

Camp Gan Izzy Parent Handbook

Welcome to Camp Gan Izzy!

We are very proud to be a part of the largest network of Jewish Day Camps in the world. Our goal at Camp Gan Izzy is to provide a fantastic summer of excitement and fun for all ages, a safe environment to explore, enhance creativity and make new friendships, all the while imparting strong Jewish pride. We create an overnight camp feeling, in a day camp setting.

Camp Schedule: As campers arrive, we always have a “morning activity” going to make the transition easier. During the day, campers enjoy age appropriate camp activities such as swimming, sports, baking, mad science, dance, crafts, drama and lots more! Throughout the week we have carnivals, treasure hunts, theme days and a very exciting Shabbat party and Challah baking on Fridays. Each Monday, we start the week with a special entertainer, such as a Mad Science Show or Magic Show. In addition, we hire a special person just to make sure that the staff is always supplied with games so the kids are occupied in a fun and positive way, even during lulls between activities.

Specialty Programs: We offer a daily Specialty Program that all campers participate in every morning for 1 hour. After every 2 week session, a new specialty can be chosen.

- Theatre Program: Creative and exciting program, concentrating on singing, dancing and acting, culminating in a one of a kind performance!
- Sports Program: Coaches from “The Force” will teach new skills and inspire your kids in basketball, tennis, soccer, football, and hockey.
- Art Program: Our qualified art instructor will challenge your child to create and express original masterpieces each session.

Click on this link to see our most updated camp calendar. It lists the trips, special days and many of our fun activities. www.solonchabad.com/campcalendar

GENERAL CAMP INFORMATION

Safety: At camp, our primary concern is safety. We keep track of where every child is at all times and have policies set in place to prevent harm. At the pool, in addition to Red Cross certified lifeguards, we have our staff strategically placed around the pool on guard duty, as well as our pool director.

Field Trips: Mondays are trip days for grades 5-7 only, and Wednesdays the rest of the camp goes as well. Your child will receive a camp T-shirt on his/her first day of camp. On trip days, please dress your child in the camp shirt, and send along socks. Transportation is provided by Solon Schools Transportation and campers are expected to display appropriate bus behavior.

On trips, we make sure to have a very low camper counselor ratio so that everyone is easily accounted for, and our camp shirts have the camp phone number on them. Please note that we do not allow campers to buy anything on trips, so please do not send along spending money.

Lunches: We are proud to offer an optional hot lunch buffet daily. Our menu is at this link <http://www.solonchabad.com/2962298> and we always have buttered noodles, fruits and vegetables in case a child does not like the lunch.

Please note: If you are bringing lunches from home, please be aware that we are a kosher facility and peanut free and therefore our policy is that no meat may be brought in, or anything with peanuts.

Swimming: Please pack a swimsuit and towel every day, aside from Wednesday. Even if the weather does not look promising, always send swim gear. We recommend applying sunscreen in the morning so it seeps into the skin and doesn't wash off in the pool. If you would like your child to reapply sunscreen after swimming, please send in a bottle labeled with your name.

All campers enjoy free swim, and we offer optional swim lessons for \$36 a session. The campers receive 6 lessons per session, and are divided into groups based on level. On your child's last day of camp, you will receive a report detailing which skills were covered.

Birthdays: We are happy to celebrate your child's birthday at camp! No outside food or candy may be brought, but you can order a treat through the camp office. You will find the information on that on our website, under the tab Birthday Treats, or at this link: <http://solonchabad.com/media/pdf/1013/GTWc10134229.pdf>

Electronics/Toys: Our policy is that no toys/electronics can be brought from home, including fidget spinners, cell phones, i-pods etc. Firstly, we take no responsibility if something gets lost or damaged. In addition, we believe that camp is a place to be social, interact with your peers, and get involved in the activities, and we don't want anything to distract the kids from enjoying themselves.

Medications: If your child has an allergy or medical condition that requires the camp to administer medication, please be sure to fill out the Medication Form online and to bring the medicine and form to Mushkie or Irina on the first day.

Lost and Found: Please, please label all belongings. We do not take responsibility for any lost or damaged items but we do keep a box of Lost and Found and parents are always welcome to come take a look.

Bring to camp:

- Bathing suit and towel (labeled) every day aside from Wednesday
- Water bottle (labeled) to keep at camp all week and take home each Friday.
- K & 1st graders – Please send a full change of clothes in a labeled bag to keep at camp.
- Please send your child in shoes with backs, preferably closed toe.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off: Drop off begins at 8:50 am. Pull up your car to the Gan Izzy Entrance (back door) and drop off at the curb. You are welcome to walk your child inside - just park in main lot & come in the Gan Izzy Entrance. If you come before 8:50 am, please wait with your child until drop off begins. You always have the option of signing up for Early Care which begins at 8:00 am.

Pick up: Your car will be directed to the pickup line and a staff member will come to your window to take the names of the campers you are picking up. The line begins at the front door and winds around to the back lot. We start dismissing at 3:20 or when the line of cars starts backing up traffic on Harper Rd. If you would like, you can park your car and walk around to the pavilion.

Early Pick Up: Park and walk in the front door to sign your child out in the office.

Late Drop Off: Park and walk your child into the front entrance to the office. Do not leave your child alone until they are accounted for by their counselor or a staff member.

Before Care: Begins at 8:00 and is \$5.00 per day. Drop off at the back Gan Izzy entrance as usual, and wait in your car until your child is buzzed in the back door.

After Care: All children that are signed up for Aftercare are taken to a classroom upstairs at 3:30 pm. They are served a snack and then enjoy activities both inside and outdoors. To pick up your child, please park in the regular lot, and come in the front door to the Main office. You will be asked to sign your child out each day. After care ends at 6:00 pm and is \$10 per day.

You may add swim lessons, lunches, or extended care at any time by paying online, or calling into the office 1 week before you would like to start. Here is the link:

https://solonchabad.com.clhosting.org/templates/articlecco_cdo/aid/922972/jewish/Online-Payments/lang/en

Payment Policy: All camp fees must be paid in full before camp begins. Any cancellations of sessions, swim lessons, lunches or aftercare must be made 2 weeks in advance. If changed with less than the 2 weeks' notice, you will receive 50% reimbursement. To switch a session with less than 2 weeks' notice the fee will be \$100.00.

COMMUNICATION:

Facebook: We are constantly posting pictures on our Gan Izzy Facebook Page so request to be a friend so you can see what's going on! The name of the group is **Camp Gan Izzy Solon**.

Contact Info: If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email Mushkie Galperin at ganizzy@solonchabad.com or call the office at 440 498 9533.