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FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# Williams YMCA of Avery County 2021 Summer Camp Parent Information Handbook

Thank you for registering your child for our 2021 Summer of Fun! We are so excited to spend the summer with you. Our staff is working hard to ensure that we have the best summer ever. This parent information handbook provides information to help you and your child have a successful summer experience. Please read everything carefully, and let us know if you have any questions. We're looking forward to a SUMMER OF FUN!

## CAMP GOALS

We know how tough this last year has been on your child, which is why we strive to give them some normalcy this summer. Our goals of summer camp are as follows

**-CONNECTION:** Our staff will lead activities and games that foster connection and friendship between campers.

**-GROWTH:** Our staff will provide lessons and activities in reading, math, STEM, and character development to allow your child to continue growing throughout the summer and build up their foundational skills.

**-ENGAGEMENT:** Our staff will provide countless opportunities for fun, laughter, and hands on activities this summer to allow campers to feel fulfilled.

## BASIC CAMP INFORMATION

Camp will be held from Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, through Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, and hours are from 7:30 – 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Your child cannot be dropped off before 7:30 AM, and must be picked up by 5:30 PM. Each late pick up will be documented by the Program Director, and after 3 late pickups, your child will not be allowed to return to camp.

Camp will be held at 3 different locations on our campus, and your child's specific drop off/pick up location will be communicated to you before camp starts. At pickup time, children will only be released to parents/guardians, and those designated as authorized pickups. A photo ID will be required at the time of pickup.

Our camp will provide a combination of traditional summer camp activities and academic enrichment opportunities in order to allow your child more opportunities for learning. Our academic enrichment time will typically be in the morning, Monday through Thursday, and will be from 9:00 – 11:00 AM. We are working with Avery County Schools on these lessons and they will be standards based, hands on, grade level activities to help your child grow in reading, math, and science.

On top of that, we will be swimming, doing arts and crafts projects, participating in character development, cooking and baking, hiking, playing sports, and going on field trips. Our field trips will be announced closer to the start of camp and will be communicated via email.

## COMMUNICATION

Things will be communicated via email on a weekly basis, and we will be using a Summer Camp REMIND group for updates as necessary. Please ensure that we have the correct email address on file, and ensure that you are checking your email on a regular basis. We will provide more information on the REMIND app closer to the start of summer. It is your job to ensure that you are receiving communication from Camp Director.

## THEMES

Each week of camp will be themed and will allow campers to participate in targeted activities, games, and learning opportunities centered around the theme of the week. There may be a time where you will have to provide your child with something for an activity for that week, and we will communicate that to you in advanced.

- Week 1 – June 7 – 12 – “Let’s Make Friends”
- Week 2 – June 14 – 18 – “Color Wars”
- Week 3 – June 21 – 25 – “Mad Scientist”
- Week 4 – June 28 – July 2 – “Summer Stars and Stripes”
- Week 5 – July 5 – 9 – “Animals All Around Us”
- Week 6 – July 12 – 16 – “Wet and Wacky”
- Week 7 – July 19 – 23 – “Superheroes of Summer”
- Week 8 – July 26 – 30 – “Travel Around the World”
- Week 9 – August 2 – 6 – “Spirit Week”

## WHAT TO BRING AND WHAT TO WEAR

Your child must dress appropriately for the outdoors, play, and the weather. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child has everything they will need for a full day at camp.

- All shoes must be closed toed. Sneakers are highly recommended, as well as bringing an extra pair of socks.
- A cap or hat for sun protection is highly recommended.
- All belongings should be marked with the child’s name.
- An extra pair of clothes is highly recommended.

### **DAILY CHECKLIST:**

Each day, your child should bring:

- Sunscreen / Hat
- Water Bottle
- Mask / Cloth Face Covering (recommended to bring an extra)
- Weather appropriate jacket
- Swimsuit and towel (on days we are swimming)
- Small backpack
- Closed-toed shoes and extra pair of socks

Breakfast and lunch will be provided by Avery County Schools on most weeks; however, there will be a few weeks that you will need to provide a packed lunch. Those weeks will be communicated with you in advanced. Camp will provide a daily snack; however, you are welcome to bring a snack for your child.

On days we are swimming (typically Tuesday’s and Thursday’s, but these days will be communicated the week before), your child will need a bathing suit, towel, and plastic bag for their wet clothes.

## WHAT NOT TO BRING

Please do not bring the following items to camp:

- Cellphones
- Electronics of any kind
- Money
- Weapons of any kind

The YMCA is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken items. Please don't send anything that you wouldn't want to get lost.

## MEDICAL TREATMENT POLICIES

1. Accident Insurance – Participants are responsible for their own accident insurance when using the YMCA and when participating in YMCA programs off-site.
2. Medication – The YMCA does not normally administer any medication and will do so only when directed in writing by the child's parent or guardian. Medications must be in original containers with written instructions for dispensing. Do not send medications with your child. A parent or guardian must give the medication to program staff. Notice: With respect to giving EpiPen and/or Glucagon injections to children participating in its programs, the YMCA will comply fully with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For those children who may require EpiPen and/or Glucagon injections, or who have other special medical needs, the YMCA will meet with the parent(s) or guardian(s) of such children and, through dialogue, strive to develop a mutually acceptable plan designed to address the medical circumstances of each individual child. The YMCA will not administer, or be responsible for administering, medications that have to be inserted into body cavities.
3. Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure – I understand that, while my child is in the care of the YMCA, if a child is exposed to a body fluid on broken skin or mucous membrane (e.g. splashing in mouth or eye) from another child, the YMCA will contact the parents of both children. They will explain what has occurred, and provide the name of the attending physician of the source child to parents of the exposed child. If a staff member has a blood or body fluid exposure from a child, the YMCA will provide the name and telephone number of the child's attending physician to the staff member. I have read and agree with the statement and specifically authorize the YMCA to release the name and telephone number of my child's physician and a description of the event to the parent or guardian of any child who is exposed to blood or body fluid or to any staff member who experiences such an exposure from my child.
4. Emergency – In the event of an emergency in which the parent/guardian or listed emergency contacts cannot be reached, the YMCA will contact emergency medical personnel and, pending their arrival, take those actions that are in the YMCA's judgment to be in the best interests of the child.

## BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS AND DISCIPLINE POLICIES

**It is important that staff maintain good order and discipline in all programs. Top objectives in all YMCA programs are safety and a positive atmosphere for learning and developing social skills. The YMCA makes every effort to help children understand clear definitions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior.**

**The YMCA does not condone and will not permit:**

1. Corporal punishment
2. Ridiculing, threatening, using an inappropriate loud voice

3. Leaving children unsupervised
4. Use of profanity

**A child's behavior is expected to be consistent with the following:**

5. Use appropriate language at all times.
6. Cooperate with staff and follow directions.
7. Respect other children and staff, equipment and facilities, and yourself.
8. Maintain a positive attitude.
9. Stay in program areas—running away is not acceptable.
10. Participate successfully within the YMCA staff-child ratios specific for each program.

**YMCA Discipline Policy:**

11. If a child is unable to comply with the behavior expectations, a conference will be held by the program director with the child. The parent(s)/guardian will be notified.
12. If after the above meeting the child is still unable to comply with the behavior expectations, the program director will set up a conference with the parent(s)/guardian. A behavior contract will be established and signed by the parent(s)/guardian and the program director.
13. If the child's behavior continues to be disruptive and/or unsafe, the child will be subject to suspension or dismissal.
14. Failure of the parent(s)/guardian to attend conference(s) and cooperate will subject the child to suspension or dismissal.

**Behaviors which may result in immediate suspension or dismissal include, but are not limited to:**

15. Any action that could threaten or pose a direct threat to the physical/ emotional safety of the child, other children or staff. Prohibited conduct may include, but is not limited to, abusive jokes, insults, slurs, threats, name calling, bullying or intimidation.
16. Fighting
17. Possession of a weapon of any kind
18. Vandalism, destruction, or theft of YMCA property or property of others
19. Sexual misconduct
20. Possession of or use of alcohol. Possession of or use of controlled substances unless under the prescription of a doctor.
21. Running away
22. Biting

**COVID-19 POLICIES**

At the Williams YMCA of Avery County, we are taking all necessary precautions to keep your children and our staff member safe. Both staff members and children are required to take a temperature screening before entrance, and masks are worn by staff and children at all time. We participate in frequent hand washing and our groups are separate as much as possible. We promote social distancing as much as possible while in Summer Camp.

We ask that you wait until your child has taken their temperature check before leaving campus. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater, you will be notified and asked to take your child home for the safety of themselves and others.

**I have read, understand and agree with all policies and procedures as stated in this document and have discussed the expectations of behavior with my child. I understand that the YMCA has the authority to revoke my child's right to participate in YMCA programs for behavior which is not in keeping with the mission of the YMCA or for failing to follow the policies/procedures of the YMCA.**