

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Welcome



Guide

COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN

The Town of Minto is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and quality Summer Day Camp Program. Our program is designed to provide children with a variety of fun experiences that promote a healthy, active lifestyle. We ensure that our staff will provide an environment that promotes healthy child development.

Program Environments for children will be:

- Secure and safe
- Caring
- Stimulating
- Accessible
- Considerate of personal space and special needs
- Welcoming to all cultures and abilities

Program Activities for children will:

- Encourage co-operation, friendship and fun
- Provide children with opportunities for input, involvement and choice
- Provide opportunities for active participation and reflection
- Incorporate varied learning styles and developmental stages
- Value and incorporate cultural, racial and linguistic diversity

Summer Day Camp Leaders will:

- Ensure all children are treated with respect, honesty and trust
- Employ positive behaviour management methods
- Consistently model appropriate behaviour
- The Children's Programs Coordinator will continually evaluate the program and the staff's leadership to reflect the changing needs of the camp and make improvements as needed

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need to register my child for camp?

Camp is run on a first-come, first-serve basis. It is required that registration is done prior to the Summer Day Camp. The forms for registration can be found on our website under the Child Care tab.

How old must my child be to attend camp?

Your child must be no younger than in their 5th year, and no older than in their 11th year. If your child receives the support of an educational assistant in school, one-on-one care is required at camp. The Town of Minto Summer Day Camp has an Inclusion Leader, which can be utilized for a maximum of 2 weeks per camper who requires one-on-one support.

What time do I drop my child off?

Regular camp hours are 9am-4pm. However, we offer flexible drop off between 7:30am – 9:00am and pick up between 4:00pm – 5:00pm at no additional fee.

Where do I drop my child off?

Two locations are available for your child. You may register your child for either the Palmerston or Harriston Summer Day Camp. Both Camps are at the Arena. A sign-in, sign-out policy is in effect at camp. The person dropping the child off or picking them up must sign them in or out of camp and be preapproved to do so.

What if I am late to pick up my child?

If you are going to be late (past 5pm), please call the Town of Minto office before 5pm at 519.338.2511 ext 239. A late fee may be applied.

What if my child is going to be absent?

If you have signed your child up to be at camp and they are going to be absent, please let us know by calling the Town of Minto at 519.338.2511 ext 239 or emailing: camp@town.minto.on.ca. We take attendance daily and will call home if a child is absent. You may still be responsible for paying for camp the day of the absence if adequate notice was not given.

What if someone else is picking up my child?

Please provide us with a note if someone who is not a parent or caregiver of the child is picking them up from camp. This note should include the name of the person who is picking the child up, the date and your signature signifying your permission. If someone comes to pick up your child without prior written consent, the Children's Coordinator or Summer Day Camp Site Leader will contact you for verbal permission prior to releasing your child.

Can my child travel to and from camp alone?

Your child's safety is very important to us. An authorized parent or caregiver must pick up their children from camp. Written permission from a parent or caregiver is required to allow a child to leave camp alone.

What if I need to pick up my child during the camp day?

Call the Town of Minto at 519.338.2511 to make arrangements to meet your child's group at the designated meeting area. It is best to make arrangements ahead of time, as your child may be away from the main site in an activity and it may take some time for the camp to walk back and meet you. On the camp door will be a "You can find us at..." sign as well.

What if my child becomes ill at camp?

In the event your child becomes ill at camp, we will contact you to come and pick them up at the camp site. If your child is too ill to participate fully in all aspects of the program, please keep them home from camp. When a child is feeling poorly the last place they want to be is on a bus, outdoors in the heat, or around their friends who are busy having a good time.

What should I send my child for lunch?

Your child will be very active at camp- swimming, playing games, sports, walking, etc. Children need healthy lunches and snacks to fuel this high activity level. Therefore, greater quantities of food may be required than a typical school day. When you pack your child's lunch, please keep in mind their lunch will not be refrigerated, but there are microwaves available to use with the help of staff.

We strive to be a nut-free program.

What kinds of snack do you provide?

We provide an afternoon snack daily. You should send a morning snack for your child. The afternoon snack will be from a snack bin containing non-perishable food items such as: granola bars, apple sauce, pudding, etc. If your child has an allergy, please make us aware so we can provide snacks that pertain to your child's needs.

What should my child wear to camp?

Please dress your child each day in:

- Washable clothes that you don't mind possibly getting stained

- Fabrics that are cool and lightweight-it's a good idea to layer clothes, as mornings are often cooler than afternoons
- Running shoes for activities and sandals for activities that involve water.
- A hat and/or sunglasses for sunny days

How do I protect my child from the sun?

The best way to ensure protection from the sun is to wear sunscreen. Please send sunscreen that is labeled with your child's name to camp. We will prompt children to put on sunscreen before going outside and will also assist with the application if necessary. We will also plan activities so that children are not out in the hot sun all day.

How do I protect my child from insect bites?

Please send labelled bug spray with your child to camp. We do go cray fishing and for nature hikes where there are insects. We will remind and assist children to apply bug spray before departing.

What happens during unpleasant weather?

On rainy days, children will participate in indoor activities and we may or may not go swimming, depending on the severity of the weather. During extreme heat or smog conditions, our program is adjusted to include activities that require less exertion and are conducted indoors or shaded areas. Campers are reminded to drink plenty of water throughout each day.

When will my child swim?

We walk to the public swimming pool each day and attend public swimming from 1-2PM daily (weather permitting). Please pack a bathing suit and towel each day. Lifejackets are provided at the pools where staff will assist children with putting them on. Staff will then be in the pool with the children and the pools are guarded. Children must pass a swim test conducted by the lifeguard to swim in the deep end of the pool.

What if my child needs medication at camp?

Please fill out a medication prior to your child attending camp. All medications need to be in the original container with your child's name and date of prescription. If the medication is for emergency use (ex. Inhaler or epi-pen), please send it in a waist pack so that it can be carried with your child.

What if my child loses something at camp?

Please do not send valuable items to camp (money or electronics). To help ensure that your child's belongings return at the end of the day, please label your child's items. Any found items at the end of the day will be collected and placed in the lost-and-found box at the camp

site. You can look through this box at any time and claim your child's items. Items are held until the end of the summer, at which point unclaimed items are donated to children in need. The Town of Minto is not responsible for lost or stolen articles.

What rules must my child follow at camp?

- a) **DO NOT LEAVE THE GROUP:** Kids must not leave the group at any time or under any circumstances. Any child who leaves the group will have parents called for pick-up. Leaving is a zero tolerance policy.
- b) **RESPECT:** Kids must respect others, and understand that any bullying, racism, teasing or otherwise mean behavior will not be tolerated. Disrespect of Summer Day Camp property or that of our host sites will not be tolerated.
- c) **NO TOUCHING:** Hands and feet always remain to themselves
- d) **HAVE FUN**

How will my child be disciplined at camp?

Each site has a set of standard rules. All participants should be aware of these rules and the consequences of breaking the rules.

Minor Offence:

- a) Verbal Warning. The leader will explain what was done wrong and the appropriate behaviour.
- b) Time out or a special privilege is taken away (swimming, craft, game). Leader will explain appropriate behaviour to the child. An incident form will be completed.
- c) Phone call to parents by the Children's Programs Coordinator or the Summer Day Camp Site Leader

Major Offense: (i.e. fighting, constant swearing, running away)

- a) Verbal Warning. Explaining what was done wrong and the rules and consequences. An incident form will be completed.
- b) Phone call to parents by the Children's Programs Coordinator or the Summer Day Camp Site Leader

What qualifications or training does staff have?

All staff is required to be First Aid and CPR certified, obtain WHMIS training annually, vulnerable sector police check and be trained in the High Five program.

What is an LIT?

An LIT (leader in training) is a volunteer position. The LIT assists the leaders with various activities, including games and crafts. The LIT position can be used to go towards a student's high school community service hours.

Does camp have themed sessions?

Yes! Each week is a different themed week where we do crafts and activities pertaining to that week's theme. 2018 themes will be set by June 1st.

#1 – July 2nd – July 5th: AMAZING RACE

#2 – July 8th – July 12th: DISNEY WEEK

#3 – July 15th – July 19th: CIRCUS WEEK

#4 – July 22nd – July 26th: OLYMPIC GAMES

#5 – July 29th – August 2nd: BARNYARD PALOOZA

#6 – August 6th – August 9th: SEASONS WEEK

#7 – August 12th – August 16th: MAD SCIENCE

#8 – August 19th – August 23rd: DESERT OASIS

What is the cost and method of payment for Adventure Camp?

One day of camp is \$32/child. The weekly rate is \$145/child and \$130/child if there are two or more kids from the same family. Trips are extra and priced only to cover transportation and admissions costs.

Payment is required prior to your child attending camp. Full payment is required by the Friday prior (July 5th for the week of July 8th for example). We no longer accept payment at camp.

Can I still get the weekly rate even if my child does not come consecutively? Rather random days throughout the summer?

Weekly rates apply on a per week basis only. They are not transferable.

Under what circumstances will I be refunded my payment?

Minor changes without penalty to care required during a week will be accepted until noon of the Tuesday prior. For example, changes will be accepted up until July 2nd for the week of July 8th.

A refund or credit will be granted and calculated as follows:

- a) Program cancellation by Recreation Department – full registration fee
- b) Last minute cancellations – non-refundable
- c) Cancellations due to medical reasons – full registration fee

What trips is the camp going on this summer?

We are going on two day trips and going to the Norgan Theatre in Palmerston two times this summer. A limited number of children will be able to attend these trips. There are

permission forms to be signed in order for your child(ren) to attend our trips. This will be a first come first serve basis. The dates of these trips are outlined below:

Wednesday, July 10th: Norgan Theatre

Wednesday, July 24th: Bingemans

Wednesday, August 14th: Norgan Theatre – Harriston Camp will be staying in Palmerston for the afternoon!

Thursday, August 22nd: LaserQuest/THEMUSEUM

*Note: movies for the Norgan Theatre will not be decided until the week of camp, we cannot guarantee we will be able to see a particular movie.