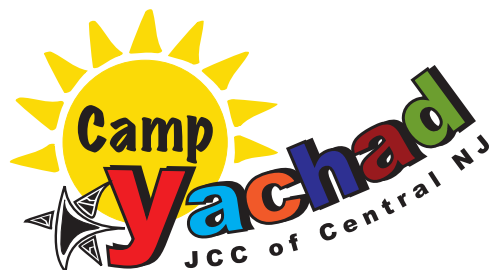


# Summer 2018 Camp Yachad Parent Manual





Dear Parents,

Summer 2018 is almost here! We are so glad that your child(ren) will be joining us and sharing in the exciting camp experience offered by our committed and fun-loving staff. We are confident Camp Yachad will enrich your children's lives and welcome you into a warm community at the JCC.

Attached is your 2018 Parent Handbook. It's a useful tool to guide you through our policies, procedures and general operations. We hope you will take a few minutes to review its contents.

If you have any questions about the information in the handbook or any other questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call or send us an email.

And remember...Yachad **ROCKS!**

**R** – *Ruach* means "spirit," and we've got tons!

**O** – Opportunity to try new things, make new friends and jump right in.

**C** – Community is at our camp. Make new friends and cherish the old ones.

**K** – Kindness...simply stated – be kind, respectful, inclusive and compassionate.

**S** – Strength...show your strength! Be adaptable, flexible, creative and patient.

Our **ROCK** solid foundation of camping is what makes Camp Yachad stand above the rest. **ROCKS** are the values we embrace each and every day at camp and in our community. Important life skills radiate from these core values – helping to prepare our young campers to live a life that **ROCKS!**

We can't wait for Summer 2018!

In the Spirit of Camp,  
Jodi Hotra and Mallory Zipkin  
Camp Co-Directors



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

## ATTENDANCE

If your child will not be using the bus, please call the transportation office at **908-889-8800 x222 by 7:30 a.m. on the day your child will not be on the bus** or leave a message the evening before. Clearly state your child's name, bus or van number, camp unit and group.

## BACKPACKS

### Before the Camp Season

Backpacks will be delivered Sunday, June 3 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. during practice bus runs. Bus runs are for campers who will be taking a morning bus. If you are not home, your child's backpack will be left at your door unless it is raining that day. If it's raining, you can pick up backpacks at Meet the Staff Day on Sunday, June 24.

If your child is not using Camp Yachad transportation or is only on an afternoon bus, please pick up their backpack or ID tag at the JCC on Sunday, June 3 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the Camp Office. If you are unable pick up the backpack, then you can on Sunday, June 24 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

### During the Camp Season

Each day your child should come to camp with their backpack including the ID tag attached by Camp Yachad.

### What Do I Pack in My Camper's Backpack?

- Chaverim/Yeladim 2:00 p.m. – one towel, unless otherwise notified
- Yeladim 4:00 p.m./Megalim/Sabra/Olim/MSC – two towels and an extra bathing suit
- JPAC Downstagers – one bathing suit and towel, jazz shoes and tap shoes
- JPAC Upstagers – jazz shoes and tap shoes, one bathing suit and one towel once a week.
- LIT – one bathing suit and towel for weeks 1 & 8; two bathing suits and towels for weeks 2, 4, 5 & 7
- Pool shoes to get from classroom/locker room to the pool
- Plastic bag for wet items
- Underwear for after swim
- Sunscreen
- Sweatshirt or light jacket for inclement weather

All of these contents should also be packed on day trip days for any travel campers.

## BIRTHDAYS

If your child has a summer birthday, we will help your child celebrate at camp! At morning Boker Tov (morning assembly), we will give your child a birthday pin, and then your child will skip around the gym while all of the other children and staff cheer them on! Campers may bring in a kosher birthday treat, but please do not send in any item that contains nuts and/or nut products. Birthday treat suggestions include: fruit and Entenmann's Pop-Ems. **(Dunkin' Donuts and local kosher bakeries are not acceptable as these are not guaranteed nut-free.)**

Birthday celebrations with parents or other family members **may not** be scheduled during the camp day.

## CARPOOL PROCEDURES (FOR CAMPERS NOT ON BUS ROUTES)

All campers arriving at camp by car must be escorted to their meeting locations. Parents/guardians should park in the main lot and walk their child(ren) to the Chaverim entrance at the front of the building or for all other units, the campsite. If dropping off on the campsite, please enter the JCC, swipe in at the Member Services Desk and come through the exit door by the locker rooms to utilize the crosswalk safely.

Drop-off time is between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m. In order to ensure an easy transition, please transfer campers to a staff member without entering the classroom or campsite area; this will help the staff maintain order and begin the camp day.

### **Pick-up for 12:30, 12:45 and 2:00 p.m. Chaverim/Yeladim campers**

Campers dismissed at 12:30, 12:45 and 2:00 p.m. will be dismissed in the front of the building in the courtyard. Parents/guardians must park and escort campers to their cars after signing them out.

### **Pick-up for 4:00 p.m. onsite campers**

All afternoon pick-ups are in the **front lobby** beginning at 4:00 p.m.

### **Tiyulim, Na'arim and Chalutzim Campers**

Parents will not be permitted to drop off or pick up campers at trip sites.

## COMMUNICATION

### By Phone

Camp Yachad staff members are busy with camp activities throughout the day. If you need to speak with a staff member, please leave that person a message at x234 (the Camp Office), and your call will be returned at the end of the day. (The Camp Quick Reference on the calendars provides a list of all camp phone numbers.)

### In Writing

Please place all notes in an envelope and hand to the bus counselor at pick up. Be sure to put the recipient's name on the envelope.

### E-mail

Parents who prefer to communicate via e-mail should use the camp e-mail address: [campyachad@jccnj.org](mailto:campyachad@jccnj.org). If you would like to contact our key staff directly, please use the emails listed below.

Camp Co-Director (Jodi Hotra)	<a href="mailto:jhotra@jccnj.org">jhotra@jccnj.org</a>
Camp Co-Director (Mallory Zipkin)	<a href="mailto:mzipkin@jccnj.org">mzipkin@jccnj.org</a>
Chaverim Co-Unit Director (Jacqui Gross)	<a href="mailto:chaverim@jccnj.org">chaverim@jccnj.org</a>
Chaverim Co-Unit Director (Barrie Schwarz)	<a href="mailto:bschwarz@jccnj.org">bschwarz@jccnj.org</a>
Chaverim Assistant Unit Director (Karen Mayerson)	<a href="mailto:kmayerson@jccnj.org">kmayerson@jccnj.org</a>
Megalim Unit Director (Jessica Rothbard)	<a href="mailto:Megalim@jccnj.org">Megalim@jccnj.org</a>
Sabra Unit Director (Mindy Klein)	<a href="mailto:sabra@jccnj.org">sabra@jccnj.org</a>
Yeladim Unit Director (Pam Romanchuk)	<a href="mailto:yeladim@jccnj.org">yeladim@jccnj.org</a>
Olim Unit Director (Holly Friedman)	<a href="mailto:olim@jccnj.org">olim@jccnj.org</a>
Na'arim Unit Director (Jessica Nagouney)	<a href="mailto:naarim@jccnj.org">naarim@jccnj.org</a>
Chalutzim Unit Director (Megan Kaplan + Ido Naor)	<a href="mailto:chalutzim@jccnj.org">chalutzim@jccnj.org</a>
LIT Unit Director (Josh Tannenbaum)	<a href="mailto:lit@jccnj.org">lit@jccnj.org</a>
Camp Nurse (Kim Rivera)	<a href="mailto:campnurse@jccnj.org">campnurse@jccnj.org</a>
JPAC Director (Amy Toporek)	<a href="mailto:atoporek@jccnj.org">atoporek@jccnj.org</a>
Transportation (Shira Gladstone)	<a href="mailto:transportation@jccnj.org">transportation@jccnj.org</a>
Maccabi Sports Unit Director (Erica Dubois)	<a href="mailto:msc@jccnj.org">msc@jccnj.org</a>
Aquatics Department (Kim Koza)	<a href="mailto:aquatics@jccnj.org">aquatics@jccnj.org</a>
Camp Office	<a href="mailto:campoffice@jccnj.org">campoffice@jccnj.org</a>

## DRESS

All campers will receive two complimentary t-shirts. The camp logo t-shirt will be for Monday through Thursday and the Shabbat shirt is for Friday. Additional t-shirts will be available for purchase at each unit's Parent Orientation and at Meet the Staff Day on **Sunday, June 24** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### Requirements

- For security purposes, **camp t-shirts are mandatory every day** for all campers!
- All onsite campers should come to camp wearing a swimsuit underneath their clothing each day unless otherwise notified by staff.
- All campers must wear sneakers and socks daily.
- Camper(s) should wear their "It's Friday...It's Shabbat when the sun goes down" t-shirt each Friday.
- All items sent to camp must be labeled with permanent marker.

## EARLY ARRIVAL AND LATE STAY

Both Early Arrival and Late Stay are by **advance registration only and are an additional cost.**

### Early Arrival

All campers registered for Early Arrival may arrive at the JCC as early as 7:00 a.m. and should be dropped off at the Chaverim entrance at the front of the building. They will be provided with breakfast.

### Late Stay

Late Stay runs until 6:00 p.m. for families who need to extend their camper's day. For an additional surcharge, campers will be able to stay at the JCC until 6:30 p.m.

## FAMILY VISITATION AND TOURS

### Open Camp Nights

Camp Yachad's Rockin' Shabbat is a unique and exciting Jewish experience for our campers and staff. Our Camp Yachad house band "The Shabbatoness" performs live every Friday afternoon, and we have a giant dance party celebrating the upcoming Shabbat. This special time gives campers a chance to celebrate all together and to say "see you next Monday."

In previous years, parents have come to Shabbat on assigned weeks. In order to make Shabbat the best and safest experience for our campers, Shabbat will now be for campers only, and instead we are hosting Open Camp Nights for our camp families.

On July 24 and/or July 26 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., all families will have the opportunity to come to camp and see the activities their campers enjoy throughout the summer. Visit with the specialists, make a craft, play gaga or other sports and just have a nice relaxed time seeing all camp has to offer and what your camper's favorite activities are.

### **Camp Yachad Visitation Policy**

- Camp visits must be scheduled through the Camp Office at least one day in advance.
- For security purposes, visitors must first report to the Member Services Desk where they will receive a camp staff escort.
- Visitors will only be allowed on camp property, including the main building and pool areas, when accompanied by a camp staff member.
- Tours of camp are available by appointment only.

Please contact the Camp Office at 908-889-8800 x234 to schedule a tour.

## **FOOD**

### **We are Peanut/Tree Nut Aware**

In deference to our children with peanut/tree nut allergies, we request that no children bring peanuts or peanut butter in any form to camp. Soy nut butter is a suggested alternative. (Please label sandwiches with soy nut or other butters so we will know that they don't have peanut butter.) Although we cannot promise that our camp is totally nut-free in the purest sense, we do require vigilance and make it our responsibility to educate.

Cross-contamination occurs when a safe food comes in contact with a food allergen such as peanuts. For those children with severe food allergies, eating even the slightest trace of an allergic food can cause life-threatening or fatal reactions. Although not everyone with a food allergy is this sensitive, it is important to be very careful and follow precautions.

### **Lunch included for Chaverim, Yeladim, Megalim, Sabra, Olim (onsite days only), Tiyulim (onsite days only), Na'arim, MSC and JPAC**

Jerusalem Pizza and Café, the camp lunch provider, offers a robust lunch menu which is included in your camp tuition. While Camp Yachad is a kosher dairy camp, there will be days that kosher meat will be an option for lunch. Each day



a main meal will be offered with two sides and water. If a camper does not like the main food option, a bagel or hard-boiled egg option will be available. For details on the camper lunch program, please refer to the menu online at [www.jccnj.org/campyachad](http://www.jccnj.org/campyachad) in QuickLinks.

### Lunch

- **Lunches from home must be dairy or parve.** Suggestions for a kosher (non-meat) lunch include cream cheese and jelly, tuna fish, egg salad, yogurt, cheese, fruit, cold drinks and snacks. (On the days the camp menu offers a meat option, campers who bring their own lunch are still required to bring a dairy or parve lunch.)
- Travel campers may pack a kosher-style lunch (no meat and dairy combined). Suggestions for a camp lunch are a turkey sandwich, roast beef sandwich or chicken salad.
- All lunches brought from home must be clearly marked with the camper's full name and group.

A morning and afternoon snack will be provided for all day campers; only an afternoon snack will be provided for travel campers.

**Our policy remains that there is no sharing of lunches or snacks due to allergies and the Kashrut policy at the JCC.**

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Parents are asked to cooperate with the camp program by paying careful attention to their child's health and by keeping them at home when there is any indication of cold symptoms, nasal congestion, sneezing, coughing, fever, upset stomach, overtiredness, rash, concussion and/or lice. (See below for details on specific conditions.)

### Fever Policy

A child is not to return to camp until they are fever-free for a **full 24 hours or a full camp day** without any fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or Advil.

### Doctor/Health Care Provider Notes

If a child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease (e.g., conjunctivitis or pink eye, impetigo, strep throat, chicken pox, lice), please notify the camp medical team immediately. A note signed by the child's healthcare provider allowing the child to return to camp must be sent to the camp office before the child will be re-admitted to camp.

A note signed by the child's healthcare provider is also required for any skin abnormality and/or rash. The note must include the diagnosis (e.g., eczema, poison ivy, impetigo, molluscum, ringworm, scabies, type of bug bite, etc.), **plan**

of care (e.g., medicines, cream, ointments used in camp and/or at home) and **whether or not the condition is contagious**. If contagious, we will also need to know when the condition is no longer contagious. (This is required by the Aquatics staff.)

### **Contagious Skin Conditions**

Conditions such as *impetigo* and *molluscum* are highly contagious and easily passed in a camp environment through contact, clothing, towels and pool equipment (e.g., "noodles"). Please check your child(ren) regularly for any signs of rashes or unusual bumps on the skin. If you detect any signs of skin abnormalities, please contact your healthcare provider immediately.

### **Lice**

**In general, camp recommends that you check your child(ren) frequently for lice (a.k.a. pediculosis)**. Please report any cases occurring two weeks or less prior to the start of camp to the Camp Nurse. If at any point during the summer you find or suspect any evidence of lice or itching on the head/scalp/neck, please call the Camp Nurse immediately. It is important to contact your healthcare provider for proper treatment. Camp policy requires that a child be kept home 24 hours and have no nits upon returning to camp. Follow-up treatment **must** be administered 7 - 10 days later.

### **Emergencies**

In case of an emergency, parents and emergency contacts are always notified first. If it is not possible to reach a parent/emergency contact, the child will be taken by ambulance, with a staff member, to the nearest hospital for emergency treatment. Continued attempts will be made to reach a parent/emergency contact.

### **Allergies**

Parents should make sure that they have reported all allergies (medicine, food, environmental, insect bites/stings) to the camp office through the online medical history. If any new allergies or medical conditions arise, it is the responsibility of the parent to inform the camp health staff (and Unit Director) of any changes in the camper's medical profile.

### **Sunburn/Injury Prevention**

Please apply sunscreen every day before your camper comes to camp. Camp Yachad staff helps children reapply sunscreen throughout the day as needed.

Faculty and staff are responsible for daily safety inspections of their classrooms and equipment. Defective or damaged equipment will be removed and/or replaced as necessary. The playground will be carefully checked prior to use each day.

A particular concern regarding children's safety is the risk of strangulation associated with children's clothing and accessories that may become entangled with the equipment during play. Please refrain from dressing your children in any

clothing or accessory that is tied around the neck or waist.

### **Other Health Notes**

Due to the volume of children and staff seen each day, notes from the camp health staff will not be sent home for minor issues (e.g., scrapes, suntan lotion in the eyes, minor stomachache that resolves quickly, minor nosebleed that stops quickly, etc.).

If any child shows signs of ill health during the day, they will be seen by our camp health staff. Arrangements will then be made by the parent or emergency contact for the child's prompt return home.

If a child has been sent home or has been absent two or more days, the parents should call the camp health staff to explain the nature of the child's illness and/or other reasons for absence.

## **HEALTH FORMS AND INSURANCE**

Each camper is required by New Jersey state law to submit a medical history completed by a parent or guardian through the parent dashboard.

### **Group Accident Insurance**

JCC Members are covered by a group accidental medical program. This coverage is to be used as secondary insurance to a member's primary health coverage.

## **MEDICATION**

Only those campers (and staff members that are minors) that have the Camper Healthcare Form completed and signed by their parent will be able to receive the medication(s) needed (such as Tylenol for fever/pain, asthma medication, emergency allergy medication, etc.). Medication orders and signatures are required for administration of prescription medication during the camp day and/or trips. This includes regularly scheduled medications, as well as any other treatments that must be given during the camp day and/or trips.

Camp policy states all onsite medication is administered by the Camp Nurse (RN). This includes prescription **and** over-the-counter medications. Please notify the Camp Nurse of any special medication needs and be sure you and your licensed healthcare provider have signed the Healthcare Form which lists medication, dosage and medication times.

Medications must be brought to camp on **Sunday, June 24** in their original containers with the prescription label on the front. Medications will be administered by the Camp Nurse and will be stored in a locked closet in the

health office. Medication administration will usually take place during morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack periods. This is to prevent children from having to go to the health office in the middle of an activity.

For travel campers, any necessary medication will be administered by the Unit Director if all appropriate documentation has been received and reviewed by the Camp Nurse. Please DO NOT send any new medication order forms/medications for trips via bus mail the morning of any trip as they may not be received by the Nurse/Unit Director prior to leaving for the trip(s).

## INTERNET USAGE/SOCIAL MEDIA

### **Camp Yachad Staff**

The concern for safety extends outside of the security of camp itself. Websites, such as Facebook and YouTube, offer campers and staff the ability to create personal web pages and videos, but also expose their personal information to whomever may be using the Internet.

In the past, we have always provided our camp staff with helpful guidelines for appropriate contact with campers during the off-season. With the extensive use of alternative means of communication (e-mail, instant messaging and personal web pages), we have re-assessed our guidelines and have extended them to include personal web pages.

Our staff is not permitted to communicate with campers via their personal web pages, e-mails or instant messaging. This includes posting comments about and/or pictures of campers. In addition, we inform our camp staff that posting pictures of campers on their own personal web pages or on websites where photos can be “dumped” (such as Instagram, SnapChat and Flickr) is prohibited also. As you may know, when we post photos on our camp website, it is password protected, and we do not use names of campers.

**The camp administrators will be reviewing these websites on a regular basis in order to ensure that our policy is being followed.**

In order to learn more web safety tips for your children, you can find a wealth of information by searching internet safety for children.

Any staff communication with camp families (parents) must be disclosed to the Camp Co-Directors and the staff member must be granted permission. The same applies to any planned contact with campers or their families for professional services outside the scope of camp (such as babysitting). That must be approved by a Camp Co-Director before contact is made.

### **Parents**

Parents may take photos during evening visitations. These photos (which will

likely include other children) may be posted on the Camp Yachad Facebook page, without tagging children, as not all campers have a photo waiver.

#### PARENT ORIENTATION AND MEET THE STAFF

During these 45-minute to hour-long sessions, Unit Directors will discuss camp programs and procedures with parents. General questions will be addressed. Following each session, camp staff will be available to answer individual parent questions. All parent orientations will be held at the JCC.

- **Chaverim** Parent Orientation (for parents only) is on Thursday, June 7 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Meet the Staff is on Sunday, June 24. Specific group times will be sent home in backpacks.
- **Yeladim, Megalim, Sabra, Olim, Tiyulim, Na'arim, Chalutzim, LIT, JPAC and MSC** Parent Orientation and Meet the Staff Day will both be on Sunday, June 24. See At-a-Glance Important Dates on page 19 for specific times.

#### PERSONAL PROPERTY AND BEHAVIOR

Campers are responsible for their own personal property. Camp Yachad will not be held responsible for any lost or stolen items. All campers are responsible for respecting the property of others. All valuables should be clearly labeled with the owner's name on it. Smoking is not permitted at any time. If any camper is observed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or if it becomes known to a staff member that a camper has been drinking alcohol or doing drugs, they will be dismissed from the program and a guardian must pick up the camper immediately. If traveling, the camper will be sent home from the trip at the family's expense. There will be no refunds issued. Lastly, weapons are not allowed in camp, on overnights or on any off-site trips and may be cause for immediate dismissal.

#### SWIM AND SWIM TESTING

Camp Yachad utilizes the Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program. New this summer, campers will get their swim progress reports through a website called Swim Gen at the end of weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8. Communication will be sent through email explaining how to log in to view your camper's report.

Camp Yachad campers that are 5+ years are **encouraged** to come in for level testing before the first day of camp. This allows our swim instructors to start lessons on the first day. (**Chaverim campers or those currently enrolled in swim lessons at the JCC, do not need to be swim tested.**) Campers who don't get

tested prior to camp will be tested during their first swim period and then placed in an appropriate class. By testing your camper early, you can make sure they will start off in the right swim group. To schedule your swim test, please contact the Aquatics Office at 908-889-8800 x259 or [kkoza@jccnj.org](mailto:kkoza@jccnj.org).

## SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Camp Yachad staff has been trained in many areas, including supervision, emergency evacuation, emergency procedures and emergency response.

It is imperative that our camp families understand and are familiar with the lines of communication to and from camp in the event of a disaster. Please read the following and keep this information handy for future reference.

Additionally, there are dedicated professional security personnel onsite (at the JCC) during the camp day.

### **Emergency Communication**

Camp Yachad is set up to broadcast emergency and non-emergency information to all camp families via text message through our camp software. Camp families will be asked to opt in through their parent dashboard to receive messages on their cell phone via text by clicking "My Account." In the event camp needs to communicate quickly with all families, a text message will be sent.

In addition, messages will be posted on the JCC website [www.jccnj.org](http://www.jccnj.org). In case of emergency, **please do not call the Camp Office**. All phone lines need to be kept free (if in service) for township and other emergency management communications.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

If a situation calls for evacuation from our campsite, the JCC campers will be taken across the street to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood YMCA. In the event of an emergency, this information will be broadcast to the camp population via text message and posted on our camp website and Facebook.

### **Emergency Pick-up**

If camp buses will not be in service and campers must be picked up at camp, the staff will not release a camper to anyone other than parents or the individuals listed on the emergency contact portion of the camp health form.

### **Parent Delays**

If an area emergency prohibits parents from commuting home on time by the end of the camp day, all JCC campers will be taken to the JCC building in Scotch Plains. Camp is prepared (with three nonperishable meals/person and bottled water) to keep all campers comfortable. All staff will remain to supervise

campers with activities and care after camp hours.

### **Security at Camp**

At the JCC, several security measures will be in effect each and every day as follows:

- All JCC members must swipe their JCC Member key card upon entering the building.
- Any visitors to the JCC must sign in at the Member Services Desk and show photo ID upon entering the JCC building before receiving a visitor's pass.
- Any camp visitor at the JCC building must first sign in at the Member Services Desk and wear a visitor's pass. They must visit an area in camp by being escorted by a camp staff member.
- At the JCC, all exterior doors are locked with the exception of the main entrance. Only camp staff that have entry swipes may gain access to the JCC building via exterior doors (other than the main entrance) from the campsite, playground and outdoor pool.
- At the JCC, professional security guards will be in place during the camp day.
- Staff shirts and nametags will identify all staff members each day.

### **Supervision and Safety of Campers**

Camp Yachad establishes clear protocols for camper supervision, taught to camp staff during pre-camp orientations and reinforced throughout the summer. These include bus safety, abuse prevention, Internet safety and pool safety. Camp Yachad staff supervision ratios range from 5:1 camper-to-staff ratio in day camp to 7:1 camper-to-staff ratio in travel camp. These ratios are more robust than NJ state regulations. Staff members are required to do frequent head counts and are trained to strategically place themselves around our campers during transitional times and busy activities.

The JCC works closely with our insurance carrier, The Redwoods Group, to ensure that our policies and procedures are in line with industry best practices. Redwoods also provides online safety training courses which are required of all camp staff prior to the beginning of camp. The JCC conducts criminal background checks for all camp staff age 18 and older.

**SIGNING IN AND OUT OF CAMP (DROP-OFF/PICK-UP)**

Any camper arriving late or being dismissed early must be signed in or signed out at the Camp Office window. Parents are not permitted to bring their child directly to the group or pick them up from their group. Travel parents are not permitted to bring their child directly to a trip or to pick them up from a trip.

**NEW this summer – if you will be picking up your camper early, please be prepared to give your attendance PIN, located on your camper’s profile, to the office staff for security purposes.**

## TRANSPORTATION

### **Bus Spirit**

Camp Yachad offers door-to-door bus transportation for campers entering a 3-year-old program or older. Camp begins and ends on the bus at Camp Yachad, where bus counselors follow a weekly curriculum to keep campers engaged throughout the ride. At the end of the week, campers in Yeladim, Megalim, Sabra, Olim, Tiyulim, Na’arim, Chalutzim, JPAC, MSC and LIT compete for the “Golden Cup” award. This prestigious honor is handed out to different buses throughout the summer who display the most spirit (*ruach*), best decorations, songs and so much more.

### **About Durham School Services Bus Company**

All Durham vehicles are equipped with seatbelts and radios. Car seats are not permitted on the camp vehicles. Durham School Services Bus Company has an outstanding safety record, and all drivers have passed a criminal background check and drug and alcohol test.

### **Before the Camp Season**

Practice bus runs are **Sunday, June 3** between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Please plan on being home to meet your bus staff. However it is not necessary to let us know if you will not be home at that time as all buses will need to stop at each home to identify camper addresses.

Buses and vans are supervised by Bus Counselors who are trained prior to camp.

### **During the Camp Season**

It will take the first day or two of camp before buses run on a consistent schedule. Please allow this grace period, be patient with the adjustments and have your campers ready on time for the bus.

It is the responsibility of a parent/guardian to make sure that an adult is present to supervise campers in the morning for pick-up and at the end of the day for drop-off. Please have campers ready and waiting for the bus to arrive in



the morning so that the route can proceed on schedule. Buses cannot wait an excessive amount of time for campers to board.

If there is not an adult present at the end of the day to receive a camper, the camper will be returned to the JCC and brought to the Late Stay program where a parent/guardian will have to pick the child up.

Please notify the transportation office if an unfamiliar adult will be present to receive your child on a given day. All communication must be handled through the Transportation Coordinator at the JCC and/or directly through the Bus Counselor via bus mail only. Do not leave notes posted to the door of your home.

We do not allow campers to ride home on different vehicles for "play dates."

If your camper will not be on the bus at dismissal, please send a note to the Camp Office via bus mail and make arrangements for an early pick-up.

**TIPPING STAFF**

Due to the fact that the JCC is a non-profit social service agency, Camp Yachad does not maintain a tipping policy. However, we have received many inquiries and realize that many parents want to tip their child's counselors. Tipping is not mandatory and is solely at the discretion of the camp parents.

**Tipping Guidelines (based on full summer five-day program)**

Senior Counselors	\$40 - \$50
Adult Assistants	\$35 - \$45
Junior Counselors/Assistant Counselors	\$30 - \$40
CITs	\$20 - \$25
Bus Counselors	\$10 - \$20
Extended Day Staff	\$10 - \$20
Travel Camp Staff Senior Counselors	\$10 - \$20
Travel Camp Unit/Assistant Unit Directors	\$20 - \$40

All tips should be handed in on the **Tuesday of the camper's last week in camp.**

**UNIT - SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

## MEGALIM

### **Offsite Activity**

Megalim campers will leave the JCC to participate in our gymnastics program. Gymnastics will be at Surgent's Elite on South Avenue in Westfield.

## MACCABI SPORTS CAMP

In addition to camp t-shirts, campers are given one reversible jersey.

Campers will need to wear sneakers to camp, as well as a camp shirt or their reversible jersey. Campers will need the following during the camp week: cleats, shin guards, baseball cap and glove, two swimsuits and two towels.

## SABRA

### **Offsite Activities**

Sabra campers will leave the JCC to participate in our gymnastics program. Gymnastics will be at Surgent's Elite on South Avenue in Westfield.

### **Optional Overnight**

Session one Sabra 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will have the option to go on a 24-hour overnight to the NJY Camps in Milford, PA **Tuesday and Wednesday, July 17 - 18**. The NJY Camps is a Jewish resident camp offering a variety of camp activities. Campers will get a firsthand experience of what sleep-away camp has to offer. More information will be sent home during the camp season.

## OLIM

### **Offsite Activity**

Olim campers will leave the JCC to participate in our gymnastics program. Gymnastics will be at Surgent's Elite on South Avenue in Westfield.

### **Social Behavior Contract**

Our Social Behavior Contract outlines the conduct we expect from all of our travel campers. Cooperative team behavior is required from everyone on a trip. You can find the contract, which must be signed in order for campers to travel with Camp Yachad, in your parent dashboard.

### **Camp Overnights**

Olim campers will have one overnight experience per session. One overnight will be at the JCC. If a camper is not willing to stay at the JCC overnight they will be able to participate in the earlier part of the evening and depart at 9:00 p.m.

The other overnight will be at the NJY Camps in Milford, PA. The NJY Camps is a Jewish resident camp offering a variety of camp activities. Campers will get a firsthand experience of what sleep-away camp has to offer.

More information on both overnights will be sent home during the camp season.

## JPAC

JPAC Downstagers (2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grades) will need a combination of clothing during the day. Campers may come to camp wearing their dance clothes (tank top, leggings or shorts) and sneakers. In their backpack, they will need to have a camp shirt, a bathing suit and towel, as well as their required dance shoes (ballet, tap and jazz).

JPAC Upstagers (5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades) should wear sneakers and dance attire. They also need to bring their required dance shoes (ballet, tap and jazz). No bathing suit is required.

## TIYULIM, NA'ARIM, CHALUTZIM AND LIT

### **Trip Information**

All detailed information for trips will be emailed on the Sunday before each week. This information will give specific details for each trip. For all overnights, a packing list and itinerary will be accessible through your parent dashboard on the forms page.

### **Social Behavior Contract**

Our Social Behavior Contract outlines the conduct we expect from all of our travel campers. Cooperative team behavior is required from everyone on a trip. You can find the contract, which must be signed in order for campers to travel with Camp Yachad, in your parent dashboard.

## AT-A-GLANCE IMPORTANT DATES

Bus Practice Runs	Sunday, June 3 • 1:00 – 4:00 p.m
Chaverim Parent Orientation	Thursday, June 7 Let's Take a Break/2s 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. 3s/4s 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Warm Up Camp	Monday, June 18 – Friday, June 22
Chaverim Meet the Staff	Sunday, June 24 Specific group times will be on a flyer in your child's backpack which will be delivered on Sunday, June 3.
Parent Orientation/Meet the Staff	Sunday, June 24
JPAC	9:30 – 10:15 p.m.
Na'arim	10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
Chalutzim	10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
Yeladim	11:45 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.
MSC	11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Megalim	12:45 – 1:30 p.m.
Sabra	1:45 – 2:30 p.m.
Olim	2:45 – 3:30 p.m.
Tiyulim	2:45 – 3:30 p.m.
Medications due at camp	Sunday, June 24 • 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
First Day of Camp	Monday, June 25
Camp Closed – Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> of July!	Wednesday, July 4
Last Day of Camp	Friday, August 17
Cool Down Camp	Monday, August 20 – Friday, August 25