# MOSHOLU DAY CAMP PARENT HANDBOOK 2018











UJA Federation of New York

United Neighborhood Houses

## WELCOME PARENTS!

We are excited that you have selected Mosholu Day Camp! Selecting a summer program can be a very difficult decision for parents and children, but we you have made a great choice. It is our pleasure to welcome your family to our camp community, and we look forward to having you with

us for a long time to come. Camp is a special place and your camper will have a wonderful experience with us. Whether you are new to Mosholu Day Camp or a seasoned camper, we are pleased to welcome you to the 2018 summer camp season.

This handbook should help guide parents/ caregivers through a successful and safe summer. The handbook offers helpful hints and tips that answer many of the guestions that you may have about our policies and



procedures. Please take the time to read and review the handbook and discuss it with your child. If you have any questions or comments, please call the Camp Office at 718-882-4000 or email us at mosholudaycamp@gmail.com

#### WHO ARE WE

Mosholu Day Camp is run under the auspices of the Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, a member agency of The United Neighborhood Houses of New York, UJA Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and The Boys and Girls Clubs of MMCC. It has been offering camping services for over 75 years. Mosholu Day Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association, the only nationwide organization that accredits all types of organized camps. We are licensed and inspected by the New York State Department of Health. And we are proud to serve all people regardless of race, sex, class, religion, culture or ethnic group.

#### AGENCY MISSION

The MISSION of MMCC is to improve the lives of Bronx residents with our dedication to humanitarian efforts; reaching out to a rich tapestry of cultures, building gateways to success through quality service and programs, building confidence, sustainability and working toward self-sufficiency for the individuals we serve.

#### **CAMP MISSION**

We at the Mosholu Day Camp are committed to contributing to the growth of a child as a whole. We believe by exposing the child to new experiences, he/she will develop physically as well as mentally and socially. We feel safety, both physical and emotional, are above all, is our main priority, with camp style fun running a close second. The camp community is unique in that it offers a child an organized, democratic like society in a rural setting, away from our campers' homes. We believe that staff should provide the community with safe and proper leadership in a relaxed open setting, without the stress and daily pressures of school or home life. Our staff will be nurturing role models who provide guidance and leadership to all children on a daily basis. We believe the way to develop a successful camp community is to develop a strong program, and surround it with strong support staff that enable it to come alive. The camp will provide campers with meaningful relationships, positive role models, and a fantasy like summer experience.

#### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF MOSHOLU DAY CAMP**

1 – Provide a safe, fun, camping experience for all campers.

- All staff will ensure that camp policies are followed and campers' safety is maintained at all times.
- Program will provide fun engaging activities with consistent rules in a safe environment.
- All campers and staff will participate together in all group activities and encourage each other to play safe and play fair.
- 2 Provide opportunities to grow, discover, and build confidence.
  - Campers will participate in getting-to-know-you games during the first week of each session.
    Camper will participate in at least two activities per week to promote self-esteem, which could
  - Include challenge course, cookouts, Instructional swim, or individual group choice time.
    Staff will provide the campers with positive comments and encouragement throughout the
  - Staff will provide the campers with positive comments and encouragement throughout the day.
  - Campers will participate in a range of recreational activities that provide new experiences.

# 3 - <u>To help each camper appreciate the natural surroundings and take an active role in the</u> stewardship of our environment.

- Each camper will participate in at least one nature session while at camp.
- Each camper will attend at least one campfire during their stay at camp.
- Each camper will have the opportunity to participate in some nature activity, in addition to the nature session, which could include one of the following: hiking, mad scientist, or other appropriate activity.
- At the beginning of each session, the campers will discuss as a group the importance of taking care of their campsite and the type of things that they need to do such as picking up litter, staying on trails, not picking flowers, respecting the environment.

# 4 - <u>To provide situations for each camper to set goals and challenge themselves while</u> discovering his or her own skills and abilities.

- Each camper will participate in at least two activities during the week that will personally challenge the camper such as sports, hiking, outdoor skills, arts and crafts or swimming.
- Campers will have the opportunity to learn to swim and gain comfort in the water, while understanding and developing personal water safety skills.
- Campers will learn at least one new skill while at camp and feel more comfortable about trying new things.

#### 5 - To allow each child to experience group living and a sense of community.

- Each camper will participate in at least one all-camp activity which could include Olympics, Apache Relay, Pow Wow or Carnival Day.
- Each camper will participate each session in at least one all-unit activity which could include a trip, swim, cook out, late night or overnight.
- Each camper will be placed in a group with other campers. Within these groups, campers will be part of a community-making group decisions and keeping their group area clean.
- Each camper will participate in a democratic decision-making process in each group during group choice activities.
- Each camper will make at least three new friends by the end of the session and will remember at least one new friends name after camp after camp.

#### 6 – <u>To enrich campers camp experience with academic skills and support year around core</u> <u>academic learning.</u>

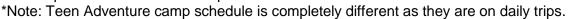
- Campers will participate in social studies skills learning through hands on Native American culture activities once a week.
- Campers will participate in math learning skills through hands on experiential education activities once a week.
- Campers will participate in science learning skills through hands on nature activities once a week.
- Campers will participate in speaking and listening skills through group dynamics.

#### **CAMP STRUCTURE**

Campers are transported to our Harriman State Park campground where sounds of fun invade the camp every morning at approximately 9:00am and quiet each evening at about 4:00pm. For 2 to 8 weeks, campers in kindergarten through 10th grade learn new skills, play, go on trips, build self-esteem, and make new friends. They participate in an array of traditional camp activities such as instructional and recreational swimming, music, art, trips, archery, boating, dance, sports, drama and many more. There are several nights during the summer that groups have late night BBQ's and/ or overnight activities. A highlight at the camp is beautiful Lake Cohasset. Our 4 swim bays, deep water area, water trampoline and boating program allow the campers to cool down and enjoy the summer.

#### SAMPLE CAMP SCHEDULE

- 9:10-9:25am Pow Wow
- 9:30-10:15am Instructional Swimming
- 10:20-11:00am Camp Activities
- 11:05-11:45am Camp Activities
- 11:50-12:30pm Lunch
- 12:35-1:15pm Camp Activities
- 1:20-2:00pm Camp Activities
- 2:05-2:45pm Recreational Swimming
- 2:50-3:35pm Camp Activities / Snack
- 3:40-4:00pm Cabin/ Bathroom/ Cleanup
- 4:10pm Bus Departure



#### UNITS

Each Unit is led by a Unit Leader and a Head Counselor for each grade. The Units are divided according to the child's age & grade that your child will be attending in September once they return back to school. The younger the campers are, the more counselors we will assign to supervise them.

#### THE STAFF

Our counselors are trained to identify and meet the needs of individual children, as well as to develop spirited and cohesive groups. Many members of our staff have grown up in the camp, and are thrilled to pass down the camp traditions by offering encouragement and motivation throughout the summer. Our staffs are place in extensive background checks and trainings during the off season and are the ideal role models for your children. The majority of our general counselor staff members are 19 years old and in college. The rest of the staff is made up of specialists and activity leaders whom are college graduates with degrees in areas of child care, social work or other related fields.

The Supervisory staff members are experienced educators and child care workers who take on leadership roles throughout camp. These individuals work with the children on a day to day basis, and are the people who will be available to work with parents on the camper's individual safety and fun.



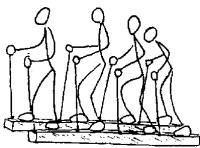
# **COMMUNICATION**

Communication is extremely important so we asked all parents to contact the camp office at (718) 882-4000 with any concerns, questions, comments, complaints. This includes absences from camp, delays at pick up and/ or emergencies. You can also contact the camp office by email at mosholudaycamp@gmail.com.

#### **CONTACTING STAFF**

If you would like to speak with your child's Unit Leader or Head Counselor, you can call the camp office and the messages will be forwarded to them. The Unit Leader will call you back as soon as possible.

There are times that you may want to give or will receive information from your child's counselor or Unit Leader. You



can give it to the bus counselor in the AM with your child's name, group name and the Unit Leader or counselor name. If there is any information the counselor or unit leader would like to send home, they will send it with the bus counselor in the PM drop-off. Please don't hesitate to speak with the Unit Leader and Head Counselor at any time. We are here to assist you and make the summer a great experience for all of our campers.

#### CALENDARS

Every parent/ guardian should receive a camp calendar for Session One and Session Two. On the calendar you will find important information about upcoming events. The calendar will inform you of upcoming late-nights, overnights, and special theme days for the month. Please be sure to check the calendar and be prepared. If we have a special dress up day, we would want your child to be involved!

#### NEWSLETTERS

We send home weekly newsletters that summarize our weekly events and allow you to see what is coming up in the future. These newsletters are a great source of information and will be email weekly.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA

We recommend that all parents utilize the social media accounts for mass communication. We will relay updates, bus changes or delays through Twitter. Please be sure to activate push notification so you receive messages instantly. Follow us at <a href="https://twitter.com/CountryDayCamp">https://twitter.com/CountryDayCamp</a>

#### **CAMP ADDRESS & OFFICE HOURS**

Mosholu Montefiore Community Center (Camp Office) 3450 Dekalb Avenue Bronx, NY 10467 Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 6:00pm - (718) 882-4000

Mosholu Day Camp (Campground) @ Harriman State Park 261 Arden Valley Road Southfields, NY 10975 Monday thru Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm - (845) 351-2020



## **CAMPERS HEALTH & SAFETY**

Prior to sending your child to camp, your child's medical, supplementary health information form and emergency contact information form must be completely filled out and on file. In order for us to provide the highest quality service for your child, we must have all necessary information in our records. We will not accept a camper at camp without all (3) forms on file, (medical, supplementary health information, and emergency contact forms). This is not an option. It is a state requirement and allows your child a safe experience at camp.

#### **Emergency Contact Form**

It is extremely important that the camp office receives all of your updated contact information. If something should occur involving your child while he/she is in our care, we will need to contact you. Please make sure that if you are not available, your emergency contact person is someone who will be available to help. Remember your child's safety and well-being is our primary concern. Please do not give us the phone number of a person that lives far away or will be unable to come and pick up your child in an emergency. If emergency numbers change during camp, please notify the camp in writing immediately.

#### Medical Information Form

Every child attending camp is required to have a medical form on file. The New York State Department of Health has strict regulations prohibiting children from attending camp if they do not have a medical form completely filled out,



**dated, stamped and signed by a doctor.** Under no circumstances are campers allowed to attend camp until they have submitted a completed medical form to our camp office. Medical forms must also be signed by the parent as well. Please be sure to complete both sides of our medical, so your child does not miss one day of the summer program.

#### Supplementary Health Information Form

Mosholu Day Camp is required by New York State Law to maintain a record of meningococcal meningitis vaccination response for each camper, signed by the parent/guardian. Also, please be sure to read and give/ or not content for camp staff to apply topical ointment if your child has a wound or bug bite in the treatment of basic first aid and to consent for your child to apply sunscreen. If your child takes any medication prescribed by a doctor, please make sure to list them all in this form.



#### Mosholu Day Camp Parent Handbook 2018

#### **MEDICATION**

If your child is to receive doctor ordered medication, you must prepare the child to take the medication by themselves when at camp. The camp will not store or administer any medication. All medication including epi-pens must be self-administered.

Please Note: Any and all medications MUST be written on the child's medical form.

<u>Asthma Pumps</u> - We are asking parents to supply the child with an asthma pump that will stay in the child's bag at all times. We are requesting that the pump be in the camp bag to serve as a precaution just in case the child has an episode on the bus while traveling to or from the campgrounds.

<u>Sunscreen</u> – If you wish, you can send your child with sunscreen. You may also want to teach your child to apply sunscreen and to ask a counselor for help with it.

<u>Bug Spray</u> – If you send your child with bug spray, please keep the insect repellent in the original container, labeled with your child's name.

#### SICK

If your child is sick in the morning before camp, please do not send him/her to camp. It is extremely hot and uncomfortable and your child will feel better with rest and care at home. It is also important to understand that your child can get the other campers and staff members' sick. Sometimes it is best to take a day, so that their bodies can rest and recharge and the campers can enjoy the rest of the summer. Parents should notify camp if their child has been exposed to a contagious disease such as pink-eye, head lice, chicken pox, etc.



#### **SERIOUS ILLNESS / INCIDENT PROCEDURE**

If your child is ill or has sustained an injury, our staff is prepared to handle it. In the case of sickness, we will escort your child to the infirmary and the nurse or EMT will call you to notify you of the circumstance. If your child is too sick to continue the camp day, we will contact you and discuss your coming to camp to pick your child up.

In the case of an incident, our camp nurse or EMT will evaluate the situation. If it is necessary to take your child to the hospital, we will contact you and discuss the situation. Whether it is serious or not, our staff will send home a note telling you about the situation and what we thought. If you feel that the child should be checked out by a medical professional anyway, please let us know, as we attempt to keep accurate records of all situations that occur in our care.

If the injury is serious, we will make every effort to call you and talk with you through our decision making process. We can definitely take the child to the closest hospital, but in certain circumstances it might make more sense to have you come and pick up the child, or meet you at another location. It is essential that we have your updated contact information at all times for this process to work.

Often parents treat late nights and overnights as time off. Please remember that children get sick or hurt during these events as well and that it might be a good idea for you to remain available by phone. If you are going to be unavailable, please send a note designating a person who we can call in such circumstances.

# **TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION**

Transportation is the backbone of the day camp program. Campers and staff need to arrive to and from camp each day in a safe and timely manner. Parents should make sure that they are familiar with the exact location of the stop before the first day of camp. Parents will receive a Transportation Letter with pick up/drop off times, and designated stop before camp starts. Please allow some additional time during the first week of camp as we adjust to the schedule, and drivers get to know their routes.

#### **BUS POLICY & PROCEDURES**

It is Mosholu Day Camp policy to use only fully licensed and insured companies. Buses must meet the following standards:

- Padded seats front and rear
- Working two-way radios
- Clean and in good repair
- Working seat belts

- Trained licensed bus drivers
- First Aid kit onboard
- Fire extinguisher onboard

Each bus has an assigned bus counselor to sign campers in and release them at the end of the day to the person(s) you have designated. They also ensure the use of the seat belts and maintain safety onboard.

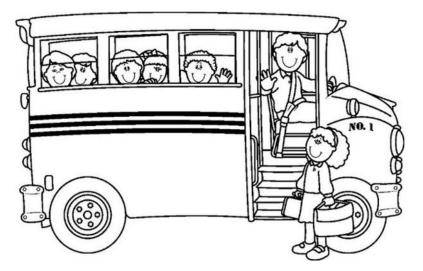
#### ABSENCES

If your child is not going to attend camp for the day please report his/her absence by calling the Camp Office at 718-882-4000

#### **PICK-UP**

The bus will stop at the assigned time at each stop. It cannot wait for more than a minute or two, as it has to pick up campers at a number of different locations. The bus counselor will

be in front of the bus, checking in campers. Please make sure to sign in your child with the bus Parents are not counselor. permitted on the bus due to our insurance and the camper's safety. Any issues should be addressed to the bus counselor who will in turn involve the supervisory staff who can call you to discuss. The bus cannot wait for late campers. Once the bus doors close and the bus is in motion, it cannot stop. Parents who are late should not attempt to stop it or ask to open the door. Late campers



can be brought directly to the next stop or call the camp office. While on the bus heading to camp, campers sing and play games. Although it may seem like a long ride to parents, the campers enjoy it. Once at camp, all the buses pull on to the basketball court, where they park and the children get off and head to the camp square for morning Pow Wow.

#### **DROP-OFF**

In the afternoon, the buses arrive at the designated stop at the assigned time (as long as we don't hit any traffic). If the bus is stuck in traffic for any length of time, we will make every effort to post the situation on Twitter. We can NOT call each individual parent.

At the bus stop, parents approach the bus and sign out each child with the bus counselor individually. Please note, any individual signing out a camper must be over 18 years old. Any children who are not picked up remain on the bus and the bus will sit for 3 minutes past the time of expected arrival. If the bus is already running late, they cannot sit for the extra 3 minutes. At that time the bus counselor contacts the camp office and awaits instructions whether to leave or stay. The office will attempt to contact the parent and decide whether or not to wait. The bus may be sent on and will return to the stop after the run is complete or drop off the campers at the camp office.

#### - Teen Drop Off/ Sign-Out

Please note, all teen campers over the age of 12 years old can sign themselves out and walk home alone or from the bus drop off at the end of the day. The bus counselor does not wait for the parent/guardian of teen campers who are over 12 years old to be present at the bus stop. Sunshine teen campers may have a parent pick-up with sign out if requested.



- Drop Off On Late Nights

There are several late night activities during the camp season. These dates are already noted on the calendars. Notice will also be sent out in our weekly newsletters. In the event of a 1 or 2 hour delayed arrival, we will follow our exact same schedule, just 1 or 2 hours later. (For example, in a two-hour delay, if your everyday drop off time is 5:45 pm, it will be 7:45 pm on this nights.) No child or teen camper can sign themselves out on Late Nights. This is for your child's safety.

#### LATE PICKUP

Late pick-ups are recorded in sign-out book, with the time arrived of actual pick up. After 6:00PM late charges will be issued at the cost of \$20 for the first 15 minutes late and after 6:15PM its \$1 a minute thereafter. If you know you are going to run late call the camp office and please have an emergency contact available to pick up the child. The bus counselor has a copy of all authorize pickup person, parents have given permission to pick up. The bus counselor will check ID and verify with the camper if the person is unfamiliar. No child will get off the bus unless the parent/ guardian comes to sign out the camper or the camp has written consent to allow the camper to sign themselves out. Please note that asking a counselor to babysit if you cannot pick up the child may seem like a good idea, but what if the counselor is absent that particular day? In addition, any staff asked to function as a babysitter, may not do so while on camp time, performing staff responsibilities.

#### **BUS CHANGE REQUEST / NEW PICKUP PERSON**

We cannot make any last minute changes. Any requests to change buses during the summer must be made in writing at the camp office and the change will not go into effect for 48 hours, to ensure that all rosters are updated and changes are communicated to all related staff. Children will only be allowed to board buses that they are assigned to in order to accurately account for campers' whereabouts, and to ensure that there is adequate space on the bus.

At any point during camp, you may add an additional person to pick up your child from his/her bus stop. The change must be made in writing at the camp office and the change will not go into effect for 48 hours. No stranger (relative or friend) appearing at a stop will be given custody of a child without your written permission. Even if your child can recognize or tell us that the person is okay, we will not release them without proper written consent.

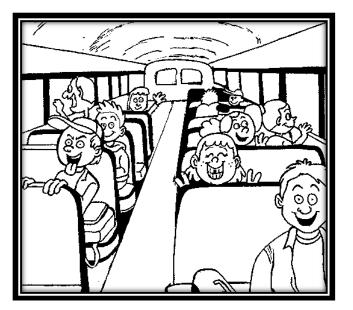
#### **BUS RULES**

Our goal is to provide safe, dependable, and convenient transportation for our campers. To assist us in our safety efforts, please discuss the following bus rules with your camper(s) prior to the start of camp. These rules are posted on each bus and enforced for the safety of all of our campers, staff members and drivers.

# MOSHOLU DAY CAMP BUS RULES

**BUS RULES** 

- 1. Follow all directions given by the Bus Counselor.
- 2. Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- 3. Keep seat belt fastened at all times.
- 4. All campers will be assigned seats.
- 5. No eating or drinking on the bus.
- 6. No radio playing, loud noises or shouting.
- 7. No bullying, horseplay, or fighting.
- 8. No hands, arms, legs or heads are allowed out the window.
- 9. No feet or items of clothing may be in the aisles at any times.
- 10. Be courteous to other campers.
- 11. No hazardous articles or weapons.
- 12. Animals or pets are not allowed on the bus.
- 10. Only assigned passengers are allowed to ride the bus.
- 11. All Camp rules apply on the bus.



# **BEHAVIOR POLICY**

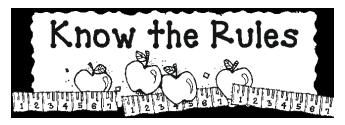
#### CODE OF CONDUCT

Inappropriate behavior is unacceptable at camp. We try to keep the environment a special place and expect our staff, campers and parents to join with us in making it a place that is both physically and emotionally safe for everyone. Campers are expected to behave in such a way that no person in the camp feels threatened either physically or emotionally.

The following is a list of offenses that will not be tolerated.....

- 1- Campers cannot behave in such a way that it causes a substantial risk to, or results in the injury of themselves, staff members or other campers.
- 2- Campers cannot name call, bully or threaten either physically or mentally any other camper or staff member.
- 3- Campers cannot participate in use of profane language.
- 4- Campers cannot partake in any behavior of a sexual nature that makes any staff or camper feel uncomfortable.
- 5- Campers cannot be in possession of any illegal article, including weapons or drugs.
- 6- Campers cannot be in possession of alcohol, tobacco, or fireworks of any kind.
- 7- Campers cannot participate in any illegal activity, not limited to, but including stealing or vandalism.
- 8- Parents/ guardians of campers, as well as staff members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that provides a physically and emotionally safe environment for our campers, so they are expected to follow this code of conduct as well.
- 9- Campers are expected not to wear inappropriate clothing, that includes, but are not limited to: revealing clothing, graphic shirts, and loose pants.
- 10- Parents and campers are expected to follow all camp rules and policies including those on the bus, at the stop, on trips or on the campgrounds.

Even though these rules and expectations will be reinforced when camp starts, it is our expectation that our parents and guardians will have taught and reinforced these rules prior to the start of camp.



Our camp staff has been trained to work

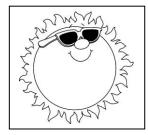
with your children. When your child's misbehavior becomes consistent, you will be informed. Before we bring any situation to your attention, we will give your child an opportunity to improve the behavior.

- First we speak with the child and a behavior notice may be sent.
- **Second** the child speaks with the Unit Leader and a behavior notice will be sent.
- **<u>Third</u>** the parent is informed At this point, the parent may be called in for a conference and potentially the child may be suspended from the program.

If the behavior persists, the child can be removed from camp without financial reimbursement to the camper or camper's family.

There is also a strong emphasis on children who use profane language. Consequences may vary depending upon the severity of the incident that the child is involved in. There is no refund if your child is removed from camp.

# **CAMPERS NECESSITIES**



Please remember that this is camp, and as much as we know you want to have your camper look their best with new sneakers, pants, shirts, etc., remember they are going to get dirty. Please take this into consideration when you dress your camper. Be prepared for them to look like they had a lot of fun during the course of the day. Clothes will get dirty! This is the sign of a fun camp day.

**Label your camper's clothing clearly with first and last names!** We have tremendous amount of lost and found and we cannot guarantee that everything that your camper loses will be found and returned; however, labeling the clothing will help us. Label everything, including underwear!

Please be sure to purchase and clearly label a pair of water shoes for walking from the group bunk to the swim area. The children will have cubbies in the bunks, so they can keep their swim shoes there for the summer. When you are at home, please teach and practice with your camper to take off their clothing and place it in their camp bag in an organized fashion. Our counselors are available to assist your camper but they should also learn to do it on their own.

#### **BEFORE LEAVING HOME EACH MORNING**

Each morning, please make sure your camper:

- is wearing shorts and a t-shirt, as long as weather permits
- is wearing socks and sneakers (not sandals or any open toe shoes)
- has sunscreen on him/her
- has gone to the bathroom just before he/she leaves home
- is well enough to attend camp for the day

#### **ITEMS TO BRING TO CAMP**

All items sent to camp must be clearly labeled with the camper's full name

All campers must bring to camp every day the following items:

- (2) two bathing suits.
- towel
- plastic bag for wet items
- water shoes (for walking from bunk to the swim area & to leave at camp)
- an extra pair of underwear and shorts
- hat
- camp bag to hold all the camper's items

#### **DO NOT BRING**

- glass containers or bottles
- valuable items (e.g. portable video game, electronic devices, jewelry etc.)
- cell phone WE HAVE EXTREMELY LIMITED SERVICE ANYWAY.
- personal sports equipment
- toys, trading cards
- pets We have a NO pets/or animal policy allowed on campgrounds and on the bus.

We cannot be responsible for lost items, so please do not send anything of value to camp. These items do not belong in camp. We appreciate your understanding of this matter.

#### LUNCH

The camp provides a lunch and a snack for all campers, however, if parents wish to send their own lunch or snack, we will collect your campers lunch and refrigerate it. We recommend sending a lunch that will not spoil in the heat. Avoid sending milk or mayonnaise enriched food as the food will be on the bus on very warm days and certain foods do spoil easily. Please include an ice pack and/or frozen drink in the lunchbox to help prevent spoilage. Please be sure to label your camper(s) lunchbox with their full name.

#### **RAINY DAY**

#### What happens if it rains?

If you find that it is raining in the morning, this may not indicate that it will do so when we get to camp. The campgrounds are equipped with enough indoor spaces, so that we can conduct program. If the weather breaks, we will go back to regular camp activities including swim. Units that are on trips will have alternate plans to take them to an indoor facility for the day. On rainy days it is a good idea to send your child with a waterproof poncho. Always send your camper with swim suit and towel even if it is raining, we always hope to go swimming.

SWIMMING

Our swim program has proven to be beneficial in teaching children to swim. Before children are allowed in the water, they are tested and put into appropriate swim groups. Each child receives a wristband when entering the swim area; the wristband indicates what level the child is able to swim. These wrist bands stay at camp.



Blue wristbands	-	indicate a beginner swimmer
Orange wristbands	-	indicate an intermediate swimmer
Red wristbands	-	indicate an exceptionally good swimmer

Regardless of their level, we will continue to teach campers how to improve their swimming skills.

Your camper will be swimming twice a day. The first swim period is instructional, and the second period is recreational. He or she will need two bathing suits each day. Children should not be sent with any type of snorkel or mask to camp. We do however, allow children to wear goggles that cover the eyes only. The swim area is guarded by Certified Life Guards in addition to all of the counselors and supervisors who watch over your children daily. The swim program is an important part of our camp, and your child being prepared, is an essential part in them learning or improving their swimming skills.

#### TRIPS

For those units that travel, parents should use discretion when giving spending money to your children. They do not need to have a large amount of spending money to have fun. Children, who bring too much money, tend to play with it and lose it. On late night trips we will send a notice home indicating how much money we recommend you send, based upon what we think your camper would need for that day. Please note, campers should wear their Mosholu Day Camp t-shirt on certain trip days. Be on the look out for these camp t-shirt days on the weekly newsletters.

#### LATE NIGHTS

Late nights will occur during the summer. Our travel groups will have various dates where children will be brought back to the center at predetermined times from their trip. It is important that parents are patient and assist us in keeping every camper safe. We require all campers to be signed out. Notice will be send out before the late night with more information.

There are other late nights that might involve travel and non-travel groups bringing campers home on a 1 or 2 hour delay. On these days, the children will participate in extra activities at camp and a late night BBQ. Our busses will be stopping at the regular stops exactly 1 or 2 hours later than usual. Parents must be on time at the stop, or a late fee will be assessed. All campers who attend camp that day will be staying on the late night, since no busses will be leaving at regular time. Please be sure to read the weekly newsletters for these delays.

#### **OVERNIGHTS**

When we send children on overnights, we are in constant contact with both the supervisor and the agency. Should any problem occur we will be able to inform you immediately. After an overnight, campers will be dropped off at their designated bus stops the next day. Notices will go home a few days before this event and overnights are always scheduled in advance and should be on the season calendar. On overnights, campers will need to bring a sleeping bag, sleepwear, extra clothes and swimsuit for next day, a sweater and toiletries.

Overnights at camp are optional and children can go home on regular busses rather than stay, but extended trip overnights are not optional. Any child, who does not choose to go, must stay home as we have no alternate program for that unit.

#### **ACTIVITIES – ELIGIBILITY**

All activities that are performed at camp will provide the appropriate supervision, ratio rate, the needed training as well as knowledge of the rules of the game and the safety precautions that are needed during the activity. These include but are not limited to: sport games, arts and craft, drama, nature, boating, and swimming.

#### **VISITING DAY**

There will be two Parents Visiting Day during camp, one in each session of camp. Parents visiting day are only for our youngest units only, Norwood and Young Blazers. More details will be included in a separate correspondence.

When visiting camp, parents will be held to the same code of conduct as campers and staffs. (See section on Code of Conduct, page 10). Please remember that alcohol, smoking, drugs, or weapons of any kind are forbidden on camp premises. We also ask that you leave your personal sporting equipment and pets at home.

We will permit a limited numbers of parents to drive up in their own car on visiting day. Those parents granted permission to park their vehicle on campgrounds do so at their own risk. The camp is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen property.

#### We hope your child will have a safe, healthy, happy summer at







Building communities one life at a time

Mosholu Montefiore Community Center 3450 Dekalb Avenue Bronx, NY 10467 Phone: 718. 882.4000 | Fax: 718. 882.6369 | www.mmcc.org

### SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR CAMPERS

Dear Parents:

We share the concerns of many families and schools regarding the dangers associated with young people's use of social networking platforms. In general, our camp views social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snap Chat, etc), and personal websites positively and respects the right of campers to use them as a medium of self-expression. There are always risks associated with social media though, that range from online sexual solicitation to cyber bullying to the damaging of one's own reputation, camp admission status or job prospects by posting inappropriate information on personal pages. Please discuss this with your child and encourage him or her to share any inappropriate postings by or about members of our camp community to the camp director, while also following appropriate guidelines themselves when referring to the camp, its programs or activities, its campers, and/or staff, in any social media site.

#### Mosholu Day Camp's policy is that:

- 1. Campers should be respectful in all communications related to or referencing the camp, its staff, and other campers.
- 2. Campers should not use obscenities, profanity, vulgar language or post pictures of other campers.
- 3. Campers should not use social media sites to harass, bully, or intimidate other campers or staff. Behaviors that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to, comments that are derogatory with respect to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, color, or disability; sexually suggestive, humiliating, or demeaning comments; and threats to stalk, haze, or physically injure another person.
- 4. Campers should not use social media sites to disparage the camp, other campers, or staff.
- 5. Campers should not use social media sites to discuss engaging in conduct that is prohibited by camp policies, including, but not limited to, the use of alcohol and drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment, and bullying.

Any camper violating any portion of this Social Media Policy will be subject to an immediate conference meeting with their parents and camp administrator and potentially dismissal without financial reimbursement to the camper or the camper's family. Consequences may vary depending upon the severity of the incident.





