

Summer Day Camps

Key Information



YMCA of
Owen Sound Grey Bruce



Welcome!

Welcome to YMCA Summer Day Camp. This document gives an overview of important information you need to know before sending your child to their first day of camp. Please feel free to contact us at any time using the contact information on the final page.

Our YMCA Day Camp programs emphasize fun, safety, skill and social development built upon a foundation of our YMCA core values; caring, honesty, inclusiveness, respect and responsibility.

Thank you for choosing to register your child in our camps this summer. We look forward to getting to know them.

Location

Day Camp & Specialty Camp

Day Camps and all Specialty Camps (*excluding cooking camp*) will take place at Alexandra Community School. Located only a few minutes from our YMCA Health, Fitness & Aquatics facility, the school is a very good fit for us. Pick up and drop off will be outside by the parking lot / play-ground area (see photo below). Look for our sign! On rainy days sign in and sign out will occur at the kindergarten door.

Please note at no point will access be granted through the front door.

Play Camp (ages 4 - 5)

Play Camp is located at the YMCA's Health, Fitness & Aquatics facility in the Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre. You will sign in and out your child at the Emergency door directly beside the program rooms where camp takes place. When looking at the main entrance from the North parking lot, this door is on the far left of the building (see photo below).

*Please note if you arrive outside of pick up or drop off times (8:00 - 9:00 AM and 4:15 - 5:00 PM) **this door will be locked**. You will need to enter through the main entrance and present photo ID at our Welcome Desk to access the camp area. Having everyone who visits the facility show photo ID is part of our recently updated Child Protection Policy and helps keep all children safe at our YMCA.*



Alexandra Community School
1525 7th Ave E, Owen Sound, ON, N4K 3B6



Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre
700 10th Street E., Owen Sound, ON, N4K OC6

Camp Hours & Extended Care

Camp Hours

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Extended Care (\$4 in the AM; \$3 in the PM; per time slot per child)

AM 7:00 - 8:00

PM 5:00 - 5:30

If your family would benefit from our early drop off or late pick up service, **please register in advance** at the Membership Services desk in the YMCA Health, Fitness & Aquatics facility. This allows us to make sure we are staffed accordingly. Using the early drop off or late pick up services without having signed up will result in fees charged.

Late Fees

Dropping your child off early or late affects our staffing and will result in fees charged. You will be billed at the end of the week for any extra charges you have incurred.

Fees are as follows:

5:30 - 5:45 PM: additional \$5

5:45 - 6:00 PM: additional \$10

For each minute past 6:00 PM, an additional \$1 will be added

Absences

If your child will be absent from camp, please call 519-376-0484 ext. 229 and leave a message outlining the following:

Camper name

The camp at which they are registered

Location of the camp

Reason for being absent

To help avoid spreading colds and illnesses, please keep your camper at home if he or she is not feeling their best.

Pick Up and Drop Off Procedures

Your child's safety is a primary concern throughout the day.

All campers must always be signed in and out by a designated parent or guardian.

This means that each day a parent or guardian will meet the extended care or day camp counsellor in the designated sign in/out area and physically sign the camp roster acknowledging that the camper has been dropped off or picked up.

The people listed on your registration form (parents and guardians, emergency contacts) are authorized to pick up your child unless you communicate in writing otherwise. **Campers will only be released to the person indicated on the camper form AFTER providing PHOTO ID.** If photo id is not provided to the staff, the camper will not be released. The person attempting sign out must go retrieve ID before sign out will be allowed.

If someone not listed on your registration form will be picking up your child, please ensure you provide a signed written note to your child's on-site coordinator. Your child will otherwise not be permitted to leave with that person.

If you are dropping your child off late, please drop your child off directly to the on-site camp coordinator and sign them in. For safety reasons, please do not leave your child to find their counsellor on their own.

Why a Code of Conduct?

Our Code helps to:

- Build team spirit and a sense of belonging
- Ensure everyone takes responsibility for their own behaviour and attitude
- Contribute to the safety of campers and staff

YMCA Camper Code of Conduct

As a camper I pledge that:

*I will make **honesty** the basis of all relationships and interactions.*

*I will **care** for myself, those around me and our environment.*

*I will **respect** all campers and staff; and allow each camper equal opportunities and involvement.*

*I will be **responsible** for my own actions, attitudes and behaviours.*

Registration Changes & Refunds

A service charge of \$10 is applicable to every refund or change in schedule.

Camp fees are refundable prior to start date (less \$10 service charge.) Refunds requested within the 2 week period prior to the camp will receive a credit on account only (less \$10 service charge). Refunds will not be granted on or after start date of camp except for medical reasons. All refunds for medical reasons require a doctor's note.

Behaviour Management Philosophy

It is our goal to provide a healthy, safe and secure environment for all participants. Day Camp staff and managers will redirect camper behaviour and respond to inappropriate choices on an individual basis. Children who attend our camps are expected to follow behaviour guidelines and interact appropriately.

If a situation arises where a participant threatens the safety of another person or shows disregard for camp guidelines, we will inform and work with parents to correct the child's behaviour in order to provide a positive camp experience for everyone. Campers are required to abide by our Camp Code of Conduct (at left) at all times.

Contrary behaviour will result in implementation of a behaviour contract that will be discussed with the camper and their parents. Should disruptive behaviour continue, the participant may be dismissed from camp at the discretion of the Camp Director.

The YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce will not be held responsible for any costs associated with a participant's dismissal, including camp fees. Refunds will not be granted if a child is asked to leave our programs due to misbehaviour.

- *"My daughter absolutely loves the camps! She is comfortable with all the staff which is a relief since she gets a little anxious sometimes. The experience and learning has been excellent!" - 2017 Parent Survey Response*

What to Pack Your Camper

Please ensure that your child arrives every day with the following items, each labelled with their first and last name:

Hat
Sunscreen
Refillable water bottle
Closed toe shoes (sandals with back strap ok; no flip flops please)
Bathing suit and towel (in a labeled plastic bag)
Healthy lunch and snacks (must be **nut free**: check labels!)
Litter free lunches (pack in reusable containers)
Suitable clothing for weather conditions, rain or shine
Supportive backpack

Campers often do walking trips and may be eating in different locations. For this reason it is important that your child's belongings all fit into one bag that can be carried easily.

Snacks & Lunches

Our YMCA Day Camps strive to be environmentally sensitive and to encourage healthy lifestyles. Please send your child to camp with litterless, nutritious snacks and lunches each day. As many of our campers have allergies we encourage a nut free environment.

Tips for litterless, healthy snacks and lunches:

Purchase a reusable drink container and fill with 100% juice or water each day. Staff will encourage your child to refill the container throughout the day.

Do not use mayonnaise and other heat sensitive food items, such as meat or dairy, in hot weather. Avoid single serve snack items in disposable packaging (for example, Lunchables, fruit cups, and juice boxes – all of these items can be served in small, reusable containers. Please note we cannot heat up your child's lunch.

Medications

All medication sent to camp must be:

- In the original packages, stored in individual plastic baggies
- Clearly labeled with campers name and dosage
- Accompanied by a completed Medication Administration Form

Medication must be turned in to camp staff who will store it in a locked location and will assist your camper in medication administration at required times throughout the day

Please ensure that you communicate your child's medication needs with the On-Site Coordinator or your child's camp counsellor for that week. Camp Counsellors do change on a weekly basis; if your camper is with us for multiple weeks, please make sure that the new staff are aware of your camper's medications.

We ask that you communicate with your day camp coordinator any specific instructions or guidelines that need to be followed. This will help us to ensure clear communication and the safety of each camper.

What Not to Pack Your Camper

Please do not send your campers with any valuables such as iPods, DSI's, toys or jewelry. These items are not a part of our program content and do not fit into our daily plans.

Please do not send money to camp. Campers will not be permitted to make purchases from vending machines or during our trips. This prevents the possibility of allergic/medical reactions and ensures that all campers are provided with equal opportunities during their camp experience.

If a camper arrives at camp with any of these items, the on-site coordinator will take the item for the duration of the camp day and return it at departure time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Camp Communications

Communication before, during and after your child's camp experience is incredibly important to us. We use different tools in order to ensure optimum communication between you, the camper and our camp staff.

Please be sure to pay attention to camp communications materials as this is how we will inform you of changes, give reminders and keep you informed about what has been happening at camp.

Day Camp Number

519-376-0484 ext. 229

Please feel free to contact us with any questions during the camp season. This is also the number to call if your child will be absent.

Day Camp E-mail

summercamp@osgb.ymca.ca

Remind App

This digital tool lets staff connect instantly with parents by sending quick, simple messages to any device. It is totally free and all personal information is kept private. Staff will never see your phone number, nor will you see theirs. To receive messages via text:

For Day Camps: text @ymcaoscamp to (226) 778-2287

For Play Camps: text @ymcaosplay to (226) 778-2287

For Specialty Camps: text @ymcaosspec to (226) 778-2287.

Camp Board

Look for a dry-erase board near pick up/drop off areas with reminders and last-minute information.

Facebook Group

Staff have created a closed group on Facebook where they will post camp information. Use Facebook's search bar to look for "YMCA Summer Day Camp" and ask to join. To protect everyone's privacy one of our staff administrators will confirm your child is part of the camp programs before admitting you to the group.



YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce

700 10th Street E., Owen Sound

519.376.0484

Facebook.com/YMCAofOwenSoundGreyBruce

Twitter: @YMCAOSGB

Instagram: YMCAOSGB

