

The Phyliss and Irving Snider

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

Parent Handbook and Information Booklet



Vancouver BC
Summer 2016

A Project of Lubavitch BC

www.GanIsraelBC.com

[Facebook.com/GanIsraelBC](https://www.facebook.com/GanIsraelBC)

*Welcome to Camp Gan Israel of Vancouver,
where there is fun and friendship that lasts forever*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR DIVISIONS	3
DATES AND TIMES.....	3
FEES	3
CAMP LOCATIONS	3
BRING TO CAMP	4
SWIMMING.....	4
TRIP DAYS.....	4
NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE	4
CAMP ACTIVITY PROGRAM OVERVIEW	5
EXTENDED CARE - VANCOUVER	5
SAFETY	5
BUS SAFETY.....	5
MEDICATION.....	5
RICHMOND & TRI-CITY TRANSPORTATION TO VANCOUVER	5
TRANSPORTATION POLICIES AND SAFETY PROCEDURES	6
CONTACT US	6
GENERAL CAMP POLICY	7
PICKUP AND DROP-OFF INFORMATION	7
TRAVEL ROUTES	8
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	8

OUR DIVISIONS

VANCOUVER

Division A: Girls, entering grades K - 7
Boys, entering grades K - 3

Division B: Boys, entering grades 4 - 7

Kiddie Camp: Children entering Pre-3 & Pre-4
Children must be toilet trained

DATES AND TIMES

Division A & Kiddie Camp - Camp begins on Monday July 4 and runs through Friday August 12
Adventure Camp- Camp begins on Monday July 4 and runs through Friday August 5

In order for your child to fully benefit from the scope of available programs, we strongly encourage his/her participation in at least a 2-week session. However, you can register for as little as one week.

Divisions A & B : Camp begins daily at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 pm

Kiddie Camp: Camp begins daily at 9:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm

FEES

Divisions A & B

Full summer: \$800.00

1 Week: \$150.00

Kiddie Camp:

Full summer: \$660.00

1 Week: \$110.00

- Please note there will be an extra charge for some major trips. Wearing the camp shirt is mandatory on trip days. Shirts will be available for purchase at the camp office. Camp shirts are \$10.
- All tuition fees and registration forms must be submitted before your child can attend camp.

CAMP LOCATIONS

Division A and Kiddie Camp: The Vancouver Hebrew Academy, 1545 W. 62nd Ave, just west of Granville St. Please see page 8 for important pickup and drop-off instructions.

Division B: At the Chabad Lubavitch Centre, 2nd Floor, 5750 Oak Street, corner of 41st Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6M 2V9 (Counselors will be waiting outside) **Please do NOT drop off in the underground parking lot.**

BRING TO CAMP

Please send the following with your child daily: Sunscreen, a hat, lunch, a snack, and a drink. Please make sure that the lunch does not have any meat or nut products. On swimming days, make sure your child has a bathing suit, towel, goggles (optional) and extra sunscreen.

It is critical that no nut products or products containing even a trace element of nut be brought to camp. Please tell your child not to share their food with or take any food from other campers.

On trip days, children **must** wear a Camp Gan Israel T-shirt that will identify them as C.G.I. campers. Shirts are available for purchase at the office for \$10 each.

Kiddie Camp: Please send along a change of clothing to be left at camp.

SWIMMING

Please have all bathing suits and towels marked with permanent ink or labels. There will be no swimming from August 8-12 in observance of the "9 DAYS".

Division A: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Maple Grove Pool (unless otherwise noted)

Division B: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
The swim program will be at a private pool with a lifeguard.

Kiddie Camp: Monday & Thursday in Kiddie Pools on Camp Grounds.

TRIP DAYS

On trip days, children **must** wear a Camp Gan Israel T-shirt.

Division A: Tuesday & Thursday

Division B: Tuesday & Thursday

Kiddie Camp: Wednesday

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Each Friday your child will bring home a newsletter with interesting articles, as well as information about upcoming camp activities. This information will help prepare your child for upcoming trips and special events. Facebook will also be updated daily with important announcements, reminders and pictures. *Please be sure to "like" our page **Camp Gan Israel Vancouver** so you don't miss out on any important information.*

CAMP ACTIVITY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Camp Gan Israel was created to provide children with a comprehensive and meaningful summer program, while fostering growth individually and socially, in a Jewish atmosphere. The daily schedule includes an exciting mix of sports, field trips, special courses, and activities, designed to be educational, fun and conducive to building character and nurturing friendships.

A new program that was introduced a few years ago is "CLUBS". Clubs provide our campers with the opportunity to learn special skills from highly qualified professionals in varied fields. Some clubs this year include Martial Arts, Speed Stacking, Musical Theatre, Food Fun, and many more.

EXTENDED CARE - VANCOUVER

Mrs. Tova Sandbrand, an experienced childcare provider, is offering extended care between 4:00 – 6:00pm daily at her home located in Vancouver. Please call Tova directly for further information at 604.873.4475. Please notify the camp office once you have made arrangements with Tova.

SAFETY

Safety is our top priority at Camp Gan Israel. All counselors are trained in CPR and First Aid. The swimming pool is supervised at all times by certified lifeguards. When going on field trips, contact is maintained at all time with the camp office by means of mobile communication. As well, we have several safety measures employed on trips, such as assigned numbers for roll call, a rope for the younger children, and frequent checks. In case of a medical emergency, G-d forbid, parents or guardian (& family doctors, listed on the registration papers) will be contacted immediately.

BUS SAFETY

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING SAFETY RULES WITH YOUR CHILD

No standing on bus.

No arms or hands outside the windows.

No shouting.

Always listen to the bus driver and bus monitor.

Exit the bus only according to the instructions of the driver or monitor.

MEDICATION

Please include details in the registration form and notify the camp office if your child has to take medication during the day, while at camp.

RICHMOND & TRI-CITY TRANSPORTATION TO VANCOUVER

Division A, B & Kiddie Camp:

Camp Gan Israel provides daily transportation to and from the camp program in Vancouver for children living in Richmond. The charge for this service is \$10 a week per child. For children attending the **Kiddie Camp**, the charge is \$5 per week.

The bus will leave from and return to Chabad of Richmond, at the corner of Blundell & Railway.

Leave Richmond: 8:15 am

Return to Richmond: 4:35-4:45 pm

IMPORTANT!!!

We **DO NOT** provide return transportation for the children attending Kiddie Camp. Children must be picked up from camp at **1:00 PM**.

TRI-CITY TRANSPORTATION

Back by popular demand! Camp Gan Israel is proud to once again partner with Aleph in the Tri-Cities to provide transportation for children in Burnaby and Coquitlam for the entire 6 weeks of camp. The charge for this service is \$25 a week per child, payable directly to Yossi Degen of Aleph in the Tri-Cities. The following are the drop off and pick up times and locations:

7:30 am – 1901-2979 Glen Drive | Coquitlam, BC V3B 0B3

7:50-8:00 am - Cameron Community Centre | 9523 Cameron St, Burnaby, BC V3J 1L6

8:10-8:15 am – 1536 Maplehurst Circle | Burnaby, BC V5A 3Z1

Return Transportation:

4:45-5:00 pm - 1536 Maplehurst Circle | Burnaby, BC V5A 3Z1

5:15 pm - Cameron Community Centre | 9523 Cameron St, Burnaby, BC V3J 1L6

5:30 pm - 1901-2979 Glen Drive | Coquitlam, BC V3B 0B3

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

PUNCTUALITY - *Please be on time at your pick up and drop off location.*

This policy will be strictly enforced because one late camper means an entire late bus, and this will negatively impact the scheduling of the day and the quality of the programs or delay all other campers returning to their homes on time.

CONTACT US

Camp Phone Number: 604-266-1313

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Cell: 778-878-5310

Mrs. Rosenfeld's Cell: 778-878-2025

In the evenings, please call Mrs. Rosenfeld and you will be assisted right away.

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE
AT VHA TO REACH CAMP**

•If your child will not be coming to camp for a day, please notify Mrs. Rosenfeld @ 778-878-2025

•If there is a change in your schedule and your child is to be picked up by someone other than you, please contact Mrs. Rosenfeld @ 778-878-2025. **We cannot be responsible for any messages left after 1 pm (or 11 am for Kiddie Camp).**

GENERAL CAMP POLICY

CAMPER RELEASE

Parents wishing to have their child released during camp to anyone other than themselves or their designate must make prior arrangements with the Camp Director, Rabbi or Chaya Rosenfeld, at 778-878-2025. Please make all arrangements in the morning to ensure that the message will make it to your child. **We cannot be responsible for any messages left after 1 pm (or 11 am for Kiddie Camp).**

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Camp does not take the responsibility for any personal items brought to camp. We will have lost and found items out during pickup for parents to look through. Please do not send any valuables to camp with your child/ren.

ABSOLUTELY NO illegal substance or weapon of any kind will be allowed on campgrounds. Camp reserves the right to conduct searches when we feel necessary.

ABSOLUTELY NO electronics may be brought to camp, unless parents specifically request permission for the child to bring a cell phone for security purposes. Electronics will be confiscated and returned to the child at the end of the day.

PICKUP AND DROP-OFF INFORMATION

Safety is our primary concern during drop-off and pick-up. Children must be dropped off and picked up on time. Please do not drop off earlier than 8:50 as there will be no staff on site. On trip days, children arriving after 9:15 am are not guaranteed to make it on the bus and we cannot wait for late arrivals. Please exercise extreme caution as you drive near the school and, of course, adhere to all traffic and parking regulations. As well, please be mindful of the impact on our neighbors and be considerate of the space we share. Adventure Camp boys should be dropped off and picked up **outside** the Lubavitch Centre at 41st and Oak. There will be a counselor waiting outside. Please do NOT drop your child off in the underground parking as there will not be a staff member waiting and campers are not allowed to use the elevator.

PARKING

The following parking regulations were developed in cooperation with the Vancouver School Board and the City of Vancouver. **Parents are required to adhere to the parking guidelines as well as be aware of signage around the school to facilitate safe and orderly drop-off and pick-up,** as well as help us foster a positive relationship with the neighbours around the school.

- **Drop-off/Pick-up – North side of 62nd Avenue, alongside the park. Please do NOT leave your car- a staff member will fetch your kids from the playground and bring them to the car. In the mornings, a staff member will collect your child/ren from the car and bring them into camp. If you wish to accompany your child into the building, please park ONLY on W 61st. Ave, alongside the park.**

- **Parking – South side of 61st Avenue, alongside the park. Please note: please DO NOT park on the residential (north) side of 61st Avenue.**

TRAVEL ROUTES

In accordance with requests by the Vancouver School Board and the Board of Hebrew Academy, parents are asked to choose a route that minimizes congestion around the school and least impacts the neighborhood. **Most important: When heading north on Granville St, please remember to ONLY USE INTERSECTIONS WITH STREETLIGHTS TO TURN WEST TOWARDS THE CAMP BUILDING.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Must campers wear a camp T-shirt every day?

We require that all campers wear a Camp Gan Israel T-shirt on trip days. Each camper should purchase at least two T-shirts before camp begins. Since all camp staff and campers wear camp shirts, we are instantly recognizable to each other while on field trips, and camp shirts distinguish our campers and staff from other visitors. In addition, the camp phone number is printed on the shirts. Camp shirts will be available for purchase before the start of camp.

How does my camper find a lost item?

Please mark all belongings with your camper's name and group. This is very important since shirts, backpacks, etc. can be identical, and individual items are difficult to identify without a label. Lost & Found items are available each day at camp. Please contact us in writing or by phone regarding specific items.

How does the transportation system work?

Camp Gan Israel uses a modern bus leased from King David High School and a professional bus driver. Campers must remain seated at all times.

Richmond and other transportation to Vancouver?

Transportation is provided daily for campers living in Richmond. The bus leaves at 8:15 am and returns approximately 4:45 pm. Pick up and drop off is from Chabad of Richmond, at the North-West corner of Blundell & Railway. We **do not** provide return transportation for the children attending Kiddie Camp in Vancouver. This year we have also arranged transportation from Burnaby and Coquitlam. Please see page 6 for more information.

How do I arrange to pick up my camper during the camp day?

If you have to pick up your camper during the day, please notify our camp directors as early as possible. Once we are aware of your arrival time, we can arrange to have your camper ready for you. Please note that no camper will be released to ANYONE without prior permission.

What if my child does not want to participate in a particular activity?

No camper will be forced to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Camp Gan Israel.

How religious is Camp Gan Israel?

CGI is a non-judgmental environment made up of campers from all Jewish backgrounds. An individual's level of observance is not stressed. All children enjoy a shared Jewish spirit through songs and projects.

Can my camper bring a precious item to camp?

We do not permit your camper to bring jewelry, radios, expensive toys, etc. to camp. Camp Gan Israel supplies everything campers may need.

What does my camper need to bring each day?

Campers should pack a lunch, bottled water and several snacks, every day. Campers need a bathing suit and towel on swim days, regardless of the weather. We supply all sports and safety equipment such as tennis racquets, baseball mitts, riding helmets, etc. Please apply sunscreen at home. You may also send sunscreen to camp with instructions to re-apply.

How often does my child drink water at camp each day?

Campers should bring a bottle of water each day. They will be instructed to drink often. Bottles will be refilled as needed throughout the day.

How can I speak with my child's counselor?

A call to the camp directors will answer most questions. Since counselors are constantly supervising groups and activities, messages will be taken at the camp office. Please leave your name and evening phone number and the counselor will return your call as soon as possible.

How can I speak with a Camp Director?

Rabbi Dovid and Chaya Rosenfeld are available to answer your questions and discuss your concerns, during the day at the Camp Office (604) 266-1313. In case of emergency, after camp hours, please email vancouvercgi@gmail.com or call 778-878-2025.