

# CHESHIRE COMMUNITY YMCA

## Camp Quinnipiatic



## Parent Information Packet

Cheshire Community YMCA (203) 272-3150

YMCA Camp Quinnipiatic (203) 668-7087

(after the start of camp)

[www.sccymca.org](http://www.sccymca.org)

**Camp Director: Lisa Zaborowski**

**YMCA Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.**

Financial Assistance is available for qualifying individuals and families.

The YMCA is a non-profit 501c (3) charitable organization.

# **Thank you for choosing YMCA Camp Quinnipiac. We hope that your child enjoys being a part of our Cheshire Community YMCA Day Camp!**

## **The YMCA Mission**

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

## **YMCA Camp Quinnipiac Motto**

Fun, Friends, and Memories. It is our goal to provide each camper with a positive camp experience with lots of fun in a warm and friendly environment.

## **The YMCA Camp Quinnipiac Mission**

To provide a healthy and safe environment for all children who participate in our day camp. To provide a memorable experience for all campers that will last a lifetime. To promote physical and intellectual skills through participation in our Day Camp. To encourage the development of social skills in each child through positive interactions with other children and staff members.

## **Character Development**

YMCA Camp Quinnipiac promotes the four character values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. These four values are the basis for many of our camp activities. Staff and campers follow and promote these values throughout camp.

## **Hours of Operation**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>YMCA Camp Quinnipiac</b>	<b>Monday - Friday</b>	<b>8:45 AM-3:00 PM</b>
<b>Before Camp Care</b>	<b>Monday - Friday</b>	<b>6:30 AM-8:45 AM</b>
<b>After Camp Care</b>	<b>Monday - Friday</b>	<b>3:00 PM-6:00 PM</b>

## **Drop off and Pick Up**

At the start of the day, parents are asked to pull up to the designated drop-off area and wait for their child(ren) to be checked in to camp. Parents will be able to leave once their child(ren) are signed in to the program. At the end of the day, parents should also pull their car up to the designated pick-up area. Parents or guardians should have their ID ready. In order to ensure safety of all campers, each camper needs to be signed in and out of the program each day. Campers will not be permitted to leave the sign in/out area unless escorted by their parent/guardian.

## Daily Activities

The below schedule is for Rascals, Mountaineers, Wranglers, and Pathfinders.

<b>6:30-8:45AM</b>	Before Camp Care
<b>8:45-9:00AM</b>	Arrival
<b>9:00-9:45AM</b>	Introductions/Icebreakers on Monday, Activities Tuesday-Friday.
<b>9:45-10:15AM</b>	Activity Period
<b>11:15-12:00PM</b>	Activity Period
<b>12:00-1:00PM</b>	Lunch
<b>1:00-1:45PM</b>	Activity Period
<b>1:45-2:30 PM</b>	This or That
<b>2:30-3:00 PM</b>	L.O.G.S/Dismissal
<b>3:00-6:00 PM</b>	After Camp Care

\*activities are subject to change

**Activity Periods include:** arts and crafts, field games, nature, slip'n'slide, court games, gladiator dodgeball, teambuilding, and other unit-wide activities. These scheduled activities will have a direct correlation to the session's theme. A more detailed calendar of activities will be emailed at the start of each session in the Group Newsletters.

## CIT Daily Activities

For the first two weeks of the session, CITs will participate in regular camper activities and also receive the same trainings that our camp staff receives before each camp season. CITs will also participate in team building activities as a group and gain valuable leadership development. CITs will spend the third week of the session rotating to all of the various age groups to shadow the different counselors and age groups. For the final week of the session, CITs will be placed in one group for the duration of the week to aide counselors and begin to practice developing the skills they have been taught.

## Rainy Days and Extremely Hot Days

Camp operates on rainy days. The campers will have access to sheltered areas in the event of rain. Unless there are extreme weather conditions, campers will swim on rainy days.

Camp also operates on extremely hot days. On these days, we take special care to make sure that all campers stay cool. We will have access to shaded areas on these days and are sure to give campers plenty of opportunities to get drinks. Please note that there is no air-conditioning at YMCA Camp Quinnipiac. We recommend sending campers with an extra water bottle or drink on extremely hot days. We also recommend sending a bathing suit with campers on these days, even if it is not a scheduled pool day, as we offer opportunities for extra outdoor water play on extremely hot days.

## Field Trips/Special Guests

Mountaineers, Wranglers, Pathfinders, and CIT's go on field trips on Thursdays. Campers participating in specialty camps also attend Field Trips. Trips may include: museums, hiking trips, bowling, roller skating, mini golf, etc. Information pertaining to each week's Field trip will be emailed out at the start of each week in the Weekly Newsletter. **Please make sure to drop your camper off on time on field trip days, as some trips may leave as early as 9:30am. Camp T-shirts are required for field trip days and can be purchased at YMCA Camp Quinnipiac's Office for \$10.00. A permission slip must also be filled out for your camper to go on the trip. \*(Subject to change)**

Rascals will have a Special Guest visit them at camp every Thursday. Special Guests may include: musicians, the Cheshire Police Department, the Cheshire Public Library, and traveling science programs.

## Our Staff

YMCA Camp Quinnipiac prides itself in hiring the most qualified and professional staff to provide the best day camping experience for your child. YMCA Camp Quinnipiac has a camper to staff ratio ranging from 8:1 (8 campers to 1 counselor) to 12:1 (12 campers to 1 counselor). All camp staff goes through an in-depth training program in June prior to the start of camp. At any time, please feel free to ask our staff if you have any questions. We also appreciate any feedback you might have.

## Insurance

Please take note that YMCA Camp Quinnipiac does not provide accident insurance for campers. This is the responsibility of each camper's family.

## Medical Forms

Medical Forms, which include: physicals and all medication paperwork, must be completed and returned to the Cheshire Community YMCA at least **2 weeks prior to the session** for which your child is registered. The State of Connecticut requires a current medical form (within 3 years) for every camper. **No child will be allowed to attend camp without a completed health form. Please look for more information about upcoming medical OPEN HOUSES. There will be scheduled hours to drop off forms and paperwork to be checked before camp begins to ensure that your camper is all set prior to the beginning of the summer.**

## Medication and First Aid

If your camper needs to take medication (either over the counter or prescription) during the camp day, our Camp Director, Camp First Aider, or certified staff member can dispense the medication as long as the following are complete:

- A physician has filled out and signed an Administration of Medication Form and an Individual Care Plan, and the forms are on file in the camp office.
- The medication is in its original container with prescription label and has the child's name on it.
- The medication has not expired.
- Child's parent/guardian has signed the Administration of Medication and ICP forms.

**\*All First Aid is done by our Camp First Aider or by Camp Staff who are certified in Red Cross First Aid and CPR, not by a Registered Nurse (RN).**

## What to Wear to Camp

Please have your child wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothes each day to camp; which may include shorts, T-shirt, sweatshirt and sneakers. We ask that all campers come to camp wearing their bathing suit under their dry clothes each day, as we will do some form of water play on a daily basis.

**Open toed sandals or shoes are not allowed for the activities that your child will be involved in.**

## What to Bring to Camp

We recommend that campers bring a backpack to camp each day. Campers need to bring a bagged lunch, water bottle, towel and bathing suit to camp each day. Please make sure that all your child's belongings are marked with your child's name. Lunches are refrigerated each day except on field trip days. It is recommended that on those days you pack non-perishable items.

## What to Keep at Home

In order to allow your child to have the best day camping experience possible and to avoid loss or damage to personal belongings we ask that campers leave the following items at home: cell phones, iPods, gaming devices, trading cards, and other personal toys. **YMCA Camp Quinnipiac and the Cheshire Community YMCA are not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen personal items.**

## Sunscreen

It is strongly recommended that campers wear sunscreen to camp everyday. We recommend that you apply it in the morning before your camper comes to camp in the morning. If your camper needs to reapply throughout the day, **you will need to fill out one of our Sunscreen Forms and return to the Cheshire Community YMCA or Camp.** Please label your campers sunscreen with First and Last name. We have the space to hold sunscreen at camp for your camper and will typically ask campers to keep their sunscreens at camp to ensure that it is always available if they need it. Counselors will remind campers to re-apply sunscreen during the day. The label must match the sunscreen provided. Wranglers, Pathfinders, and CITs are asked to self-apply sunscreen. Counselors can help Rascals and Mountaineers re-apply sunscreen if needed.

## Camp Phone

The YMCA Camp Quinnipiac phone number is (203) 668-7087. If someone is not available to take your call, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible. In case of an emergency, contact the Cheshire Community YMCA at (203) 272-3150. The Cheshire Community YMCA will then be able to contact the Camp Director directly.

## Absenteeism

If your child is going to be absent from camp on a specific day, please contact YMCA Camp Quinnipiac at (203) 668-7087. If you don't call to let camp know your child will not be attending, we will call you to confirm their absence.

## Payment Policy

- A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit per session is required upon registration for camp.
- After April 23, 2022 deposits are transferable between sessions but **NOT** refundable if a camp session is cancelled.
- The remaining balance is due in full, **two weeks** prior to the start of each session. A \$10.00 late fee will be assessed on all payments made after the deadline.
- All campers must be registered by 3:00PM on the Friday prior to the session starting. Registration will be put on hold from 3:00PM on the Friday prior to the start of a new session through the Monday morning of that session. A \$25 late fee will be charged if you sign up the Monday morning of the session.
- Payments must be made at the Cheshire Community YMCA or via the online registration system. Payments will not be accepted at YMCA Camp Quinnipiac.
- There will be a \$7.00 change fee applied to any session changed.
- Please address all questions or concerns regarding camp payments to Sue Cagno, AR Coordinator at the Southington-Cheshire Community YMCA, (860) 426-9590.

## Camp Scholarships

Our YMCA is committed to providing a quality camping experience for all. Camp scholarships are available for qualified families. Scholarship information is available by contacting the Cheshire Community YMCA at (203) 272-3150.

## Lost and Found

While camp staff does their best to make sure your camper has all of his/her belongings, items are still lost. Please label all of your camper's belongings including clothing, lunch boxes and backpacks. Lost and found will be located in the camp office unless otherwise noted. We will hold all lost and found items until 2 weeks after the last session or camp before they are donated.

## Special Concerns

If your child has any special considerations or accommodations which need to be made, please let us know prior to your child's first day at camp. An Individual Care Plan may be required.

## Behavior Management Policy

At YMCA Camp Quinnipiac, we believe that one of the best ways to deal with behavior issues is to provide a quality camp program. By keeping activities moving and well organized, we believe that many potential problems can be avoided or prevented.

Disrespect toward staff members or property, injuring other children or staff, disruptive behavior, stealing, and profanity will not be tolerated. If such a problem occurs, the following steps will be taken:

1. Verbal discussions with the child.
2. If inappropriate behavior continues, the child will be removed from the group for a specified time frame or privileges will be taken away.
3. Whenever there is a serious concern about a behavior or discipline problem, the staff will share their concerns with the parents/guardians to resolve the problem.
4. If the problem persists, or a serious infraction has been made, the camper will be put on suspension or asked to leave the program.

YMCA Camp Quinnipiac is determined to provide a safe and fun environment for all campers, free from bullying and other possible negative behaviors that disrupt a positive camp experience. We feel that the best way to prevent any negative behaviors from occurring is to provide a quality day camp program with well trained staff. In the event that a camper exhibits any negative behavior(s), it may result in referral to the camp office, time out of an activity and/or dismissal from the program. See details below.

The following negative behaviors will be dealt with by the camp counselor. If the offense is repeated or the camper is continuously disrupting the group's activities, the camper will miss time out of an activity and/or be sent to the Camp Director. The Camp Director will evaluate the negative behavior and may notify the parents (depending on severity/frequency), fill out a behavior log and put it in the camper's file and require that the camper miss more time from an activity (depending on severity or frequency).

- Minor hitting, shoving, pushing or throwing objects
- Inappropriate language or subject matter
- Not following directions
- Straying from the group
- Distracting counselor/group

The following negative behaviors will result in the camper(s) being sent immediately to the Camp Director. The Camp Director will work with the Counselor to evaluate the negative behavior. Parent(s) will be notified, behavior log will be filled out and put into the camper's file and camper may be dismissed from camp (temporarily or permanently).

- Aggressive physical contact (hitting, biting, shoving or pushing)
- Verbal threats to campers or staff
- Stealing and/or Destruction of camp/school property or property of others
- Possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol or cigarettes
- Possession of weapons, including knives or other dangerous items
- Endangerment to self or others

**If you have any additional questions or concerns please contact Lisa Zaborowski, Camp Director at 203.272.3150 x509 or via email at [lzaborowski@sccymca.org](mailto:lzaborowski@sccymca.org).**

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT FIELD TRIPS, SPECIAL GUESTS, BUSING, ETC. ARE ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**