

**Parent Handbook** 

Welcome

Dear Silver Gan Israel Parents,

Camp Silver Gan Israel is a safe, fun, Jewish camp. We will give your children the best summer

experience possible following strict guidelines put together by the finest experts in the fields of

camping and public health. Silver Gan Israel is part of the largest network of Jewish camps in

the world, and is proud to provide the best in fun and safety in a nurturing and caring Jewish

environment. As a member of the American Camp Association (ACA) we uphold 300 standards

of health and safety in every aspect of our camp. This year, aside from upholding the standards

set by the ACA, we will also strive to uphold the standards of the CDC, OC Health and other

federal, state and local offices in regard to COVID-19. We want to implement these guidelines in

the calmest, most natural way possible, to ensure both camper safety and happiness. These

guidelines may change as things develop, though we successfully ran our camp during the

pandemic last year.

Together with our staff, we work to bring out the best in your child's development and growth,

physically, socially and emotionally. Using our website, www.CampSGI.com, regular email

communication and newsletters, we stay in touch with you about our programs and activities.

Please review this handbook so you will be familiar with the new procedures and policies of our

camp. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call the camp office at 949.381.5610 or

email the office@CampSGI.com.

Yours truly,

The SGI Team

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### **Pre-camp practices**

A healthy camp starts at home. To ensure a happy and healthy experience for your child/ren, here are some things you can do:

- 1. Monitor for signs of illness.
- 2. Teach your child to cough and sneeze into a tissue and then dispose of it.
- 3. Teach your child to wash hands often, especially before eating and after using the toilet.
- 4. Make sure your child gets enough rest at night.
- 5. Send spray-on sunscreen to camp and teach your child to apply it. (The counselors will be available to offer limited help to those who need it.)
- 6. Explain to your child that they should be sure to tell a counselor if they need something or are bothered by something or someone.
- 7. Monitor your child's temperature for the two weeks prior to coming to camp. Check for signs of COVID-19: fever, cough, shortness of breath, extreme fatigue and/or headache, loss of smell or taste, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and /or diarrhea, and let a camp director know if you observe any of these symptoms.

## Prepare your child with the following information:

- 1. He/she will walk onto campus by him/herself (parents cannot escort).
- 2. He/she may have his/her temperature taken daily using an IR thermometer.
- 3. Staff and campers will likely be required to wear masks on the bus, for any indoor activities/trips and when doing activities with sustained close contact with others.
- 4. The entrance to our campus, drop off and pickup will be from the front of our campus.
- 5. Talk to him/her about the importance of listening to the counselors and staying with his/her group.
- 6. If your child is particularly anxious and would benefit from a video call with one of his/her counselors, please get in touch with us.

### At camp practices:

1. If your child exhibits signs of illness during the day, you will be required to come pick him/her up. Depending on the situation, your child may be isolated until you arrive. If there are siblings at camp, they may also be isolated until your arrival.

In case of confirmed infection impacting kids at camp:

- 1. Parents of the children in the specific bunk will be notified;
- 2. We will follow the recommendations of the local health care agency and our advising physicians.

## **During camp practices:**

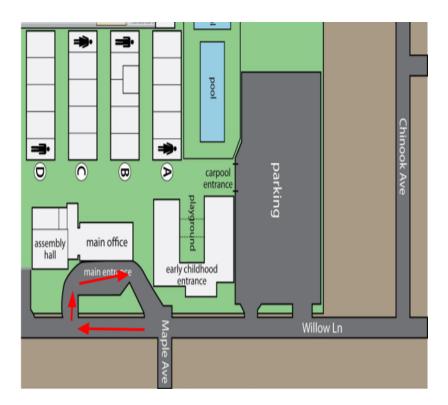
- 1. Reach out to a camp director if you have any concerns or if there is anything we can do to enrich your child's experience.
- 2. Children should not attend two camps simultaneously or attend a summer camp along with another kind of recreational group or childcare program.
- 3. Children should not move from one program to another more often than every 3 weeks.
- 4. If your child attends a large social gathering where COVID-19 precautions are not taken, he/she needs to be quarantined for 5 days followed by a negative PCR test or quarantine for 10 days before returning to camp.
- 5. Keep an eye on your child's health. If he/she has a fever or shows any symptoms typical of COVID-19, err on the side of caution and do not bring him/her to camp. Reach out to let the camp office know.

# **Your Child's Safety**

# **Pickup and Dropoff:**

Arrivals are at the front of our campus (see image), at the large gate.
 Please do not exit your vehicle. Only your child/ren should get out when you are in front of the gate, and proceed to check in.





- 2. Parents and other visitors are not allowed on campus, so please have everyone else remain in the car.
- 3. Runners will be available to bring kids to their group from a distance, as needed.
- 4. If you are late arriving at camp, go to the front door and your child will be admitted and checked in (by a screener, with a temperature check) and directed to his/her bunk.

- Ideally, all communications with the camp should be done via email or over the phone. If you need to have an urgent conversation with the director from inside your car, please wear a mask.
- 6. The entrance gate will be open from 8:45 am until 9:30 am. After that, please go to the front door for admittance.
- 7. THERE IS NO PARKING AROUND THE ROUNDABOUT during pickup and drop-off times.
- 8. We strongly advise you to both drop off and pick up your child/ren. If you need to designate another person for any reason, that person must be on your list of authorized alternatives <a href="https://www.ultracamp.com/admin/accounts/editAltPickup.aspx">https://www.ultracamp.com/admin/accounts/editAltPickup.aspx</a>.
- 9. Pick up at the end of the day is from 3:30 pm until 4 pm. Please do not be late, as we do not have regularly scheduled after camp care. If you need after care for your child, please reach out to a camp director to see if it could be arranged.
- 10. When you are picking up your children, please follow the driveway as noted and remain in your car. Your child/ren will be called out from a designated point of release.

### **Emergencies**

- In case of any medical emergency requiring more than basic first aid, the parents/guardians will be immediately notified. If we cannot reach the parents, the emergency contact on file will be notified. (HW.8.1)
- Our counselors are certified to provide CPR/First Aid if, G-d forbid, this
  is necessary. Due to COVID-19, counselors will do all basic first aid, and
  inform the office/medical director of all incidents.





- 3. After any significant incident or injury, parents will receive notice from the office.
- Parents may be asked to pick up their child from camp if he/she exhibits symptoms that are related to COVID-19 or if the Health Supervisor deems it necessary.
- 5. To contact camp in case of an emergency, please see the "Contact Camp" section below.

### **Contact Camp**

 Camp's phone number is 949.381.5610 and email address is office@CampSGI.com. Counselors will not be available to talk during camp hours as they are supervising the children. In case of emergency, the directors will also be available after hours at this same number.



2. The camp address is 14401 Willow Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

# **About Our Program**

### **General Information**

- Silver Gan Israel Day Camp provides a wide variety of developmentally appropriate activities and games that provide entertainment and education, and build Jewish pride and self esteem.
- 2. Activities include (mostly non-contact) sports, arts & crafts, drama, swimming, creative games and hunts. Some of the out-of-the-ordinary activities at camp will be archery, BAM (biking experience), bubble soccer, electric go-karts, human foosball, gameroom, imaginarium, nerf tag, silent disco, splash pads, virtual reality, waterslides and wipeout. Each activity is designed with creative excitement which



- engages all participants. Most activities this summer will take place outdoors.
- Counselors and campers must wear masks when spending time around other people indoors or when on the bus. It would be ideal to bring a cloth mask from home, but we will have disposable masks available as well.
- 4. Counselors will reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among campers and staff. When soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for older children who can safely use hand sanitizer). Hands should be washed before and after eating, after using the restroom and before and after high touch activities.
- 5. Campers are encouraged to participate in all activities to promote unity in the group.
- 6. If your child wants to be with a specific other camper, please note it in the child's reservation. We will make every effort to accommodate the request, however, once a bunk has been set up, it is much harder to move campers from one bunk to another.



## Camp Goals and Outcomes (CR.2)

- To provide opportunities that stimulate the development of each camper's self-esteem:
  - Each camper will participate in at least one activity to promote self-esteem,
     which could include arts & crafts, values clarifications, sports or special hunts and activities.
  - b. Campers will participate in getting-to-know-you (non-contact) games at the opening sessions.
  - c. Staff will provide the campers with positive comments and encouragement throughout their stay.
- 2. To care for their environment and look to include others. To this end:

- a. Counselors take an active part as role models in keeping the campus neat,
   serving as role models for their campers.
- b. The campers will regularly discuss as a group the importance of taking care of their camp and the type of things that they need to do such as picking up litter, not picking flowers, respecting property (no graffiti), and conserving water.
- c. Campers and staff will participate in recycling materials such as aluminum cans, cardboard, and paper in clearly marked recycling bins, uncovered so as to prevent contact.
- 3. To provide situations for each camper to set goals and challenge him/herself while discovering his or her own skills and abilities.
  - a. Each camper will participate in at least two activities during the week that will personally challenge the camper such as arts and crafts, relay races, and learning classes.
  - b. Campers will have the opportunity to work in small groups during activities and bunk time with each camper taking on different roles, while practicing social distancing.
- 4. To provide exposure to Jewish culture and practices in a fun, non-judgemental and hands-on way.
  - a. Campers will participate in daily activities and arts & crafts sessions that educate them in specific Jewish cultural concepts.
  - b. Campers will hear stories that contain themes of Jewish culture and practice.
  - c. Each unit will have a Jewish theme of the week around which arts & crafts and activities will be planned.
  - d. Each camper will bring home challah bread that he/she shapes and puts in an individual pan with his/her name.
- 2. To increase the camper's network of Jewish friends.
  - a. By virtue of the fact that the campers are attending a Jewish camp they meet many new Jewish friends.
  - b. Our counselors and campers keep in contact throughout the year, either in

- person or as pen pals.
- c. Reunions and holiday activities are scheduled periodically throughout the year to maintain friendships.

## **Swimming/Waterslides**

- 1. Campers go swimming almost daily in our covered Jr. Olympic sized swimming pool or wader pool.
- 2. The campers are supervised by American Red Cross certified lifeguards, trained in First Aid and CPR certified. (PD.24.1)
- 3. During swimming, our staff is required to keep all campers in sight and assist with behavior management and rule compliance.
- 4. The waterslide will be open for each bunk separately. There will be only one bunk at a time.

### **Extended Day Care, Trips and Transportation**

- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there are no extended am or pm day care or trips as of this time. If you need extended care, reach out to us and we'll try to accomodate. We will have limited bus transportation this year, and you can see the stops at www.campsgi.com/transportation.
- 2. Though we do not have any field trips scheduled, if the regulations allow, we may add a few. Parents will be notified in advance of any trips, aside for some possible short trips for the older campers.





# What to Send to Camp

#### Lunch

1. Packed, non-perishable lunches can be brought from home in a marked, disposable lunch box/bag with the child's full name. Lunches and snacks should be dairy or parve; no meat is allowed in camp. All food needs to be ready to eat; no cooking, heating or refrigeration is available. Please don't send glass jars/bottles. Please do not send any food containing peanuts or peanut by-products. We are a peanut sensitive facility as we have a number of severely allergic children who attend our program. Read our full policy here.



- Lunch can also be purchased from the cafeteria. Lunch will be prepared
  in disposable containers and will include condiments and disposable cutlery.
  There will be no special orders or refills. The full lunch menu is available
  on our website at <a href="https://www.campsgi.com/lunch">www.campsgi.com/lunch</a>.
- 3. You are encouraged to send snacks with your child. They should be healthy and preferably low/no sugar.
- 4. Please explain to your child that he/she is not to share food with anyone else.
- 5. You are encouraged to send your child with a refillable water bottle marked clearly with his/her name. We have a few bottle filling stations on campus in addition to water fountains.

# Quick Reference What to Bring to Camp

- Smile. It's contagious
- Parve or dairy lunch & snacks
- Bathing suit & towel
- Sunblock; applied
- Tzedakah coin(s)
- Mitzvah note(s) (K & 1)

### Tzedakah

1. Tzedakah (charity) is a concept that is fundamental to Judaism. Our camp attempts to develop a commitment among our campers to



share with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few pennies every day to charity. Parents are asked to send a few coins for tzedakah every day.

### **Mitzvah Notes**

 Parents should send young campers with a note describing a mitzvah (good deed) performed. Example, "Sara cleaned up her toys." "Max shared his juice with his sister."

## Clothing

- Wearing a camp shirt this summer is optional. If we add some trips, we'll determine whether to require shirts and distribute them (security wristbands will be distributed for trips regardless).
- 2. All campers should bring a bathing suit and towel daily. If they prefer to keep it at camp for the duration of their stay at camp, they may do so. We have safe and fun water activities that the children enjoy.
- 3. Sunscreen or sunblock should be applied at home and your child should be instructed on how to apply it at periodic intervals during the day. If your child can properly apply the sunblock, that would be the safest way to avoid contact. We strongly suggest a spray-on, tearless sunscreen just in case a camper needs assistance applying it.
- Shoes or sneakers with laces or Velcro should be worn. Flip flops, sandals and Crocs are not appropriate for our playground and sports activities.
- 5. As daily activities will be outdoors, we recommend that each child have and wear a hat.



## Personal Property Regulations (AD.16.1)

- WEAPONS, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE PROHIBITED AT CAMP OR ON CAMP PROPERTY. Bringing any of the above items is grounds for immediate dismissal.
- Camp cannot take responsibility for personal property brought to camp.
- 8. Cell phones should not be brought to camp. If campers bring iPods, cell phones, digital cameras, or any other expensive items to camp, and they are used while camp is in session they will be confiscated and returned to the parents.



- 9. If campers or staff bring potentially dangerous articles to camp, they will be confiscated.
- 10. Animals are not allowed on campus, with the exception of seeing eye and service dogs, and animals brought in for shows.

### Medication and Health Procedures (HW-13.1)

- Parents should be checking their child for symptoms of COVID-19 and fever. If either of these are present, parents should not bring their child and should notify the camp office immediately.
- 2. Campers should have their temperatures checked daily before coming to camp. While 100.4 F is the cutoff at camp, parents should use their own discretion about lower temperatures and symptoms, and consider keeping a child home if they suspect that the child is not feeling perfectly well, out of an abundance of caution.
- 3. Handwashing and other safety signs will be posted around campus reminding campers and staff to wash hands and stay vigilant.
- 4. Parents should teach their children to cough and sneeze into a tissue when possible and to wash or sanitize their hands immediately.
- 5. Bathrooms will be the only shared space on campus (where campers & staff of different bunks may be in the same place at the same time), bunks will have group bathroom

- times to avoid mixing as much as possible. Children should wash their hands immediately after using the bathroom.
- 6. Medication for campers should be given to the office or a director in a labeled, ziplock bag which includes the doctor's instructions for dosing. It will be stored according to the health orders under lock and key, and dispensed as required. Records will be kept when necessary. In case of a question, the parent or guardian will be notified. (HW.2.1)
- 7. For campers requiring an epi-pen or asthma inhaler, the counselor will have it on his/her person at all times. Please send it in a labeled ziplock bag with instructions for proper dispensing for the counselor to keep for the duration of the camper's stay at camp.
- 8. Parents must inform the camp of any contagious conditions and must have a note from a physician to return.

## **Birthday Celebrations**

- Campers who have a birthday during the summer and would like to celebrate with their camp friends are encouraged to do so. We would be happy to block out a short period of time for the group to celebrate if we know in advance.
- Cupcakes are available through the cafeteria. To order, please call the camp office one
  week in advance. This year, we are not allowing parents to come in for the birthday
  celebrations or to send any outside food. To inquire about other food options, please
  reach out to a camp director.
- 3. Camp will not be allowing goodie bags or other gifts to be given out for birthdays this summer.
- 4. If your child has a birthday during the school year and would like addresses to invite his/her friends, please reach out to the camp office and we'll be happy to help when possible.

## **Registration and Refund Policy due to COVID-19**

- 1. Campers must register for 5 days per week.
- 2. Campers must register for a minimum of 3 weeks (for limited exceptions, reach out to a camp director).

- 3. If your plans change less than 1 week before the session begins, you forfeit the charges, unless it is due to illness, with a written note from your PCP. We have substantial increased expenses to run camp this summer with stable groups, and cannot allow last minute convenience cancellations.
- 4. If a child is sick or self quarantines because someone in the family is sick or because he/she came in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, you will be billed for that week and can cancel future weeks, with a written note from your PCP. For example, if a child self quarantines on Wednesday morning, you will still be billed for that week, but can email <a href="mailto:office@campsgi.com">office@campsgi.com</a> to remove the following week(s) until 10:00 AM on Friday morning.
- 5. If you decide to add a week, we will accommodate only if we have space in the bunk.
- 6. If the camp deems it necessary based on our protocol to close camp or to have a bunk close temporarily, we will refund the unused portion of the affected weeks.

These guidelines are accurate as of 6/11/2021, and are subject to change based on changing guidelines from the CDC, ACA, OC Health and other authorities, as well as new information from our medical and legal advisors.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

How does my child find lost items?

**Please mark all belongings with your child's name.** Lost & found items are uploaded weekly onto the picture gallery of the camp website.

## How do I arrange to pick up my child during the camp day?

If you have to pick up your camper during the day, please notify our office so we can arrange to have him/her ready for you. When planning your pick-up, please take into consideration that campers do go swimming and out to the fields for activities. Pickup during the day is from the front office. Please call when you are a few minutes away (so we may call your child), and when you get to the front door. **Do not exit your** 



**vehicle.** Your child will be called to the front and seen out to your car. We cannot release campers without parental permission.

## How can I speak with my child's counselor?

A visit to <a href="www.CampSGl.com">www.CampSGl.com</a> or a call to the camp office will answer most questions. Because counselors are constantly supervising groups and activities, messages will be taken at the camp office. You can also leave a message for, or speak to, the camp directors.

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

No camper will be forced to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Silver Gan Israel, and all campers will need to stay with their bunk.

## How religious is Silver Gan Israel?

SGI is a totally non-judgemental environment made up of campers from all Jewish backgrounds. An individual's level of observance is not stressed. All children enjoy a shared Jewish spirit through activities and projects.

Silver Gan Israel Day Camp 14401 Willow Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92647 Tel/Fax: 949.381.5610 www.Facebook.com/SilverGanIsrael

> www.CampSGI.com office@CampSGI.com



