

# CAMP GAN ISRAEL PITTSBURGH



# PARENT HANDBOOK 2018/5778

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# **LETTER FROM DIRECTORS**

Dear Parents of CGI Pittsburgh,

Thank you for entrusting your children in our care this summer. We look forward to watching them grow socially, physically and spiritually.

This booklet is designed to inform you of all pertinent information that you will need to know when sending your children to Camp Gan Israel this summer. Please pay special attention to our safety procedures to ensure the well being of your children.

As always, please feel free to contact us at the camp office with any questions or concerns you may have.

Rabbi Chezky and Bassie Rosenfeld  
Camp Directors

## **Our staff: The secret to our success**

Child development is the most significant ingredient in a healthy camp experience. That is why our staff is the real secret to our success. Our counselors come with years of experience working at Camp Gan Israels around the globe. They are known for their personal warmth and ability to care for each child as an individual. The counselors' love and appreciation for their campers is surpassed only by the children's love for them. We take great pride in our commitment to recruiting, training and keeping the highest quality staff in the camping profession. Camp Gan Israel has always been dedicated to small groups with exceptional staff supervision. This ensures the best possible care, instruction and supervision for our campers. Our counselors are CPR and First Aid Certified, as well as familiarized with Magen Yeladim standards, and are dedicated and committed to caring for your children.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

We strongly believe that open communication is essential. Email will be our primary form of communication. Please make sure we have an accurate email address that is read daily, on file.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

### **Mini Gan Izzy:**

Mrs. Sarah Rosenfeld & Mrs. Dina Frankel

Email: [minigi@cgipittsburgh.com](mailto:minigi@cgipittsburgh.com)

During camp hours: 412-945-0842

After camp hours: 412-589-2701

### **Girls Division:**

Mrs. Bassie Rosenfeld

Email: [girls@cgipittsburgh.com](mailto:girls@cgipittsburgh.com)

During camp hours: 412-945-0842

After camp hours: 412-867-9266

### **Boys Division:**

Rabbi Zevy Greenwald

Email: [boys@cgipittsburgh.com](mailto:boys@cgipittsburgh.com)

During camp hours: 412-945-0842

After camp hours: 347-351-4598

### **For account information and general camp questions:**

Dassi Huebner, Camp Administrator

[admin@cgipittsburgh.com](mailto:admin@cgipittsburgh.com)

### **Camp Office:**

2100 Wightman St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Phone: 412-945-0842

Website: [www.CGIPittsburgh.com](http://www.CGIPittsburgh.com)

## Divisions Information Chart

**Session 1: June 25th-July 13th ; Session 2: July 16th-August 3rd.**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Drop-off &amp; Pick-up</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Daycare for Infants and Young Toddlers (Ages 6 weeks-24 months)	The Early Learning Center wing at the Yeshiva Girls School, 6401 Forbes Ave.	From the classroom	9:00am-12:30pm (half day) <i>Dismissal 12:20-12:30</i> 9:00am-2:00pm (full day) <i>Dismissal 1:50-2:00</i>
Mini Gan Izzy (Ages 2-6 years)	The Early Learning Center wing at the Yeshiva Girls School, 6401 Forbes Ave.	Denniston St. entrance	9:00am-12:30pm (half day-2s) <i>Dismissal 12:20-12:30</i> 9:00am-2:00pm (full day) <i>Dismissal 1:50-2:00</i>
<p>Extended Care available for children ages 2 and up (M-Th: until 4pm, F: until 3pm). Pick up from Yeshiva Girls School, Forbes Ave. entrance</p>			
CGI Girls Primary Division and Pioneers (Grades 1-7)	Yeshiva Girls School, 6401 Forbes Ave.	Forbes Ave. entrance	9:00am-4:00pm on Monday-Thursday <i>Dismissal 3:50-4:00</i> 9:00am-3:00pm on Friday <i>Dismissal 2:50-3:00</i>
CGI Boys Primary Division, and Pioneers (Grades 1-7)	Greenfield Elementary School, 1 Alger St.	Parking lot by main entrance	9:00am-3:50 pm on Monday-Thursday <i>Dismissal 3:40-3:50</i> 9:00am-2:50 pm on Friday <i>Dismissal 2:40-2:50</i>
<p>Camp begins at 9:00am for all divisions. Supervision for drop-off is from 8:50-9:05am. Campers arriving after 9:05am must be accompanied by an adult to the front desk, sign in, and escorted to their bunk rooms. For the boys division, please call Rabbi Greenwald upon arrival.</p>			

## **Dismissal Times / Late Policy**

Parents are required to pick up children promptly.

Daycare and 2's: 12:20-12:30 PM or 1:50-2:00 PM.

Mini Gan Izzy: 1:50-2:00 PM.

Girls Primary Division: 3:50-4:00 PM M-T and 2:50-3:00 PM on Friday.

Boys Primary Division: 3:40-3:50 PM M-T and 2:40-2:50 PM on Friday.

There will be a 10-minute grace period for all dismissals.

A fee of \$5 will be incurred for the supervision of children after the 10-minute grace period.

An additional \$5 fee will incur for each 10-minute increment that follows.

## **Change of Pick-Up Plans**

If your child's end-of-the-day arrangement is different from the usual, please contact the division head. This includes changes in carpool arrangements, play dates, etc. If both parents are out of town the camp must be informed. Any person picking up your child must be on the authorized pick-up list, otherwise a note must accompany the child.

## **Safety**

The physical and emotional safety of our children is our number one priority. For this reason we have implemented measures to ensure a safe environment for all our children. Please review our safety guidelines.

All staff members on camp sites are required to wear camp t-shirts at all times.

Counselors are CPR and First-aid certified, as well as familiarized with Magen Yeladim standards.

Parents and visitors to the campsites are required to check in on entry and receive a visitor's pass.

Campers who arrive late to camp will be required to enter with their parents and check in at the front desk and be escorted to their bunks.

## **Emergency Evacuation Procedures**

In case of an emergency evacuation, please *do not* come to Yeshiva to pick up your child. We will relocate all children to safe locations and contact you with pick up details.

## **Lunch & Snacks**

Kosher lunches will be served in camp every day, as well as snacks and drinks. A weekly menu will be sent to you in the camp newsletter each Friday via email.

### **Bagged Lunch Guidelines:**

If you wish to send in a lunch from home, please send a pareve or dairy (Cholov Yisroel only) lunch with your child.

## **Fun in the Sun**

At CGI, we strive to give our campers a real camp experience by spending time outdoors. Please apply sunscreen before dropping your child off at camp. MGI: If you would like the staff to reapply sunscreen before going outside, sunscreen needs to be brought to camp and a parent's signature obtained.

## **Aquatics**

CGI Primary Division will swim on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Swimming lessons will run for ½ hour daily during swim time. The remaining ½ hour will be supervised free swim. Campers who do not sign up for swim lessons will have one hour of supervised free swim.

Mini Gan Izzy will have water play on-site.

On swim days, campers will need a bathing suit, towel, and water shoes if desired.

Swim instruction will be under the guidance of Mrs. Keren Leeds. Mrs. Leeds is a nationally acclaimed WSIT (Water Safety Instructor Trainer) and LGIT (Lifeguard Instructor Trainer) certified by the American Red Cross with over 25 years of experience. The campers will benefit from her expertise as she oversees our aquatics program.

## **Dress-Up Days**

At CGI we have dress up days! See the calendars in the camper handbook for the various special days we have planned. Be a part of the fun! Have your child come dressed up in the spirit of the day.

## **Camp Photo Album**

Pictures may be viewed on our website at [www.CGIPittsburgh.com/pictures](http://www.CGIPittsburgh.com/pictures). Follow us on instagram @cgi\_pittsburgh and on facebook for daily pictures and updates, too.

# Primary Division

## Dress Code

For safety, children must wear appropriate shoes. Crocs, slides, and flip-flops are not permitted at camp. Appropriate footwear includes comfortable shoes, sneakers, and closed sandals to avoid injury. Campers will not be permitted on the camp grounds without appropriate footwear.

Clothes should be comfortable and appropriate for camp activities. Although we generally use washable art supplies, some stains may not be removable. Please bear this in mind when dressing your children for camp.

**Label Clothing** with your child's name: Clothing includes undergarments, swimwear, towels, swim slippers, caps, backpacks, sweatshirts & jackets. Clothing that is labeled will be returned when found.

## What Campers Need At Camp

**Siddur:** Primary Division campers need a Siddur in camp. Siddurim will remain in bunk rooms and will be used daily for Davening. Please label the Siddur with your child's name and phone number. Camp will provide coins daily for Tzedakah.

**Cell phones, electronic games, iPods and other music & radio devices, and books are not permitted at camp. If the above items are brought to camp, they will be held in the camp office and returned at dismissal.**

## Field Trips

CGI Primary Division goes on a weekly field trip. Campers must wear camp T-shirts on trip days. Field Trips include a picnic lunch. Campers will return to camp in time for regular dismissal.



# **Mini Gan Izzy Division**

## **Clothing:**

Clothes should be comfortable, washable and appropriate for camp activities, (sandbox, sitting on rug, art activities, etc.) Clothes should allow for self-dressing in the bathroom. Please do not send your child in clothing that you don't want to be dirtied.

A complete change of clothing is to be kept in camp. Each item (including socks) should be marked with your child's name.

Toddlers not yet potty trained need a supply of diapers and wipes, sufficient for several days and should be replenished as needed. Camp does not supply diapers and wipes.

## **Water Play:**

MGI has water play on a daily basis. Please send in a bathing suit, towel, water shoes and sunscreen. The children's bathing suits and towels will be sent home at the end of each week. Please make sure to send them back in on Monday of the following week.

## **Mitzvah Notes:**

A Mitzvah Note is a narrative recognizing the child's positive behavior and actions. To enhance the partnership between home and camp, we encourage families to write Mitzvah Notes. Once brought to camp, these will be prominently displayed.

## **Extended Care:**

Mini Gan Izzy offers an Extended Care program from 2:00-4:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 2:00-3:00 PM on Friday. The charge is \$60/week, paid in advance. Parents wishing to place their children in the Extended Care program must register them one week in advance by emailing [admin@cgipittsburgh.com](mailto:admin@cgipittsburgh.com). There are limited spaces available. Registration for Extended Care will work on a first come-first served basis. Extended Care is subject to a 5 camper minimum participation. Extended Care is not available for campers under age 2. Pickup for children in Extended Care is at the Forbes Avenue entrance. Dismissal is from 3:50-4:00 PM Monday-Thursday and from 2:50 – 3:00 PM on Fridays.

Please be prompt. After a 10 minute grace period, late fees are charged. (\$5 for every 10 minutes, or part thereof.)

### **For Toddlers:**

Toddlers who are not yet toilet trained are welcome in CGI. Please send a weekly supply of diapers and wipes. We do not initiate toilet training. For those in the process of training, we will be happy to support your efforts.

Children in diapers must wear swim diapers for water play. Parents must supply them for daily use in order that the child be allowed in the water. Camp does not keep a supply of swim diapers on hand.

### **Naptime:**

The daycare, two's and three's programs will have naptime/restime every day. Please send in a sheet and blanket for your child.

## **Orientation and Open House**

Parents and campers are invited to attend a pre-camp Open House. This is a timely opportunity to become acquainted with the bunk rooms and meet counselors before camp begins.

Campers will receive their t-shirts at orientation. Campers attending second session are welcome to orientation. Otherwise, they will receive their t-shirts on their first day at camp.

Dear Parents and Campers,

The staff of Camp Gan Israel is looking forward to greeting you at our camp orientation Sunday, June 24th.

**Primary Girls Division & Mini Gan Izzy & Daycare**

11:00am-12:30pm at the Yeshiva Girls School, 6401 Forbes Ave.

**Boys Divisions**

12:30pm-2:00pm at the Yeshiva Boys School, 2100 Wightman St.

Looking forward to seeing you there!!

*CGI Staff*