

# Camp Gan Izzy

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## *Parent Handbook*

### **WELCOME TO CAMP GAN IZZY!**

We are 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.

During the day, campers enjoy age-appropriate camp activities such as swimming, sports, baking, 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. Twice per week, we have special entertainers such as magicians and animal shows come in, and we invite a DJ for a dance party once in a while too! In addition, we hire a special person just to make sure that the counselors are always supplied with games and activities so the kids are occupied in a fun and positive way.

See the [Camp Calendar](#) for dress up days, visitors, and many of our fun activities.

### **GENERAL CAMP INFORMATION**

#### **Safety:**

The safety of our campers is the number one priority of every member of the Camp Gan Izzy staff. We have a low camper counselor ratio and CPR trained staff on site. In the case of illness or injury, parents are notified by phone/email.

At the pool, in addition to Red Cross certified lifeguards, we have our staff strategically placed around the pool on guard duty. We also hire a pool director to maintain a calm and controlled atmosphere and ensure that campers and staff are following safety procedures at all times.

We have an exceptionally well trained staff. Before the summer, counselors attend comprehensive training sessions that define our expectations of safety, judgment, and leadership. In addition, our staff members meet every day after camp for continued training on group dynamics and problem solving skills through role-play scenarios. When problems arise, staff members are trained to seek immediate assistance from directors.

**Conduct:** We expect responsible behavior from all campers. In building a community, we ask that children take responsibility for their actions and for ensuring the safety of others. If improper, irresponsible, or unsafe behavior occurs, parents will be notified, and if our staff deems it necessary, they will be asked to leave the program.

**Lunches:** We are proud to offer optional hot lunches daily; see our [Lunch Menu](#) here. The lunches are quite popular, and we always have buttered noodles, fruits, and vegetables on the side. Lunches can be added at any time by paying [here](#).

*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. Our pool is heated so 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 after swimming, please send in a labeled bottle of sunscreen.

**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 by filling out the [Birthday Form](#).

**Electronics/Toys:** Our policy is that no toys or electronics may be brought from home, including 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 that pertains to camp, or a medical condition that requires the camp to administer medication, please be sure to fill out the [Care Plan](#) and to bring the medicine to Mushkie BEFORE camp starts.

**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 look.

**BRING TO CAMP**

- Bathing suit & towel
- Sunscreen (for reapplication later in day)
- Water bottle (that is easy to refill)
- Sweater (if chilly)
- Lunch, if packing (no peanuts or meat)
- Wear shoes with backs
- Change of clothing to keep at camp (for Kindergartners)

**Please label ALL items!**

**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. If you come before 8:50 am, please park your car and wait with your child in the parking spot until the drop off line opens.

**Pick up:** We start dismissing at 2:50 pm. Your car will be directed to the pickup line and a staff member will come to your window to take the names of your children. Please state the first and last names clearly. The line begins at the front door and winds around to the back lot. PLEASE make sure to pull up as much as you can; if there is space in front of your car, then keep driving! Don't stop until the line stops even if your child is on the sidewalk. They will meet you when the entire line of cars stops; this is important to be able to load many cars at once.

**Pick up/Drop off during camp hours:** Park and walk in the front office to sign your child in or out. Do not leave your child alone until they are accounted for by a staff member.

**Extended Care:** Before Care begins at 8:00 am and After Care ends at 6:00 pm. Drop off your child at the Gan Izzy entrance as usual, and wait in your car until your child is buzzed in.

At the end of the camp day, all children that are signed up for Aftercare are served a snack and then enjoy free play and optional activities. To pick up your child, please park and come in the front door to the main office to sign your child out each day.

To sign up for extended care, fill out this [form](#).

### PAYMENT POLICY

All camp fees must be paid in full 2 weeks before camp begins. A session may be switched or cancelled 2 weeks in advance. After that, we reimburse 50% for a cancellation and charge a \$100 fee to switch sessions.

Online payments can be made [here](#) for adding a session, lunches, or extended care. Cancellations less than one week in advance will not be reimbursed.

### COMMUNICATION

**Email:** Our main form of communication with parents is through email. Please let us know if your child is registered for camp and you have not been receiving emails.

**Text:** We have a texting service for sending camp reminders to parents. If you are not receiving those, reach out to [ganizzy@solonchabad.com](mailto:ganizzy@solonchabad.com).

**Facebook:** We are constantly posting pictures and notifications in our Facebook group, **@Camp Gan Izzy Solon**. Request to join the group to see what's going on at camp!

### **Contact Info:**

For immediate assistance during camp hours, call Wendy at the office: 440 498 9533

For all other inquiries, contact Mushkie Galperin: 440 498 9533 or [mushkiesolon@gmail.com](mailto:mushkiesolon@gmail.com).