

# Welcome to the Hopewell Experience!

## 2024 Day Camp Information Packet

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We are so excited that you have chosen Camp Hopewell for your camper's Day Camp experience! **This handout will help you prepare yourself and your camper for their time here at camp.** We hope you will read all of the information carefully. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

One of the most beneficial parts of the camp experience is **community building**. Your camper will be in a group with camp counselors and other children their age. Each person will contribute to the community by keeping track of personal belongings, hanging wet towels and bathing suits, and helping with other tasks. **Prepare your camper to expect to compromise & make group decisions with other campers.**

# WELCOME



# Setting your Camper up for Success

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## **Forms (*due two weeks prior to arrival*)**

Your Camper Health Form is one of the most important tools we gather. It is imperative for the health & safety of your camper that this form is completed & up-to-date. If you are unsure if it is completed or not, feel free to reach out to our registrar.

To complete this form, you will need to provide the date of your camper's last tetanus shot, contact information for their providers, and any pertinent past medical history including allergies, surgeries, and past treatments that we should know about.

## **Fees (*due thirty days prior to arrival*)**

All Day Camp fees will be due **April 28, 2024**. If this will be a problem, contact our registrar to set up a payment plan.

## **Visit the Camp**

Coming to visit Camp before your camper's time at Hopewell can be beneficial for both the camper and the adult. We hope you'll plan to join us for an annual Open House on **March 3, 2024!** Come and go from 2 - 5 PM for an opportunity to tour the campsite with our directors and potential camp counselors. You can ask any questions you may have, or just enjoy seeing the facilities and hearing about what your camper might do while at Hopewell! If you can not attend the Open House, we are happy to set up a tour for you with one of our staff members. Feel free to reach out to our registrar.

## **How to Pack**

For each day of Day Camp, your camper will need to bring a bag or backpack labeled with their name that contains **a change of clothes (including shoes), a bathing suit, towel, water bottle, and sunscreen**. We recommend that you label everything. Be sure to check the weather & send rain gear when appropriate.

## What NOT to Pack

Do not send new or valuable items, such as personal sports equipment that you do not want to risk getting lost or damaged. Please know that Hopewell cannot be responsible for loss or damage to any personal items brought to camp. Also, do not bring electronics such as MP3 players, games, cell phones, tablets, etc. Campers are not allowed to have pocket knives or other weapons, as well as alcohol, pets, drugs, tobacco, e-cigarettes, or vapes. Please do not send cash with your camper. Make a store deposit, if you like.

## Lost & Found

Items found at Camp will be kept for **three days**. Each day of day camp starting with the second, we will have a table at check-out with the previous days' lost items. Take a look at it to see if any of those items belong to your camper. If you find that your camper has left something after the last day of camp, reach out to our registrar to arrange pick up or mailing. Items requested to be mailed will be done at the expense of the person making the request. Unclaimed items are donated to charity after **3 days**.

## More on Camper Health...

For health and safety, we must have an up-to-date health history, date of your camper's last tetanus shot, and a signed release for emergency treatment of every camper. If your camper is generally healthy, a signed physical exam is not required. If your camper is of fragile health and/or under the continuing care of medical professionals for a condition requiring medications, special technology, treatment, or management, please reach out to us directly, so we can work together to best accommodate the needs of your camper. We might ask that you send us a health exam from a physician with health care recommendations and instructions.

If your camper will require daily medication while at Day Camp, these will be turned into the Health Care Manager at check-in. All prescriptions must be in their original container with clear instructions for dispensing them. The resident Health Care Manager will dispense medications according to doctor's orders. All campers will see the Health Care Manager or Camp Nurse during check-in with an adult for Health Screening.

Non-prescription drugs that may be administered in our Health Center by the Health Care Manager or the Camp Nurse include: Acetaminophen (Tylenol); Ibuprofen (Advil); Antacids (Tums, Pepto Bismal); Imodium AD; Allergy/Sinus medication (Benadryl, Sudafed, Tylenol Cold); Cough Syrup (Tussin); Antibiotic Ointments; Hydrocortisone Cream; Cleansers (Alcohol, Hydrogen Peroxide); Eye Drops; and Ear Drops (Isopropyl Alcohol). If there are any restrictions for your camper, please list these on the health form.

If your camper develops a condition while at camp that needs the attention of a doctor, we will notify their emergency contact.



# What to Expect During Camp

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## ***Arrival (Check-in begins at 8:45 AM each day)***

If you arrive before 8:45 AM, please wait outside of the gate. We do a drive-thru drop-off process, similar to the car-rider line at school. **On the first day of camp**, you will receive a car sign with your camper's name on it, a name tag for your camper and a camp t-shirt. Please display the car tag each day during pick up and drop off to help expedite the process. You will drop off your camper with their counselors at the pavilion. If a camper has not arrived by 9:15 AM, a call will be made to determine if/when they will be brought to camp.

## ***Departure (Check-out begins at 3:45 PM each day)***

Each afternoon, you may pick-up your camper beginning at 3:45 at the pavilion. Pick up lasts until 4:00 PM. **Be sure that whoever is picking up your camper has a Hopewell issued car sign and is listed on the authorized pick up list.** Any person arriving to pick-up after 4:00 PM will be charged a late fee. If at any point during the week you need to add someone to your child's authorized pick-up list, you can do so by bringing a note by the primary contact on the account. Proper ID is required to pick up all campers.

## **Early Pick-up and Late Drop-off**

Ideally, every camper would be able to be at Hopewell for the entire duration of their camp session; however, we recognize that this is not always possible. We are happy to arrange early pick-up and late drop-off with you, but prefer that you contact us prior to the week of camp, so we can adequately plan. Please contact our registrar to confirm early pick-up or late drop-off arrangements.

Early pick-up is least disruptive to the camper and their cabin group when it takes place during or after lunch (between noon and 3:00 PM). Early pick-up will not be arranged after 3:00 PM.

## Day-to-Day Camper Life

Campers will participate in Bible Study each morning, and may enjoy strenuous active games, indoor and outdoor activities such as swimming, games, archery, canoeing, and more! Please let us know of any restrictions that your camper may have in any activities typical for camp. If your camper typically swims with a puddle jumper or arm floaties, feel free to pack these to come to camp with them.

If inclement weather should arise while your camper is at Hopewell, staff will follow the safety procedures established and taught during staff training.

## Food at Camp

Our food service director and her team work hard to prepare lunches for your campers while at Camp. We are happy to accommodate dietary restrictions and allergies; however, we also recognize that some children feel more comfortable eating food from home. Because of this, you are welcome to choose to pack a lunch for your camper any day of camp. The menu will be communicated prior to camp, so if your camper does not prefer one of the meals, you can plan accordingly. **Labeled** packed lunches will be collected at drop-off each day and stored in our refrigerator in the Dining Hall. If you have any questions about this, please let us know! We also provide one morning and one afternoon snack each day at camp.

*Camper applications are accepted without regard to ethnicity, race, church denomination or religion, on a space available basis in the order they are received with deposit. We will discuss with parents the best way to serve a child with disabilities.*

## FAQs

**How is the health of my camper cared for?** The most important thing you can do to equip us to care for your camper is completing the Health Form in a timely manner. A temperature screening will be done each day of camp during check-in. All medications brought to camp are kept safely in the Health Center and dispersed by the Health Care Manager. Our Health Care Manager works under the direction of our Camp Physician who is on call. Baptist Memorial Hospital is only 15 minutes away. Basic accident and illness insurance is carried on all campers. All camp staff is certified in first aid and CPR. Parents or guardians will be called in the event of any illness or injury that warrants the attention of the doctor.

**How are staff selected and supervised?** All counselors are 18 years old or older. Most have completed one or more years of college. All prospects complete a written application, are interviewed by a director, and undergo a background check. For some positions, like lifeguards, we require proof of certification and require a skills test performed at Hopewell. For other positions, such as Challenge Course Lead, we require special training and review skills on our course. All staff is required to attend two weeks of counselor's training. Our ratios for staff supervision of campers are as follows: Ages 6-9 is 1:6 (staff to camper) and ages 10-16 is 1:8. A director is at camp during all camp sessions. Staff is observed daily. The directors conduct formal performance reviews.

**Are scholarships available?** Many churches support the camp experience by paying some or all of the fee for their members. Hopewell has a scholarship fund to give additional support when needed. Call or email [info@camphopewell.com](mailto:info@camphopewell.com) to request a scholarship application.

**Can my child take swimming lessons?** Swimming instruction is not a part of our camp program. Campers will be taught safety procedures for the swimming areas. They will also be orientated on swimming procedures, but will not be given formal lessons. A "Swim Check" is performed for each camper at the beginning of their first swim time to assess their abilities to insure a most safe and enjoyable experience for them.



Any Questions?

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