



CAMP ORCHARD HILL INCLUSIVE DAY CAMP PROGRAM

Inclusion is the action or state of including or of being included within a group or structure. At Camp Orchard Hill we are happy to provide a fully inclusive summer program for campers with special needs.

Goal of the Program: Camp Orchard Hill serves children with special needs in an inclusive setting. Our program focuses on building skills and gaining confidence through outdoor experience with opportunities to participate in all activities alongside typically developing peers. We create an environment that assures that all children, no matter what their abilities, have an opportunity to be included and engage in activities with peers in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere.

Roles of One-to-One Support Team: We are incredibly grateful for the one-to-one support team that makes it possible for campers to participate in our Day Camp program!

- **Our camp day runs from 9am-4pm. Please coordinate arrival and dismissal times and park in the designated BHT parking. Please wear your agency ID while on grounds and sign in each day.** You will sign in during carline as you arrive. Or if you arrive outside of carline hours, sign in on the BHT clipboard near the office.
- As a one-to-one, you are free to manage the needs of your client and provide adaptations for activities throughout the day. Our summer staff will manage the needs of the larger group of campers.
- If you have questions or concerns during the day, please feel free to ask the Cohort Leader in charge of your age group. They will be a great resource to answer questions about the schedule, activities, policies or procedures. Please communicate with the Cohort Leader about a change in location or any unexpected early pickups etc.
- Primary bathrooms for camper/BHT use are the Gym, Lakeview and the pool bathrooms.
- If you need additional support for your client including behavioral management or crisis intervention, you can request support from our Day Camp leadership team or the nurse for medical needs. Ask your Cohort Leader to call for assistance on their radio. Those trained in Crisis Intervention are Jim, Liz, Barb, Mary and Leisa.

Strategies to be implemented to obtain our goal:

- Campers and support team should stay with their assigned age group. This will provide opportunities for the camper to make friends within the group, model appropriate play, social, and communication skills. It also gives typically developing peers an opportunity to make friends, become aware and appreciate differences.
- Campers should be encouraged to participate in all activities. The child should be encouraged to try an activity or an adaptation of the activity as needed, even if they don't fully have the skills to do so. Backup activities should be near the group and as similar as possible. Example: if the larger group is playing kickball, a special needs camper can do their best to kick the ball and run, even if they need assistance. If they need an adaptation, the support team can play a simple ball game off to the side of the activity and continue cheering and participating with their team.
- Campers should be included during lunch and snack by sitting with their typically developing peers. The exception: if the camper or parent themselves requests alternate seating in order to manage stimulation.
- Consider the camp environment the same way that you would the school environment. Participate in planned activities and expect the camper to be part of the group and not removed from the group.

If you have questions or concerns about any of these strategies, policies or our structure, please feel free to speak with one of the Day Camp leadership team – Jim, Derek, Liz, Mary, or Barb. We're looking forward to the growth that we will all witness through *Best Week Ever* Day Camp this summer!

Thank you so much for your support and cooperation!

The Team at Camp Orchard Hill