



2025 Camper Handbook



**257 Beach 17th Street
Far Rockaway, NY 11691**

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Fax: 718.406.8361

SimchaDayCamp@darchei.org

www.SimchaDayCamp.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Office Information | 3 |
| Important Dates | 3 |
| Camp Hours | 3 |
| Divisions | 3 |
| Arrival Procedure | 4 |
| Dismissal Procedure | 4 |
| E-mail Communication | 4 |
| Camp Publications | 5 |
| Camp Cuisine | 5 |
| Canteen | 5 |
| Birthday Parties | 5 |
| Bunk Requests | 5 |
| Learning | 6 |
| CITs | 6 |
| Swimming | 6 |
| T-Shirts | 6 |
| Lost and Found | 7 |
| Tznius..... | 7 |
| Medical Care | 7 |
| Daily Schedule Grades 2 - 7 | 8 |
| Main Division Supply List..... | 8 |
| Juniors/Pre-school Division..... | 9 |
| Pre-school Supply List | 9 |
| Meet the Administration | 10 |
| Electronics..... | 10 |
| Please Do Not Bring Electronics to Camp | 10 |

WELCOME TO SIMCHA DAY CAMP!

Thank you for registering with Simcha Day Camp. This handbook should provide you with answers to many of the questions that are most frequently asked to our office. Please read the following information to help ensure that your children, our campers, have a safe and fun summer. Should you have any remaining questions, please feel free to contact the camp office or visit our website: WWW.SIMCHADAYCAMP.COM

Please complete and return all medical forms and trip consent forms to the office no later than **Thursday, June 5, 2025**.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: **718.868.2300 x233**

Summer Hours: **8:30AM to 4:30PM**

E-mail: simchadaycamp@darchei.org

When contacting our office via email or leaving a voicemail, please indicate your son's name, bunk and bus. This will allow us to ensure that you receive a response in the most timely fashion.

Looking forward to sharing a most enjoyable, productive, and wholesome summer experience!

IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of Camp..... Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Last Day of Session I Friday, July 25, 2025

First Day of Session II Monday, July 28, 2025

Last Day of Camp..... Wednesday, August 20, 2025

No Camp Days

July 4th..... Friday, July 4, 2025

CAMP HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

DIVISIONS

Juniors Division

Entering Kindergarten, Pre-1a and 1st Grade

Intermediate Division

20's – Entering 2nd grade

30's – Entering 3rd grade

Seniors Division

40's – Entering 4th grade

50's – Entering 5th grade

60's – Entering 6th grade

70's – Entering 7th grade

CIT's – Entering 8th - 10th grade

ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

Camp begins at 9:00 AM. Busses begin arriving at approximately 8:45 AM.

All campers arriving by bus will be dropped off and greeted by our dedicated head staff in our Beach 19th parking lot.

All other arrivals will be at our **Beach 17th Street circular driveway**. Juniors enter through the preschool office in the corner. All other campers enter through the main entrance in the center of the driveway.

Any child who usually arrives in camp via bus transportation, but was brought in another way whether at regular time or later in the day - must sign in on the sign in/out sheet located in their respective office. These charts are of utmost importance as they allow us to record accurate attendance and keep the afternoon bus lists up to date.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

Parents who wish to pick up their children from camp or meet their children after camp must make arrangements by emailing sdcbus@darchei.org before 2:00 pm or by calling the camp office at 718.868.2300 ext 383. **EMAIL IS PREFERRED**. Parents may NOT pick up their children directly from the counselor without informing the office. When contacting the office regarding a dismissal change, please indicate your son's full name, bunk and bus.

For the safety of your child, we cannot accommodate ANY dismissal changes in the first 3 days of camp.

The following regulations regarding alternate dismissal are in effect:

- Friday dismissal changes must be called into the office **before 11:00 am**.

There are 4 pickup time options on Fridays: 11am, 12pm, 1pm and regular dismissal pickup (2:45-3)

NO PICK UPS MAY BE DONE BETWEEN 2 & 2:45PM

➤ All pick-ups are done at our Beach 17th Street circular drive. Please park on Beach 17th St and come in to the office to pick up your son. Juniors are picked up at the preschool office in the right-hand corner of the driveway. All other campers will be waiting in the main office by the center of the driveway.

Please understand that for the safety of your son and our campers, we cannot accommodate dismissal changes after the above times.

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SIGN YOUR CHILD OUT.**

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

Our primary method of communication is through email. Weekly emails are sent out with highlights of the past week as well as important information for the upcoming week. Emails are sent throughout the day as needed to provide important updates regarding busing and trips. In order to direct your question to the right person, when contacting the office regarding your son, please indicate your son's full name, bunk and bus. **Please make sure that the camp office has an updated e-mail address that is checked daily.**

CAMP PUBLICATIONS

Our weekly newsletter is distributed every Friday to all campers. Please watch for all newsletters, flyers, notices, and schedules that are sent home with campers, as they contain important information regarding trips and other camp events. If you would like to place an advertisement in the camp newsletter, please contact the office at 718.868.2300 x233. The newsletter will be available online at simchadaycamp.com.

CAMP CUISINE

Simcha Day Camp provides breakfast, hot lunch, and ices daily to all campers and staff. If your son has allergies please be sure to follow the procedures as stated in the attached letter from the camp nurse.

If you want to send food to camp for your child, please make sure that any food brought into camp is certified by a reliable hashgacha.

Please keep in mind that several of our campers have a severe peanut allergy. We are very vigilant in ensuring that no nut products are found ON our campus, so please check all snacks to ensure they do not contain any traces of nuts.



CANTEEN

For campers entering 2nd grade and up:

Prices for various refreshments range from approximately \$0.25 to \$2.50. The boys will have opportunities throughout the week to purchase snacks. We recommend starting your son off with \$20. To add money to your son's canteen account, please go to sdc.canteenapp.org and enter your email address. Once logged in you will see all your children and be able to add funds to their accounts. Alternatively, you can send money to the office labeled "canteen" and your son's full name and bunk number.

For Juniors (boys entering K, P and 1st grade):

Please send in a one-time canteen fee of \$20 to cover all Canteen visits for the summer. Cash or check should be sent in an envelope labeled "canteen" and your son's full name and bunk number.

You cannot use the canteenapp.org for Juniors canteen or birthday parties.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

We are so excited to celebrate your son's birthday in camp. The bunk can enjoy a special trip to the canteen to celebrate this very special milestone.

For campers entering 2nd grade and up:

Please send in money using sdc.canteenapp.org and follow the steps in CANTEEN.

Alternatively, you can send money to the office labeled "birthday party" and your son's full name and bunk number. Please write that this is for birthday party We suggest \$2 per camper. You can email the office to find out how many boys are in your son's bunk.

For Juniors (boys entering K, P and 1st grade):

Please contact the office to schedule a birthday party for your son.

No outside refreshments will be allowed on campus.

BUNK REQUESTS

Much time and thought is devoted to making the bunk compositions compatible. While we cannot guarantee that your child will be placed with all of his friends, please be aware that we will make every effort to ensure that your son is with a group of boys that he is comfortable with.

LEARNING

At Simcha Day Camp, davening and learning is an integral part of our schedule and it is how we begin the structure of our day. We are proud to have a staff of professional Rabbeim. Our goals are to make our learning time a positive and enjoyable time for our campers, and to keep the boys sharp and ready for Yeshiva in the fall.

We have a unique incentive program where the campers are rewarded individually for their cooperation and good effort and at the same time are included in camp wide raffles for exciting prizes at the end of each session.

Campers who are singled out for excellence in Davening, Learning, and Middos will get an honorable mention in our weekly newsletter.

Our Rabbeim make a great effort to provide parsha and review sheets covering the learning done each week in camp. These sheets will be sent home at the end of each week. It would be most beneficial for you and your son to review them together.

SPORTS CITS – GRADES 8 - 10

CIT sports campers have their own minyan, leveled shiurim, organized sports, competitive leagues, swim, late night mishmar and overnight trips.

WORKING CITS – GRADES 8 - 10

The working Counselor In Training program gives campers going into 8th grade through 10th grade the ability to intern as a junior staff member in a bunk for half of the day while still having an opportunity to play organized sports and have regular camp activities the other half of the day. While working in a bunk they will receive real life experience in the field and hands on training from our experienced staff and head staff.

SWIMMING

Our swimming program features a two part swimming session daily - one instructional and one free swim. Our watchful and talented waterfront staff ensure that campers learn the necessary skills while having fun in a safe environment.

T-SHIRTS

Simcha Day Camp t-shirts are distributed, free of charge, to all campers during the first week of camp. Extra t-shirts will be available for sale in the camp office. Campers must wear their camp shirts on trip days.



LOST AND FOUND

We cannot stress enough - to campers as well as staff - the importance of labeling all personal belongings brought to camp. During camp, we maintain a designated Lost and Found area for those items that inevitably separated from their owners. Campers and staff are encouraged to check through all the lost and found items on a regular basis. Despite all efforts to return lost objects, a significant number of personal items are left in camp every summer. All lost and found items will be held until the end of camp, and if not claimed, will be donated to tzedaka or disposed of the day after camp.

TZNIUS

When visiting our campus, please keep in mind that this is a yeshiva with a full-time Bais Medrash and Kollel. Please come dressed appropriately, women in sleeves, skirts of an appropriate length and a proper head covering. Thank you for your cooperation.

MEDICAL CARE

Simcha Day Camp is proud to have a full time camp nurse with a fully-stocked infirmary on campus. We also have a few head staff members trained as EMT's (emergency medical technicians) and upper staff in CPR who are available at all camp hours.

In order to give your child the best medical care, New York City Board of Health requires that we have all medical information for your child. Please be sure to complete both sides of the medical form and make sure dates of immunizations are current and accurate. A note that they are up to date is insufficient. The completed medical history form must be submitted to our office no later than three weeks prior to camp. Your physician will determine whether your child should receive a Tetanus Booster before camp. The form can be found on our website, simchadaycamp.com.

New York City Department of Health requires that only medications in the original pharmacy bottle, prescribed in the child's name and sent with written instructions from the physician, can be dispensed from the infirmary. If you must send medication to camp, please have your child give it to his bus counselor, who will send it to the infirmary. No medications are allowed in the classrooms.

The Camp Director reserves the right to make the final determination as to whether a camper can remain in camp despite a medical condition.

If your child has an allergy, medication, or medical condition/history that we should be aware of, please contact the nurse prior to the camp season at sdcnurse@darchei.org with your **child's name and division** in the subject line.

DAILY SCHEDULE

GRADES 2 – 4

8:45 – 9:00..... Arrival
9:00 – 11:00..... Davening, Learning, & Snack
11:00 - 11:45..... Swim
11:45 - 12:30..... Baseball
12:30 - 1:15 Lunch
1:15 - 2:15 Specialty
2:15 - 3:15 Swim
3:15 - 4:15 Hockey
4:20..... Ices & Dismissal Begins

GRADES 5 – 7

8:45 – 9:00..... Arrival
9:00 – 11:00..... Davening, Learning, & Snack
11:00 - 11:50..... Football
11:50 - 12:40..... Hockey
12:40 - 1:30 Basketball
1:30 - 2:15 Lunch
2:15 - 3:25 Baseball Leagues
3:25 - 4:20 Swim
4:20..... Ices & Dismissal Begins

GRADES 2 – 7 LATENIGHTS

4:15 – 5:30..... Special Activity
5:30 – 6:00..... BBQ Dinner
6:00 - 6:25 Ruach
6:25..... Dismissal Begins

SEND IN EVERY DAY

- ✓ 2 Bathing Suits
- ✓ 1 Towel
- ✓ Knapsack

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO LABEL EVERYTHING!



JUNIORS/PRE-SCHOOL DIVISION

Hats Off to Simcha — Camp's Here at Last!
We are all ready for a blast!
We're thrilled you're here, so give a big cheer,
The best summer ever is finally here!
We'll splash in the water, cool as can be,
With swimming and sunshine and pure energy!
We'll paint and we'll glue, craft projects with flair,
With color and glitter flying through the air!
We'll bake tasty treats, from challah to cake,
With sweet-smelling goodies we'll proudly make.
And out on the playground—we'll swing and slide,
With giggles and games and friends by our side.
Our Rebbeim are ready with wisdom to share,
With stories and lessons that show they care.
We'll grow in our middos, we'll learn every day,
In the most fun and meaningful, Simchadikeh way!
Sports clinics await—grab your cap and your ball,
Dribble and dash, give it your all!
With special events and surprises galore,
Simcha Day Camp has magic behind every door!
So hats off to fun, to learning and play,
To laughter and joy every single day.
Hats off to Simcha—it's time to explore!



Morah Mizel

PRE-SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

To Stay in Camp:

- A change of clothing labeled in a ziplock bag:
underwear, undershirt, socks, short-sleeved shirt and shorts.
- A lightweight sweatshirt labeled. (like a hoodie)
- 1 Extra Baseball Cap Labeled.
- A pair of pool shoes labeled. (no sandals)
- Spray Sunscreen

**PLEASE MAKE SURE
EVERY ITEM IS
CLEARLY LABELED.**

SEND IN EVERY DAY

- ✓ 2 Bathing Suits (campers should come to camp wearing one and the second should be in their knapsack)
- ✓ 1 Towel
- ✓ Knapsack/Backpack

MEET THE ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Rabbi Avi Taub..... | Camp Director |
| Rabbi Naphtali Sudwerts..... | Assistant Director |
| Rabbi Aron Rosenberg..... | Learning Director |
| Mrs. Mirel Krasner..... | Pre-school Director |
| Mrs. Shira Rifkin..... | Assistant Pre-school Director |
| Ms. Rachayl Bornstein..... | Pre-school Administrative Assistant |
| Rabbi Dov Moskowitz..... | MIDZ Head Counselor |
| Rabbi Yaakov Berman..... | MIDZ Division Head |
| Rabbi Shmuel Leff..... | MIDZ Division Head |
| Rabbi Shragi Polter..... | Seniors Head Counselor |
| Yaakov Shapiro..... | 40's Division Head |
| Dovid Orrin..... | Seniors Assistant Division Head |
| Rabbi Yair Adler..... | CIT Division Head |
| Mr. Eric Maslin..... | Aquatics Director |
| Mrs. Chumi Orner, RN..... | Camp Nurse |
| Mrs. Mazal Rubinoff..... | Administrative Assistant |
| Mrs. Fruma Kolsky..... | Dismissal Coordinator |
| Mrs. Lani White..... | Newspaper |

ELECTRONICS

Please Do not allow your children to bring any of their electronic devices and anything with picture, video and Wi-Fi capability to camp.

These include ALL phones, PSP's, iPods, Gameboys etc.

We are not responsible for anything lost, stolen or damaged. These items will be **confiscated indefinitely.**

PLEASE DO NOT BRING TO CAMP

- Cell Phones
- PSP's and other devices
- Ipod's, Ipad's, tablets, etc.
- Rollerblades or Scooters
- Hard Balls
- Baseball Bats
- Heelies
- Smart Watches



THESE ITEMS WILL BE CONFISCATED INDEFINITELY!