

Camp Chaverim at Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek

Summer Camp 2026 Parent Manual

June 8th – July 31st

TBTST Camp Chaverim aims to make summer a happy and safe experience for your child. Our purpose is to provide a quality camp experience that supports parents in helping their children grow to their fullest potential. Our goals are to provide a safe environment, to challenge each child individually, and surround them with staff who know how to listen and who will help each child reach their fullest potential. Each child has unique talents, skills, energy, and creativity that should be encouraged and nurtured. This program provides care for children from 8 weeks to 1st Grade with opportunities to explore, experiment, discover, work cooperatively in small groups, and enjoy large group activities. Giving children the opportunities to make their own choices about what to do and when builds their problem-solving skills while they learn to respect differences and similarities within their own community.

Our Values:

- Excellence in the quality of our summer camp programming
- Honesty and integrity, as families trust us with their children.
- Open communication with the families we serve, employees, and our co-workers.
- Respect for all children, families, employees, and our co-workers
- Creative teamwork to make Camp Chaverim Summer Camp a success
- Experienced and loving staff

Our Goals and Objectives for Camp Participants:

1. To provide opportunities that will stimulate the development of each camper's self-esteem.
 - a. Campers will participate in getting-to-know-you games during the first day of camp.
 - b. Staff will provide the campers with positive comments and encouragement throughout the summer.
2. To provide opportunities that showcase our commitment to the Jewish lifestyle.
 - a. Weekly Shabbat
3. To provide opportunities for friendship building.
 - a. Campers will participate in team building activities.
 - b. Staff will encourage collaboration with projects and games.

Camp Chaverim Activities Include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor and Outdoor Games • Splash pad/Swimming Water play • Arts and Crafts • Performing Arts and Music • Dancing • Creative Movement • Entertainment/On site Field Trips • Playball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themed Weeks • Mad Science • STEM Challenges • Cooking Projects • Music • Weekly Shabbat Celebrations • Daily Kosher Snacks • Weekly Ice Cream Truck Visit
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Hours of Operation:

Camp Chaverim is open for care from 7:00 am until 5:30 pm Monday through Friday (excluding Holidays).

Communication:

Summer is a busy time for parents, campers, and staff. Camp Chaverim strives to make communication easy and effective for families, which is why we have a designated administrator in the camp office from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday (excluding holidays.) You may contact the Camp Office by calling 954-722-9537. In addition to calling our camp office, Camp Chaverim's primary means of communication will be through email, and our Brightwheel App. Parents will receive daily notifications about what activities their camper participated in, and any items needed for the following day/week (i.e. diapers, swim diapers, extra clothes, etc.). Pictures of your campers will be posted daily on our Brightwheel App. Please direct questions or concerns to your camper's lead counselor or the Camp Office.

(If you have not supplied your email on the summer camp application, please make sure you do so before the beginning of camp. If you need any assistance with the Brightwheel App – please call our office immediately. This is the primary form of communication and a necessary tool for daily Check-in & health screening.)

Camp Chaverim/TBTST Camp Staff:

Camp Chaverim prides itself on providing your children with highly motivated and enthusiastic staff who will mentor your child. Candidates must meet strict qualifications that meet and often exceed licensing guidelines. All staff must provide proof from a practicing physician that they are free from any illness that would prevent them from caring for children. Applicants must pass a fingerprinting and background check; participate in training courses, such as child abuse recognition and prevention, CPR/First Aid training and other staff licensing training. Staff also strictly adheres to the state licensing ratios to ensure that appropriate supervision is maintained throughout the duration of the program.

Admission Policies:

Camp Chaverim admits children from 8 weeks of age up to 1st Grade. Children of any race, color, religion, sex, and national and ethnic origin are granted all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available at the center. Camp Chaverim will review requests for accommodations for children with special needs on an individual basis to determine whether we can appropriately meet the child's needs within our program setting. We do not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, or national or ethnic origin in administration of its personnel and admissions policies.

Application & Immunization:

All parents must fill out the Camp Chaverim application form for their child and return it to us before the first day of the program. These registration forms must be accompanied by a valid copy of your child's most recent physical form DH3040 and most recent DH680 Immunizations form provided by the pediatrician with the doctor's signature on the bottom (Says Department of Health on top) or temporary medical exemption (Form DH680) from a licensed medical provider on file at their school to attend school. Students may also qualify for an exemption based on religious grounds (Form DH681). – NOT a printout report from the pediatric patient portal. (If your child has been with us for the school year and their medical form is *current*, it is not necessary to send in a duplicate).

Camp Shirt/Swim Shirt Policy:

Campers in Giborim and Tzofim (Ages 4+) are required to wear rash guards (swim shirts) with the school's logo on designated pool days. Please refer to the camp calendar for specific Aquatic Center days, as the schedule may change from week to week. Rash guard shirts are available for purchase at the front desk.

Arrival and Dismissal:

Campers should be dropped off and picked up according to their registered camp schedule.

Unless enrolled in extended care options, campers should not arrive before or remain after their scheduled program times. Upon arrival at our parking lot, you will be required to scan the QR code with our security officer. A Camp Chaverim staff member will escort your camper to their room. All campers should be dropped off at the ECC entrance under the overhang. We know mornings can be busy, but for the safety of all campers, please do not stop your vehicle and allow your child to exit in the middle of the parking lot. Parents are required to park, exit their vehicle, and escort their child to a Camp Chaverim staff member.

For dismissal, parents are required to park and pick up their camper from their classroom. Please remember that your child may be with Camp Chaverim staff members who were not their teachers during the school year.

Please be prepared to show a valid photo ID at pickup, even if your child has attended Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek previously.

Authorization to Pick Up:

Authorization to pick up a camper is given in the attached application. No camper will be released to a person not authorized by the custodial parent. We must have written authorization for changes in this respect. Staff will question those people with whom they are unfamiliar and check authorization before releasing a camper. Identification will be requested by anyone we do not know.

If someone else is picking up your child, a written notification is needed via email or our Brightwheel App. The person picking up the child must have a valid photo ID and be on the authorized pick-up list. All campers should be picked up by 3:00pm unless they are registered for the Extended Day Program

Campers who are not picked up by 3:00pm will be brought to the Extended Day Program. Parents must adhere to the late Pick-up Policy.

All parents who do not pick their camper/s up by 5:30 pm will adhere to the Late Pick-up Policy. Please be mindful that our staff have family and other responsibilities that begin when their work shift ends and every effort must be made to pick up on time.

Non-Release of a camper to an intoxicated/impaired individual

Please be aware that if you, the parent, or anyone else who picks up your camper is suspected of intoxication or is impaired, we reserve the right to not release your camper. Instead, we will call another responsible adult on the authorized pick-up list. If you are driving away and seem to be intoxicated or impaired, we will call the police and give them your vehicle's information.

Absences:

If your camper needs to miss a day of camp due to illness or other reasons, please notify us via Brightwheel or by calling 954-722-9537 before 8:00 am. There are no refunds for campers due to absences or non-participation.

Late Pick Up Policy:

Camp Chaverim understands that a late pick up may occur on a rare occasion/emergency. However, please understand that we open at 7:00 am sharp and close at 5:30 pm sharp. If your camper is not picked up by the end of the Camp Day, **a late fee will be charged to your account.**

Dress Policy:

Campers should wear comfortable and appropriate clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. We use washable paints and crayons; however, clothing can still get stained so please do not send your camper in their "party" or best clothing. We do not reimburse if clothing rips, gets stained, or for normal wear and tear. Closed-toe shoes are required for all campers to participate in the Camp activities. If you send your camper to the program in open-toed shoes, you will be called and asked to bring different shoes for your camper.

Please put the camper's first and last name on every item of clothing, towels, and shoes with permanent marker. Remember... The nature of camp is to get outside and have fun, which often means getting dirty and wet. Please do not send your child wearing anything, either of you will be afraid of getting dirty.

Swimming / H2O Zone at Aquatic Center:

Giborim and Tzofim campers, those entering Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade, will attend the Aquatic Center on designated pool days (weather permitting). Please refer to the camp calendar for specific Aquatic Center days, as the schedule may change from week to week. Campers will wear life vests and have the opportunity to enjoy the Splash Zone area.

To ensure a smooth and efficient transition from camp to swimming, campers must arrive already wearing their bathing suit, closed-toe water shoes, lime green camp rash guard, and sunscreen — ready to enter the pool. Please also send a towel, sneakers for after swimming, a change of clothes, and a plastic bag for wet items. If your camper does not arrive with their bathing suit, water shoes, and rash guard, they will not be permitted to enter the pool. Please do not apply spray sunscreen on school grounds.

Water Playground:

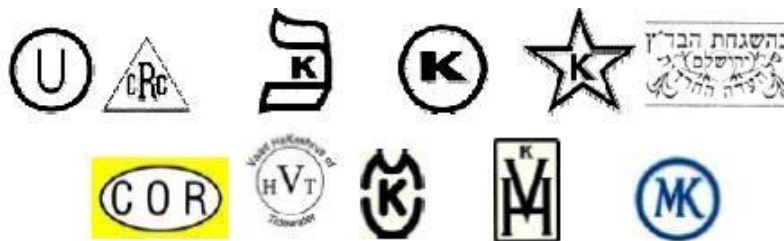
Campers in the Lower Camp will go to the water playground at TBTST during group designated times (as always, weather permitting). Please make sure that a bathing suit, towel, and closed-toe water shoes are worn every day. They will change into dry clothes after they are done at the water playground. **Don't forget to pack their dry sneakers, change of clothes, towels, and a plastic bag to put their wet clothing in.** Please apply sunscreen to your camper at home in the morning **BEFORE** camp. Spray sunscreen may not be used anywhere on school grounds.

Food and Beverage:

TBTST Camp Chaverim provides morning snacks to all campers and afternoon snacks to the campers in the late stay program. Campers are required to bring their own lunches daily. Please send lunches in insulated lunch bags with ice packs, as refrigeration is not available. (ex. Do not send cheese, yogurt, or any other dairy item without an ice pack due to the high risk of the item perishing/spoiling and causing illness.)

If your camper has any dietary needs or concerns such as food allergies, please be sure to inform the camp on the registration forms and verbally prior to the start of camp. You can also update your camper's profile on Brightwheel to reflect their allergies, which is extremely helpful to our staff. Camp Chaverim will be happy to assist you with this situation.

LUNCH/SNACK: We observe a Kashrut policy as part of Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek. **NO MEAT, POULTRY, OR SHELLFISH OF ANY KIND MAY BE SENT IN.** Dairy or pareve (neither meat nor dairy) lunches are to be brought to camp. We have a list of suggested meals that we are happy to provide if you need ideas. Other food restrictions may be imposed if deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of the children in our care.



If you have any further questions, please call the Camp Office at 954-722-9537. If you are sending in food for a class celebration such as a birthday, the food items must come in their original packaging and must have one of the symbols below printed onto the packaging label.

Food Permission Form

Throughout camp we have many festivities that your camper may participate in. We have holiday and birthday celebrations as well as cooking projects. The following list is a non-exhaustive sample of the foods that your camper may be served during our celebrations/cooking. By signing the form, you agree to have your camper participate in our celebrations and be served the food we provide during these times. Campers will not be served any of the food provided for the celebration unless this consent form is signed and returned. TBTST is a Kosher facility, and we will only serve Kosher foods and follow Kashrut dietary laws.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Fresh or canned fruit	Potatoes/French fries/tots	Marshmallows
Fresh or canned vegetables	Tuna fish	Potato Pancakes
Yogurt	Egg salad	Chocolate/Chocolate candy
Apple sauce	Mayo/Mustard/ketchup	Mashed potatoes
Cheese	Pickles	Stuffing
Plain crackers	Ice cream	Corn bread
Pudding	Nutrigrain Bars	Cranberry sauce
Raisins/ dried fruit	Ice Pops	Beans
Pancakes/waffles/French toast	Whipped cream/Cool whip	Avocado
Pancake syrup	Juice	Popcorn
Salsa	Frosting	Challah (egg) Bread
Granola bars	Bagels	Chocolate syrup
Cream cheese/butter	Bread/Buns	Sprinkles
Cookies	English muffins	Caramel syrup
Cakes	Matzah	Jelly
Cupcakes	Honey	Peanut butter
Donuts	Fruit snacks	Pita
Pies	Cereal	Pita chips
Chips/Pretzels	Candy	Hummus
Cheese pizza	Eggs	Granola
Pasta and sauce	Sour cream	Tortilla chips
Sweet potato/yams	Cotton Candy	

By signing this form, I agree to allow my camper to participate in school celebrations and to be served the food provided during the celebrations.

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Termination of Enrollment

If it becomes apparent that our program is not suitable for a child, the following will occur, prior to termination of enrollment:

1. Meeting with parents, a staff member, and director to discuss the situation.
2. Plan of action developed, including but not limited to discussing several behavior modifications to be tried both at home and in the classroom to attempt consistency...seeking professional advice in ways to help student...suggesting testing through private or public-school means... developing timetable to institute changes, assess change and set another meeting date, which is mutually agreed upon
3. Meet with parents, a staff member, and director to assess changes and perhaps develop an additional/alternative plan (repeat #2 above)
4. If it becomes apparent that change is not forthcoming, and it becomes necessary for enrollment to be terminated, a date of termination of enrollment will be decided upon and termination will take place.
5. Children who continually pose a danger to themselves or other children through their aggressive behavior (including punching, hitting, biting, tackling, etc.) are at risk of having their enrollment terminated and may have to be removed from the school in a more immediate timeframe, prior to the steps outlined above reaching completion.

Termination may occur if The Child:

- Is at risk of causing serious injury to another child or self
- Exhibits uncontrollable behaviors including excessive tantrums/outbursts
- Engages in ongoing physical/verbal abuse to children and/or staff
- Engages in excessive biting
- Is unable to successfully navigate the parameters and expectations of the program.

Termination may occur if The Parent:

- Threatens physical injury or seeks to intimidate the staff
- Verbally abuses the staff
- Behaves in a manner deemed inappropriate by the director
- Fails to pay or is habitually late with payments
- Fails to complete all forms required by the school
- Is habitually late in picking up their child

Child's name

Parent's/Guardian Signature

Date

Medication:

Our preference would be to have you arrange your camper's medication before or after camp. However, if it is necessary for us to give your child medication while he/she is at camp, you **MUST** fill out a Medication Authorization form. The forms are kept in the camp office on the wall when you first enter the school.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND MEDICATION IN YOUR CAMPER'S LUNCH BOX OR PUT IT IN YOUR CAMPER'S SIPPY CUP!

ALL PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION MUST BE IN ITS ORIGINAL CONTAINER WITH THE CAMPER'S NAME AND EXACT DOSE INDICATED ON THE LABEL.

DCF (Department of Children & Family Services) rule states that we can only administer over-the-counter medication given to us in an **UNOPENED CONTAINER**. Please read labels on the over-the-counter medicine carefully. We cannot administer medication that does not list the appropriate dosage for your camper's age unless we have written authorization from your camper's doctor. Remember to send a "measured spoon".

IF TYLENOL OR SIMILAR PAIN RELIEF PRODUCTS ARE NEEDED, YOUR CAMPER NEEDS TO BE AT HOME. THEREFORE, WE WILL NOT ADMINISTER PAIN RELIEF PRODUCTS.

Health and Safety

If your camper has a food allergy or medical condition, please make sure you note it on the application and notify the camp office and your camper's counselor. In the case of a severe allergy, or medical condition, please email preschool@tbtst.org to schedule a phone or a virtual meeting with the camp director prior to the start of camp.

Campers with anaphylactic allergies who hold a prescription from their doctor for epinephrine, are required to have an unexpired epi-pen (or other brand of epinephrine) on the premises during the hours that they are at camp. If necessary, this may be brought home each day and returned the next day.

Emergency Procedures & Weather Policy:

Camp Chaverim maintains emergency preparedness procedures for severe weather, fire drills, lockdowns, and other emergency situations. In the event of inclement weather, extreme heat, lightning, or other conditions that may impact outdoor activities or Aquatic Center schedules, camp activities may be modified, moved indoors, delayed, or canceled as needed for the safety of our campers and staff. Families will be notified of significant schedule changes or emergency situations through Brightwheel and/or email communication.

Campers participate in age-appropriate safety drills throughout the summer in accordance with school and licensing guidelines.

Sick Child Policy

Every camper is required to have a physical examination, and all current immunizations. DCF forms #680 and #3040 must be completed by your camper's physician or a temporary medical exemption (Form DH680) from a licensed medical provider. Students may also qualify for an exemption based on religious grounds (Form DH681). The forms must be on file in our office **ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP**.

TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE, CAMPERS WHO SHOW SIGNS OF ILLNESS SHOULD BE KEPT HOME! Staff will call parents to pick up their camper if they feel your camper's condition can best be treated at home.

The following position on communicable disease will be **strictly enforced**...

Any camper who is suspected of having a communicable disease (or infectious disease), or who develops a fever of 100 or above and/or other signs or symptoms, which include but are not limited to any of the following... **DIARRHEA, RASH, PINK EYE, SKIN INFECTION, ABDOMINAL PAIN, VOMITING OR GREEN MUCUS COMING OUT OF NOSE...**, or who are not well enough to enjoy the day's activities, shall be placed in the Camp office. We do not have facilities to isolate sick campers. Therefore, you will be notified of immediate dismissal. Such campers shall not return to the facility until the signs and symptoms of a communicable disease are no longer present for 24 hours, *with a full school day in between*. A **WRITTEN STATEMENT** from a physician attesting to the fact that the camper has been appropriately treated for the disease must be provided to the Camp office.

A CAMPER WHO STAYS HOME, OR IS SENT HOME, MUST BE SYMPTOM FREE FOR 24 HOURS BEFORE HE/SHE RETURNS TO CAMP.

IF WE SEND YOUR CAMPER HOME WITH A FEVER, VOMITING OR DIARRHEA YOU MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HIM/HER TO STAY HOME THE FOLLOWING DAY.

A DOCTOR'S NOTE IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO RETURN TO CAMP AFTER ALL COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Everyday reminders:

- Arrive to camp in bathing suit and closed-toe water shoes on scheduled pool/water days. A sun hat that fits well and that you don't mind getting wet is highly encouraged and we will do our best to encourage your child to keep it on.
- Towel, Change of Clothes, & Closed-toe Sneakers – must be sent in camper's bag with them daily.
- Plastic bag for wet clothing/towel
- Sunscreen must already be applied at home prior to arrival
- Send Lunch
- Water Cup (We recommend Thermos - FILLED with ice & water) – Label with name.
- Diapers, wipes, & diaper cream (if your child is not potty trained) – Package should be labeled with name
- Rash Guards

** Giborim and Tzofim campers will attend the Splash Zone/Pool at the Aquatic Center on designated pool days. Please refer to the camp calendar for specific Aquatic Center days, as the schedule may change from week to week. Camp rash guards are required on Aquatic Center days.

Shabbat Celebrations:

Every Friday campers celebrate Shabbat.

Personal Items Policy:

We have plenty of equipment and activities to keep your camper busy all day long. Please do not allow your camper to bring in any toys, games, "iPad" type devices or cell phones to accompany your camper. We will not be responsible for any broken, lost, or stolen items. A small soft comfort object may be brought in for nap time but will remain in their cubby until then. Please make sure not to send in something that your child cannot sleep without, in case you forget it at camp.

Acknowledgement Form

I, _____, acknowledge the receipt of Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek's Camp Chaverim Parent Manual. I have read and understand and will adhere to all the information and policies within.

Parent's Signature

Camper's name

Date