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

Holiday Hill offers a full equestrian program provided by Rolling Jaxx stables. Rolling Jaxx is on site at our camp. The program is three days a week, forty minutes each session. Rolling Jaxx has ponies as well as horses and they are matched by age and size of rider. So even our youngest campers can participate. Jacqueline, the owner, has been instructing for 20 plus years. She holds a camp instructors certificate from UCONN in horsemanship and safety.

Rollin' Jaxx Stables offers Western Riding Lessons to all riders from beginner to advanced. They work with our campers to design a lesson program around their personal riding and horsemanship goals. This program does have an added fee. You can register your camper for lessons on our website. There is an additional fee of \$300 added to camp tuition.



## **SEARCH POLICY TO PERMIT ADMINISTRATORS TO INSPECT ITEMS BROUGHT TO CAMP, IF DEEMED NECESSARY**

“For the safety and well being of our campers and staff, parents need to be aware of our camp policy to permit administrators to inspect items brought to camp, if it is deemed necessary.”

1. What is considered reasonable cause or improper conduct?  
Example: reported threats, a volatile situation arising between two or more persons.
2. Who may search?  
One of the camp administrators.  
Example: Director or the assistant director.
3. How should such an activity take place ?  
With courtesy and consideration not in an accusatory manner. The staff member, CIT or camper will be brought to the camp office.

## Q & A

1. What if my camper loses one of his/her belongings?

We have a Lost & Found cabin. Counselors visit the cabin with campers before the end of the day to ensure all campers have all their belongings. Please be sure to label your campers items.

2. How is my child's safety ensured in the water?

Along with having fully certified lifeguards supervising the waterfront, each camper is tested on the first day of the session and placed in a swim group based on skill level and each swim group is supervised by a Senior Counselor while in the water. The waterfront is separated into a shallow-end and a deep-end, where campers in certain swim level groups stay for the entire swim period. We do a buddy check every 6-8 minutes during the swim period. We also have set emergency procedures, which are strictly practiced during staff training and periodically throughout the summer. As far as water quality is concerned, the pool is regularly maintained.

3. Will my child be in the same group with the same counselor all summer?

Groups are assigned based on the number of campers each week. While we try our best to keep groups as consistent as possible, additional counselors might be needed or groups may be combined.

4. Is there a refund policy? There will be a \$250 fee if you cancel ALL sessions registered for. You are able to change/alter your registration until February 1st free of charge/question. After February 1st, any canceled session have to be paid in full and a credit for the following camp season will be added to your account.

5. What if I need to add more weeks to my camper's summer?

Unfortunately, there will be no opportunities to add weeks during the summer. We anticipate being at capacity prior to the start of summer.

6. If I send in uniform money, how do I know my camper will get their shirt?

Counselors check back-packs every morning. Money and notes are handed over to the Administration Table. All shirts are passed out to campers at lunch.

7. Does my child follow a set schedule each day?

All campers have an instructional and free swim period the same period daily. Everyday is a different schedule for each camper with certain activities happening more than once a week.

8. How do I make a special request for my camper to be in the same group as a close friend?  
When registering please mark the special request in the appropriate area. We will do our best to accommodate all special requests.
  
9. How are adults notified of special days/events throughout the summer?  
Notices are given to each camper a few days before as reminders. Please be sure to look out for emails and social media posts as well.
  
10. What if my camper has food allergies?  
Our kitchen staff maintains a high expectation of food guidelines. Cross contamination is prevented through thorough management and organization of the food service to campers.
  
11. What if my camper is having a hard time getting along with other campers?  
At HHDC we are a family built from many different locations, lifestyles, cultures, nationalities, religions, etc. We strive to connect campers and build long-term relationships. We also promote healthy problem solving. Our staff is trained to promote positive camp interactions in addition to problem-solving strategies. Should additional support be needed, we welcome parent communication.



## **BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT & DISCIPLINE**

Camp is designed to foster positive relationships and build confidence within campers and Counselors-in-Training (CITs). The camp administration is aware that every camper is different and may be used to a different set of behavior standards prior to attending camp. Our discipline policy is not intended to “punish” campers but rather to work with the campers and/or families to help encourage positive choices that benefit the camper and their group.

As stated by Wallace (2010) , it is important for camps to:

1. Clarify what rules will be put in place and why they are there.
2. Communicate the rules to campers.
3. Apply the rules consistently.
4. Enforce consequences when the rules are broken.
5. Stress that character does count.

In order to address Wallace’s 5Cs model of discipline at Holiday Hill we have addressed camper behavior through the following:

1. Morning and Closing Circle

Each morning the cabins meet to discuss the day. With guidance from the counselor, campers help create expectations for what a “good day” looks and sounds like. At the end of each camp day, cabins meet to reflect on that days experiences.

## 2. Administrative Expectations

Each morning we come together as a camp community for breakfast. At this time we also highlight clear camp expectations.

This includes but is not limited to discussions about:

- a. Bullying
- b. Appropriate Language
- c. Following directions (respect for counselors, CITs and instructors)
- d. Safety Protocols

## 3. Consequences

At HHDC we are not in the business of “punishing kids.” We have a designated Female and Male CIT/Camper Director. Both move throughout camp and each cabin every day to check in and highlight the positive as well as provide early intervention for any issue that may be present.

## 4. Character Development

We love highlighting our camper positives. During breakfast and lunch, we highlight positives that any staff member has seen across the day. Counselors and Instructors continuously praise and recognize qualities such as being a kind friend, sharing, patience, peer encouragement and determination. On Fridays, campers are recognized through our awards ceremony.

At camp we identify negative behavior as Level 1 or Level 2.

### 1. Level 1

Level 1 behavior is defined as any behavior that is negative, but minimal in the effect it has on the camper and other campers. An example includes using a foul word.

- a. Level 1 behavior is first dealt with by the counselor. If additional support is needed a CIT/Camper Director will then interven. Depending on the

offense, parent contact may or may not be made and the Camp Director will be informed.

2. Level 2

Level 2 behavior is defined as any behavior that is negative and is affecting the camper and other campers. This includes harassment, hitting, biting, etc.

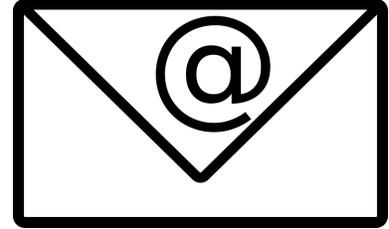
- a. Level 2 behavior requires the involvement of the Director or Assistant Director and parent contact is made. The camper may also require removal from the group and be brought to the camp office.

Any camper that is exhibiting behavior which places themselves or other campers in danger (ie. self-harm) may result in a 911 or DCF call and consultation with the Administrative Team, the nurse, and parent notification.

# COMMUNICATION



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