
Parent Handbook

Camp Gan Israel Sacramento



***Chabad of Sacramento's Fun
Jewish Summer Experience!***

Camp Gan Israel Sacramento

945 Evelyn Ln, Sacramento CA 95864 | SacramentoCGI@gmail.com |

www.sacjewishlife.org/CGI

Welcome

Dear parents,

It is with great excitement that we approach this summer at Camp Gan Israel, Sacramento. We look forward to providing you and your family with a safe and enriching Jewish summer experience full of fun times, new friends, and great memories. Our staff are eager to get to know your child and give them the summer experience of a lifetime!

What makes our program unique is our focus on campers as individuals and our commitment to providing each one of them with a nurturing experience. We design our program to provide for your child's social, emotional and cultural wellbeing. The themes relate to their Jewish identity, and are infused in the daily activities, arts and crafts, songs and stories. Their experience becomes interactive and meaningful, and it's a place where Judaism comes alive in a fun way.

Our staff here at Camp Gan Israel are dedicated to giving each child an unforgettable experience. Your child will grow and form special relationships with friends and role models to cherish for a lifetime. Every decision that is made in the planning and operation of camp is always made with a focus on safety.

Please review this handbook to familiarize yourself with camp procedures and policies. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Mendy & Dinie Cohen

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Dates & Times

To view this year's ages, dates, rates, and camp schedule please refer to the camp website, www.SacJewishLife.org/CGI. It is listed in the "About our Camp" section on the "Dates and Rates" page.

Drop Off

Morning drop off is from **9:20 am-9:30 am**. Your child's attendance will be marked upon arrival. We ask that you please do not drop your child off earlier than 9:20 am.

Please drive slowly in the parking lot as there may be children present. A counselor will walk over to your car, greet your child, and escort them into camp. You may choose to park and walk your child in as well.

Pick Up

End of the day pick up is from **3:00pm - 3:10 pm**. Please park in the lot and a counselor will escort your child to the car. You may choose to enter and pick up your child as well. Please inform us in advance if you plan to send someone else, such as a friend or relative (that we may not recognize) to pick up your child.

We ask that you make an effort to be on time for both drop off and pick up to help us ensure that our planned schedule runs smoothly. Please text head staff if you anticipate being late.

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Safety & Security

At Camp Gan Israel, your child's safety is our first priority. Attendance will be taken in the morning and every camper will be accounted for. Please contact us in advance if you anticipate your child being late. Campers will be under their counselors' supervision at all times.

Our staff will also be promoting good hygiene for campers with hand sanitizing and hand washing often. If your child is feeling sick, we ask that you refrain from bringing them to camp until they are better. If your child is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms, please keep them home until they have a negative test and are symptom free for 24 hours or clearance from your medical advisor.

Food and Snacks

Campers are asked to bring their own lunches and snacks. We ask that lunches be kosher-dairy or Parve (non-meat). We suggest that campers bring 2-3 snacks each day. Hot lunches and snacks can be ordered to camp by contacting Gilah's Kosher catering at 916-640-7770.

Campers are encouraged to bring their own refillable water bottle, and we have a fountain for refills. Campers will be encouraged to hydrate often, especially during outdoor sports and activities.

What to Bring to Camp

- **Sunscreen**

Please apply sunscreen each morning before camp. On days when water activities will be taking place, we ask that you please send your child with spray sunscreen that can easily be applied. We will also ensure that there are shady, sun-protected areas during outside activities.

- **Cap/Hat**

To protect campers from the sun.

- **Shoes**

We highly recommend that campers come with closed toe shoes. Sandals and flip-flops are not recommended as it makes sports and activities difficult.

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What Not to Bring to Camp

Cell phones and electronic devices are ***not*** permitted to be used during camp hours. We ask that you please do **not** send your child to camp with a cell phone. Cell phones tend to detract from group activities and damper the camp spirit. If your child *needs* access to a phone or other device during camp hours, please call us *before* camp to discuss.

Camp Gan Israel cannot take responsibility for toys, jewelry, sports equipment, or other valuables that are lost or broken during camp hours.

Dangerous items including (but not limited to) weapons, alcohol, and drugs are not permitted on campus and will be confiscated without financial reimbursement.

Anti-bullying Policy

At Camp Gan Israel bullying is inexcusable, and we have a firm policy against any type of bullying. Our Camp philosophy is based on our mission statement which ensures that every camper has the opportunity to experience camp in a safe and fun environment. We work together as a team to ensure that campers gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great memories.

Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying seriously and our staff are trained to promote communication with their supervisors and their campers so both staff and campers will be comfortable alerting us of any problems during their camp experience. Every camper has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all campers and staff have a great summer at Camp Gan Israel.

A camper who persistently bullies may be suspended or expelled without a refund.

Lost & Found

We encourage you to mark items your child brings to camp with his/her name. Shirts, backpacks, etc. can seem identical and individual items are difficult to identify without a label. Lost & Found items will be available at the camp office. Please contact us regarding specific items and we'll do our best to help you locate them.

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Trips & Transportation

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are swim days at a local public pool, with lots of lifeguards and counselor supervision. Please send a swimsuit, towel, water shoes/flip flops, and any other swim gear you want for your child, such as goggles and acceptable floaties (they have to be Red Cross approved and go across your child's chest.) Please apply sunscreen at home in the morning, and we will reapply during the camp day.

Tuesdays and Thursdays are trip days. For your child's safety, camp shirts **must** be worn on trip days. Camp shirts will be given out on the first day of camp. Campers who do not bring their camp shirt on trip days may be required to purchase one from the camp office.

Campers are transported to trips in the cars of parents that volunteer as drivers and the camp van. Please send a booster seat with your child if they need one, and inform us in advance by messaging 916.239.9006

General Camp Itinerary

Each day will be filled with engaging and age-appropriate games, sports, activities, incredible camp spirit, and *much more*! Please visit www.SacJewishLife.org/CGI to view this year's updated trip calendar for the older campers. (Kiddie campers remain on camp grounds.)

Please note that certain trips and activities are subject to change. We will inform you of changes if necessary.

We look forward to an incredible summer!

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