

Parent Handbook

Summer 2025-5785



POLICIES AND INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS AND CAMPERS

Please keep this information sheet while camp is in session for easy reference.

If you have any questions, please direct them to Lizzy Vaknin by calling 604-266-1313 or emailing info@lubavitchbc.com

Camp Gan Israel operates for 6 weeks, from Wednesday, July 2, 2025 through Friday, August 8, 2025.

1. HOURS.

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday*.

Earliest drop off time is 8:50 am. *There is no supervision before 8:50.*

Pickup begins at 3:15 pm. Families who are consistently late to pick up their children will be charged a fee.

***THERE IS NO CAMP ON MONDAY JUNE 30th, TUESDAY JULY 1st or MONDAY AUGUST 4th.**

***On Friday, August 8 camp will end at 1:00 pm.**

2. LOCATION

Drop off and pick up for all divisions will be at **Vancouver Talmud Torah - 998 W. 26th Ave. in Vancouver** Kiddie Camp, Division A/B and CIT will remain at VTT; Adventure Camp will be located at Lubavitch Centre - 5750 Oak St.

If your Adventure Camp child is dropped off after 9:30 am, please drop off directly at Lubavitch Centre.

3. CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY.

There is no refund for cancellations or daily absences.

Cancellations due to illness will be refunded minus the registration fee and any applicable processing fees.

4. ADDING OR TRANSFERRING WEEKS (AND LATE REGISTRATION).

We cannot guarantee that we can accept requests to move weeks or add on weeks. If you are interested in doing so, please email the camp office and we will let you know if we can accommodate your request.

Any additions or changes made with less than 5 business days notice will be charged a \$25 administrative fee.

Please note that NO new registrations will be accepted after June 15th 2025, and scholarship applications will not be reviewed if submitted after May 31, 2025.

5. PARENT PARTICIPATION IN CAMP OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES.

Camp helps your child develop and promote their independence and self-reliance. At Camp Gan Israel, camp activities are designed for the participation of its campers, camp counselors, and administrators. This year we will not be allowing any parents or visitors into the building while camp is in session.

There will be volunteer opportunities; parents will be informed of these via email and the camp WhatsApp group.

6. CAMPER BEHAVIOR.

Camp Gan Israel fosters an inclusive atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation and courtesy between and among all campers and camp personnel. Disruptive, disrespectful and discourteous behavior will not be allowed. If circumstances warrant, campers may be removed from camp activities, or parents may be required to take their campers home. If misbehavior continues, the camp administration will reconsider the camper's enrollment.

7. CELL PHONES, TOYS ETC... AT CAMP

Cell phones, hand-held games and other electronic devices **are not permitted** at camp. If they are brought to camp, they will need to be deposited in the camp office during camp hours and can be picked up at the end

of the day. We cannot be responsible for any lost or stolen items. Please make certain that you have informed and instructed your children of these policies.

8. **EMERGENCIES.** Each camper's registration form provided Camp Gan Israel with parent contact information and supplemental contact information in the event of an emergency. We will be calling you or your emergency contact if needed. Please make sure that your emergency contact is aware of his/her responsibilities.

9. **CHANGES TO PICK UP**

Children will not be released to anyone other than the parents, or those authorized on the registration form, without prior permission. If a friend or other family member will be picking up your child, please call or text Chaya at 778-878-2025.

10. **CAMP SHIRTS and CLOTHING**

All campers and staff are required to **wear a camp shirt every day**. Camp shirts can be purchased before camp at the office, or during camp by contacting Chaya Rosenfeld. If your child comes to camp without a camp shirt, we will lend them a shirt for the day which will need to be washed and returned the next day. Repeated occurrences will result in a charge for the shirt.

Please dress children in clothing that can be worn without worry. Although we try to use washable paints and markers, some colours and materials do stain. Our staff cannot be responsible for stained or messy clothing.

Kiddie Campers should have a complete change of clothes kept in their cubby for the entire duration of their stay at camp. Accidents happen and we want children to be dry and comfortable at all times. If your child changes into their extra clothes, please replace them the next day.

11. **FOOD ALLERGIES**

We have some campers with *severe and life-threatening allergies*. **Sharing food is not permitted at camp.** Please make sure your child is aware of this policy.

12. **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

The camp facility is located in a very secure school building. All entry points (doors, gates etc) are locked during the day and night and can only be opened by a staff member with a key pass, or from inside the building. Additionally, there will be a **full-time security guard** at camp to ensure everyone's safety.

13. **VTT BUILDING ACCESS**

We are very lucky to be once again hosting Camp Gan Israel at Vancouver Talmud Torah School. We will be using the main entrance on W. 26th Ave; however, please help us to be respectful of the VTT staff who are working throughout the summer: if you need to come to camp during the day for any reason, whether to volunteer or to drop something off for your child, please **DO NOT** ring the bell for entry. Call or text Chaya Rosenfeld at 778-878-2025 to be let into the building. As well, please **DO NOT** call the VTT office for any camp-related information.

14. **LOST AND FOUND**

With our busy camp day, it is likely that some of the campers' belongings will be misplaced. Our staff do their best to keep each child's belongings together, and to return everything home at the end of the day. **Labeling** all of your child's belongings, as well as **sending only the minimum items required**, will make it a lot easier to ensure everything comes home with them! Of course, items will get left behind at camp. If you notice something missing, please let us know and we will do our best to find it and send it home with your child.

Lost and Found items will be set out at the carnival on the last day of camp, August 8. Anything not claimed at that time will be donated.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- **Phones/Electronics policy-No Electronics will be allowed during camp!** Children are encouraged to leave all phones and electronics at home. If children must bring a phone to camp, the phone will be locked up during camp and returned at carpool time. Camp Gan Israel is not responsible for any lost or stolen phones/electronics.
- **Toys/valuables should not be brought to camp. No games, toys or stuffies should be brought to camp.** The exception is Kiddie Campers, who may want to bring a lovey/special stuffy if they need for rest time. We are not responsible for toys being lost at camp.
- Please **label everything**. We will make every attempt to get all of your child's items home each day but **please help us by** labeling everything with your child's **first and last name**.
- Running shoes or comfortable closed-toe shoes should be worn to camp daily. Kids are **welcome to bring crocs/swim shoes** with them to wear during water activities but please do not wear them to camp.
- To help us maintain a healthy environment at camp please refrain from sending children to camp if they are showing any sick or flu-like symptoms. If they have had **a fever**, please **do not send** them until they are **fever-free** for 24 hours.
- **Sunscreen** – Please **apply sunscreen to your child in the morning** before you leave for camp. While we do not spend large amounts of time in direct sunlight, we do go outside throughout the day. Before campers go to water activities, they will reapply sunscreen. If you choose to send sunscreen to camp with your child, please make sure it is a **spray can** and not lotion.
- If you will be sending your child to camp **late** or need to pick up your child early, **please call** to let us know so we can arrange to have your child available when you pick him or her up.
Camp office: 604-266-1313
Camp Director cell phone (please do not call between 4:00 pm - 8:30 am): 778-878-2025
- **Check your email!** We will send a weekly email home on Friday afternoons with the next week's coming events and information. Let us know if you are not receiving these emails. Please add our email info@lubavitchbc.com to your priority list in your email provider to ensure that you receive our emails.
- For updates, reminders, and daily pictures, we will be communicating through **WhatsApp**. If you do not have the free app downloaded yet, we ask that you do so in order to stay up to date with camp information. **You will receive a link to join the Camp Gan Israel WhatsApp Group.**
- **Lunch and Snacks** - Lunch and snacks must be sent to camp daily with your child. All food that is sent to camp must be **meat-free and nut-free**. Please make sure your child has enough snacks and water to keep them energized throughout the day.

Camp Swim/Water Play Schedule is as follows:

If you're not sure - send a bathing suit!

Kiddie Camp, Bunk 1, Bunk 2, Bunk 3, Bunk 4 and VIP - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays- Water Slides or Water Activities ON SITE (No actual swimming, only water activities and water slides)

CIT - Monday, Wednesday and Friday (mornings)

Adventure Camp - Monday, Wednesday and Friday (afternoons)

CIT and Adventure Camp will swim at a private pool with a certified lifeguard

- **On swim days**, please send your child with a **bathing suit, towel, swim shoes, and sunscreen**.
- Adventure Campers and CITers who are not confident swimmers may bring a lifejacket or other floatie.

| Camp Divisions Cheat Sheet <i>These division names will be referenced in all communications . Please make sure you are aware of which division and bunk your child/ren is/are in</i> | |
|---|---|
| Kiddie Camp | Children entering Pre-3 and Pre-4 (JK). Born in 2021-2022. Must be toilet trained |
| Division A, Bunk 1 | Children entering Kindergarten (SK) |
| Division A, Bunk 2 | Children entering Grade 1 |
| Division A, Bunk 3 | Children entering Gr. 2 |
| Division B, Bunk 4 | Children entering Gr. 3 |
| Division B, Bunk 5 (VIP) | Girls entering Gr. 4-5 |
| Counselors in Training (CIT) | Girls entering Gr. 6-8 |
| Adventure Camp (ADV) | Boys entering Gr. 4-8 |

Important Contact Information

Chaya Rosenfeld, *Camp Director* Cell (778) 878-2025

Please do not call this number between 4:00 pm - 8:30 am unless it's an emergency

Lizzy Vaknin, *Office Administrator*

Office Phone – (604) 266-1313

Office Hours 9:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Camp Email: info@lubavitchbc.com.

Emails may be answered after hours.

Website: www.GanIsraelBC.com

Carpool Instructions

On the next page are visual instructions on how you should enter and exit the carpool line for both drop off and pickup. Cars **MUST** enter **through the alley on W. 28th Ave** and turn left into the carpool lane; any cars entering the carpool line directly from W. 26th Ave. will be asked to circle the block and enter correctly.

Drop-off:

Earliest dropoff time- 8:50 am

Drop off takes place in the drive-through area on W. 26th Ave from **8:50-9:25 am** for all divisions.

Parents are not permitted to exit the vehicle when dropping off their children. A staff member will escort the children from the car into the building. If your child requires additional time to say goodbye, we suggest coming on the later end of dropoff time, to avoid creating a backlog of traffic. Please follow directions of staff members when asked to wait or to proceed forward. When the car/s in front of you pull forward, please do so as well, to keep the line moving.

Pick-up:

Earliest pickup time- 3:15 pm

Pick up takes place in the drive-through area on W. 26th Ave from **3:15-3:30 pm** for all divisions.

In order to ensure a smooth pickup, **parents are not permitted to exit the vehicle when dropping off their children** (besides for buckling/seat belts). Any conversations or playdate plans must be made outside of our pickup area.

Please follow directions of staff members when asked to wait or to proceed forward.

When the car/s in front of you pull forward, please do so as well, to keep the line moving.

*If you need to drop off or pick up outside of these hours, please contact Chaya Rosenfeld at 778-878-2025 to make arrangements. When arriving outside of carpool hours, please find street parking in the area; we will not have access to the parkade and parking in the fire lane outside the main entrance on W. 26th Ave is **strictly prohibited**.*

Step 1

Turn into the alley behind
Cong. Beth Israel, on. W. 28th Ave



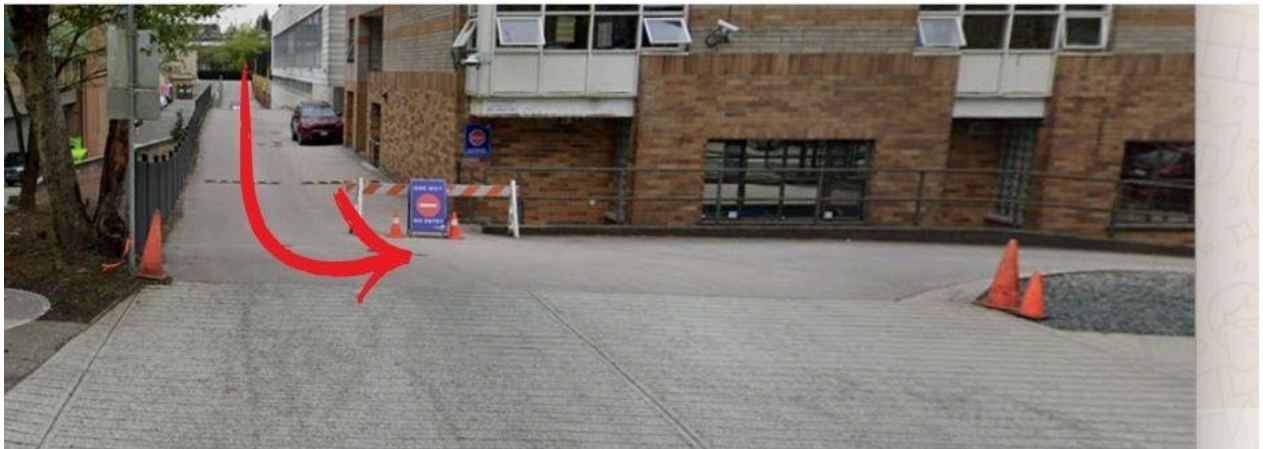
Step 2

Drive down the alley all the way until the end
(DO NOT enter the underground parkade)



Step 3

Turn left at the cone and proceed down the circular drive-thru toward the front entrance of the school



Step 4

Drop off or pick up your child from a staff member; exit RIGHT onto W. 26th Ave

