

BIG TIME PLAY TIME

Parent Handbook

2025 SUMMER CAMP
FOGLIA YMCA



That's The Power of Play.



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Summer Camp 2025 at the Foglia Y! Thank you for enrolling in the upcoming camp season at the Y. We're excited to have your family join our extended Y family, and hope your camper(s) enjoys the program as much as we enjoy running it!

Attached is the 2025 Summer Camp Handbook. Please make sure to read through this handbook as it provides relevant information for the summer camp programs.

All of the paperwork included in the **Participant Emergency Information Packet is mandatory and must be submitted in full prior to your camper's first day at camp through online registration.**

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about our summer camp programs, please do not hesitate to contact us or one of our leadership staff directly. We look forward to providing your child with a safe and fun summer!

It's time for BIG TIME play time!

Sincerely,

Ashley Pettinger

Youth Development Director

SUMMER DAY CAMP LEADERSHIP

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please let us know and we will be happy to help. Please feel free to email us. The following staff are here to assist you:

Ashley Pettinger | Youth Development Director | apettinger@ymcachicago.org

Eric Palmblad | Regional Sports Director | epalmblad@ymcachicago.org

CAMP LOCATION

1025 N. Old McHenry Road

Phone: 847-438-5300

www.fogliaymca.org

Camp hours of operation: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

***Note: 7-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. are considered before and after care which means that all age groups are combined during this time.**

All Specialty and Sport Camps meet at Explorer Camp Pavilion.

ACA ACCREDITED

American Camp Association (ACA) is an organization with members in all 50 states that accredits all types of organized camps. Camps are accredited based on the administration, policies, and camp operation — particularly those related to program practices and quality along with health and safety of campers and staff. The standards establish guidelines for needed policies, procedures, and practices. The Foglia Y Day Camp staff is committed to providing a camp program that meets the highest standards established for the camping industry.



DCFS LICENSE-EXEMPT PROGRAM

While we do hold an ACA accreditation please be advised we are not a DCFS licensed program. This means our program is not licensed or regulated by the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS).

To be clear, the Y will continue to provide high-quality comprehensive services and resources focused on helping students succeed, but will not be licensed or monitored by DCFS. If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please do not hesitate to contact camp leadership.

YMCA DAY CAMP PHILOSOPHY & GOALS

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Character Development is challenging people to accept and demonstrate the Y's four core values—caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. It is the foundation for the development of the important character traits that will remain with a child for their entire life. The Y camp mission statement puts it best: The Y provides trained leadership and the resources of the natural surroundings to help each camper achieve his/her fullest potential in terms of mental development, physical well-being, social growth, and spiritual awareness. Challenging people to accept and demonstrate positive values is more effective than treating problems because it deals with the roots and not just the results.

Y Day Camp is important to a child's development because:

- **Children grow personally.** They are given the chance to experience new things and interact with other children on a daily basis.
- **Children learn new things.** Whether it's playing a new game, practicing an existing skill, or developing their social skills, children leave our camp having learned something they can remember for a lifetime.
- **Children learn to appreciate diversity in each other.** We live in a multicultural community and our camp reflects this. Children learn that each person is unique. They have fun and respect each other regardless of race, religion, gender, or social status.
- **Children learn lifetime values.** From the simplest of values and attitudes like sharing, sportsmanship, and giving respect to others, comes our basis for making more complex value decisions as they mature.
- **Campers have fun!** Without fun, the above reasons for children to attend our camp become harder to accomplish. Games, stories, hikes, field trips, swimming, sports, and crafts are all done with the children as the primary focus.

During our camps we will also emphasize the development of asset values. We will provide activities that introduce the eight major types of assets: support, empowerment, boundaries and expectations, constructive use of time, commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity.

By planning activities that highlight the values and assets mentioned above, we will help children focus their thinking and priorities. In doing so, you can contribute in significant ways to help them succeed, both now and in the future.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

TO BRING

- Gym shoes (closed-toed)
- Backpack
- Water bottle (labeled/NO glass bottles)
- Non-perishable lunch & 2 snacks (one for morning and one for afternoon)
- Swimsuit & towel
- Lifejacket (U.S. Coastguard approved) if required for swim level
- Sunscreen
- Bug repellent (optional)
- Comfortable clothing
- Values, morals, good listening skills and smiles

NOT TO BRING

- Sandals, flip-flops, or other open-toed shoes
- Money & valuables (unless specified; i.e. Teen Camp field trips)
- Any electronic devices (phones, ipads, smart watches, etc.)
- Trading cards of any kind
- Unnecessary toys/sports equipment
- Weapons, alcohol and drugs
- Pets
- Inappropriate behavior, language, clothing, etc.

LOST AND FOUND

We will have a lost and found area located in the main lobby; however, please label your child's clothing and articles. Towels, sweatshirts, jackets, swim goggles and water bottles are some of the most common lost items. All items remaining at the end of the summer will be disposed of or donated.

SUMMER DAY CAMP SESSIONS

Our Summer Day Camp run on weekly sessions for all camps including Traditional, Teen, Specialty, and Sports Camps.

Below you will find our available sessions:

- **Week 1:** June 2-6
- **Week 2:** June 9-13
- **Week 3:** June 16-20 (no camp 6/19)
- **Week 4:** June 23-27
- **Week 5:** June 30-July 3 (no camp 7/4)
- **Week 6:** July 7-11
- **Week 7:** July 14-18
- **Week 8:** July 21-25
- **Week 9:** July 28-August 1
- **Week 10:** August 4-8

CAMP GROUPS

- **Adventure:** For campers entering 1st, or 2nd grade in Fall 2025
- **Explorer:** For campers entering 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade in Fall 2025
- **Teen:** For campers entering 6th, 7th, or 8th grade in Fall 2025

REGISTRATION

Registration forms need to be completed with a \$30.00 non-refundable and non-transferable registration fee per week per child.

It is important that your information on the enrollment forms is current and accurate.

The following forms must be completed and returned to the Y prior to the child's start of camp; **your child will not be able to attend the program until all paperwork is received and recorded.**

- Participant Emergency Information Packet

Any changes to the emergency packet (phone numbers, addresses or authorized people who may pick up your child, etc.) must be updated in written documentation through a camp leadership staff.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

This is available on a limited basis for families in need. Applications are available at the Concierge Desk during regular business hours or on our website.

We also accept Child Care Assistance Program funding (CCAP). If you would like assistance in applying for CCAP, please contact Ashley Smith, asmith@ymcachicago.org or 312-978-7743. All camp financial aid or CCAP applications need to be submitted by April 15 to be considered for the 2025 camp season.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Day Camp slots will be held with a \$30 non-refundable and non-transferable registration fee for each child per weekly session at the time of registration. Registration fees are applied toward the cost of each session.

All children must be registered and paid in full by the Wednesday prior to attending the week of camp. A \$15 late fee will be added for payments & registrations made after the Wednesday before the week of camp. Payments set-up on automatic deduction will follow the schedule below.

CAMP SESSIONS	DUE DATE	DRAFT DATE
June 2-6	May 28	May 15
June 9-13	June 4	June 1
June 16-20	June 11	June 1
June 23-27	June 18	June 15
June 30- July 3	June 25	June 15
July 7-11	July 2	July 1
July 14-18	July 9	July 1
July 21-25	July 16	July 15
July 28-Aug 1	July 23	July 15
Aug 4-8	July 30	August 1

REFUNDS

- Camp registration fees for all camps are non-refundable.
- Camp registration fees for all camps are non-transferable.
- All cancellations must be in writing 14 business days prior to the start of registered camp week and will be issued as a voucher for use toward other Y fees. The registration fee will be forfeited.
- All cancellations made less than 14 business days prior to the start of registered camp week will be non-refundable and non-transferable.
- In the event the YMCA cancels a camp week, all money paid, including the registration fee is refunded.

Childcare vouchers on the account will be applied to unpaid camp balances.

The refund/payment policies stated above are strictly enforced to allow completion of camp preparations ranging from staff hiring, camper groupings, supply purchasing, and informational mailings. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

BEFORE & AFTER CARE

Extended care is available for children enrolled in our full-day school age camps. Children can arrive as early as 7 a.m. and stay as late as 6 p.m. for no additional charge.

*Half-day specialty camp participants are not eligible for this extended care. It is only available for those campers attending our full day camp programs.

Before and after extended care drop-off and pick-up is at the Explorer Camp pavilion (back pavilion by the playground). Pick-up and drop-off procedures listed will be strictly enforced.

The children will have a variety of activities to choose from and will be supervised by Y staff. Activities will include board games, art and crafts, group games and outside play area.

CAMP PICK UP & DROP OFF PROCEDURES

Parents/guardians are required to sign their children in and out of camp.

All drop-offs take place at the Explorer Camp pavilion between 7-9 a.m. We offer curbside drop-off where you can stay in your vehicle, sign your children in and let them out to camp.

After 9 a.m. all sign-ins must be done inside the Foglia YMCA at the desk.

All pick-ups take place at the Explorer Camp pavilion between 4-6 p.m. For pick-up we ask that you continue with the curbside service. Please be advised that the line can get lengthy so please plan accordingly. Pick-up before 3:30 p.m. is done inside at the camp check out table. Everyone will be required to show a photo I.D. when picking up a child until we become familiar with families.

Full Day Specialty Camps drop-off and pick-up will follow the same procedures above.

Half Day Specialty Camps drop-off and pick-up will be at the Explorer Camp pavilion and will require parents to walk up to sign-in and out. If your child is in a full day camp with us, and already onsite, our staff will pick them up from their group for the specialty camp and take them back afterwards.

If weather does not permit the children to be outside, day camp will be moved inside (including sign-in & out which will happen at our South entrance across from the playground).

If someone other than the parent/guardian (must be over age 18) will be picking up your child, that person must be listed on the child's authorized pick up list (in the Participant Emergency Information Packet). Your child will not be released to anyone not on the list without your written consent, no exceptions. These procedures are strictly enforced; it is for your child's protection.

CUSTODY & PARENTING TIME ARRANGEMENTS

The obligation of Y staff is to ensure a safe and fun environment for your child. We understand that participants come from a variety of different family structures and situations, and may result in various custodial arrangements. The Y does not make rules regarding or alter custody and/or parenting time agreements issued by an applicable Court of Law. The Y does not act as a mediation to these circumstances.

In the event that a court order is in place, the adult registering the participant (“Enrolling Adult”) will designate who is authorized to pick up and drop off the participant via the Participant Emergency Packet. Enrolling adult(s) must provide a copy of any court-issued documents regarding the restriction of release of participants in our care. Adults are responsible for resolving any issues that may arise from the participant’s enrollment in our programs. For consistency, any requests for program information must be included in a court order or subpoena.

LATE PICK-UP POLICY

Due to our accreditation and because our staff have family and personal responsibilities after work, our program ends firmly at 6:00 p.m. After 6:00 p.m. late fees will be assessed as follows:

6:00-6:10 p.m.	\$10 late fee per child
6:11-6:00 p.m.	\$20 late fee per child
6:21-6:30 p.m.	\$30 late fee per child
6:31-6:40 p.m.	\$40 late fee per child

After 6:40 p.m., with late fees continuing to occur in 10 minute increments, if unable to contact any responsible guardian, staff will contact emergency services.

The late fee charges will be required to be paid before your child’s next day of camp.

STAFF

Our camp staff is selected on the basis of responsibility, ability to relate to children, and sensitivity to each child's individual needs.

Our staff receives 40+ hours of training before your camper's summer begins as well as throughout the summer led by the Y Directors and Managers. Training includes but is not limited to CPR/AED, First Aid, Child Abuse Prevention, emergency procedures/risk management, behavior management, discipline policy, character development, program curriculum, lesson planning, pool procedures, field trip procedures, transportation, customer service, and parent communication. All staff are trained mandated reporters.

Our professionally trained and enthusiastic staff is the key ingredient to a positive camping experience here at the Foglia Y.

Please note: Y camp staff is not permitted to babysit for families involved in our Y programs while they are employees of the YMCA.

CAMPER TO STAFF RATIOS

Children are grouped in units based on what grade they are entering in the fall.

Traditional Camp splits into 5 groups, Adventure (grades K-2), Explorer (grades 3-5) Teen (grades 6-8), Sports 1 (age 6-9), Sports 2 (age 10-13). The ratios by standards of the ACA are as follows:

Age (years)	Counselors to Campers
4-5	1:6
6-8	1:8
9-16	1:10

HEALTH

HEALTH CHECK

Your camper's health status will be checked informally each day. If there are any sign of illness, rash, high temperature, diarrhea, infection, or any contagious disease, etc. the parent enrolling adult or an authorized person will be called and required to pick up the camper within one hour.

If a camper has head lice, their hair needs to be shampooed according to the directions given by a licensed medical professional. Staff will inspect the camper's head before they are allowed to return to the program. If any nits appear, the camper must be picked up immediately.

ILLNESS/INJURY

If a camper has not been feeling well for a continued period of time, the enrolling adult or authorized contact will be notified. The Y is not licensed to provide care for sick children. Therefore, an authorized person or emergency contact must come as soon as possible. Any camper absent from the program due to a serious or contagious illness must notify the Y and have a doctor's note to return.

CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITION

Any chronic health condition must be documented by a licensed medical professional on the Participant Emergency Information Packet. You will also need to meet with a camp leadership staff to review necessary information.

ALLERGIES

It is your responsibility to document on the Participant Emergency Information Packet if your camper has any allergies, along with your camper's possible reaction(s) should they come in contact with the allergen. (See medication section for more information).

MEDICATIONS

If medication must be taken during camp hours, you will need to indicate that on the Participant Emergency Information Packet and complete the Permission to Dispense Medication form and/or Severe Allergy and Anaphylaxis Plan.

- Inhalers & Epi-Pens: These must be given to a camp leadership staff to be kept with the camp staff; any inhaler or Epi-Pen **must be in the original container that has the doctor's prescription on it.**
- If the prescription label is not on the device/inhaler/etc., a note from the prescribing healthcare provider with the patient's name, dosage and instructions for use is required.
- Storage: All medications are stored under lock or in a secure area away from children.
- Dispensing: Only medications (prescription or over the counter) that are in their original container and are accompanied with specific written directions from a licensed medical professional are dispensed to children by authorized camp staff.
- Medication Log: The Y uses a log for all medication dispensed.

BEHAVIOR POLICIES

In our programs, our top priority is to provide a safe and enriching experience for all participants. Each child is expected to help foster a safe environment physically, emotionally, and psychologically.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS

Participants are expected to:

- Stay with their supervised group for the duration of program
- Adhere to staff instructions
- Keep their hands, bodies, and belongings to themselves
- Use appropriate language (inclusive, caring, developmentally appropriate, etc.)
- Respect program and participants' equipment and belongings

If additional accommodation is needed, be sure to include an accommodation request at the time of registration and during submission of paperwork. Our goal is to work together with both the participant and family to address and accommodate any behavior concerns; however, if a child cannot uphold these expectations, then program staff will evaluate appropriate next steps.

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PROCESS

If a participant repeatedly exhibits behavior that does not meet the program expectations, the following tactics may be used to support the participant involved and address behaviors:

- A behavior report will be completed and reviewed with parent/guardian.
- A parent/guardian will be asked to partner with YMCA staff to identify strategies for support.
- YMCA staff will monitor behavior closely and provide regular feedback to the participant and their parent/guardian.
- A preauthorized person may be required to pick up participant early from programming.
- The strategies for support may be updated or amended.
- Programming may be immediately paused for the participant.

If the support strategies are not fostering improvement AND the participant's behavior is impacting the physical, emotional, and psychological safety of themselves, Y staff or other participants the participant may be dismissed from the program for the remainder of the session.

Please note that some behaviors—such as any actions that pose a direct threat by impacting physical/emotional/psychological safety—can result in IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION/EXPULSION.

***No refunds or credits will be given if a child is terminated from the program or picked up early due to unacceptable behavior.**

ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Y requires adults of enrolled participants to act in a manner consistent with the Y values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

The Y's goal is to provide the most appropriate environment in which youth can grow, learn, and develop. Achieving this ideal environment is not only the responsibility of the staff, but also the responsibility of each and every adult involved in the program. Adults are required to act in a manner that fosters this environment.

Swearing/cursing: No adult is permitted to curse or use inappropriate language in a Y program, whether in the presence of participants or not. This includes phone conversations and written communication with staff. Such language is considered offensive and will not be tolerated.

Threats: Threats of any kind towards staff, participants, or other adults will not be tolerated.

Disruptive and Disrespectful Interactions: While it is understood that parents will not always agree with the staff or the adults of other participants, it is expected that all disagreements be handled in a calm and respectful manner. Disruptive and disrespectful interactions are not an appropriate means by which to communicate and are prohibited.

Addressing Program Participants: Adults are prohibited from addressing, for the purpose of correction or discipline, a participant that is not in their care while in program. No adult may physically or verbally punish another participant. If an adult should witness another participant behaving in an inappropriate manner, or is concerned about behavior reported to them by their own child, this should be directed to leadership staff.

Confidentiality: It is unsuitable for a participant's adult to seek out another participant's adult to discuss inappropriate behavior of any participant. All behavior concerns should be brought to program leadership. The staff will address all behavior concerns in accordance with the Y's behavior management model. Although you may be curious about the outcome, staff are prohibited from discussing anything about another participant with you.

Safety: Adults are required to act safely at all times. Please refer to the facility agreement outlined in the Participant Emergency Information Packet. Any adult acting unsafely on Y premises will be asked to leave.

Adults who violate the code of conduct may be asked not to return to the program. Participants can be removed from the program based on inappropriate behavior of their adult in the Y environment, at the discretion of the Camp Director and/or the Vice President of Out of School Time and Camp.

DAILY CAMP INFORMATION

ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent, you do NOT need to report their absence. Refunds will not be given for missed camp days unless there is a serious illness and a doctor's note is provided (with the approval of the Youth Development Director).

CAMPER DRESS

Please write the camper's name on articles that are brought/worn to camp. Socks and gym shoes are required. **No sandals, flip-flops, or open-toed shoes are allowed.** All children need to dress for the weather. On cool days, sweatshirts or jackets may be necessary. On hot days, shorts and light colored clothing are appropriate. Please have your camper wear clothes that can get dirty – this is Summer Camp after all!

Clothing of campers should not be inappropriate in any way. Inappropriate dress includes and is not limited to the following: shorts that are shorter than fingertip length; clothing promoting alcohol, drugs, tobacco products or are gang related; t-shirts that are sexually aggressive or explicit; clothing that does not appropriately cover the body (midriffs are not allowed to show, with the exception of swimming attire). Disciplinary action may be taken including but not limited to the child changing or the parent/guardian being called to pick up the camper.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones may NOT be brought to camp. Any campers seen with cell phones will have them confiscated and returned to parents/guardians. If you need to contact your camper, you may call the camp phone at 847-800-6738 and we will relay a message to your camper. The camp phone is only to reach the counselors and/or your camper. If you have questions or concerns about registration and/or operations please contact the camp director.

FIELD TRIPS

Will participate in a weekly field trip on Wednesdays. We take trips to a variety of locations, which may include places like amusement parks, museums, arcades, farms, etc. Parents will be notified if campers may bring money for snacks/souvenirs/extra activities. There are rare instances when it is appropriate for teen campers to bring money for field trips. When this occurs, you will receive communication through Remind. Please note that campers are responsible for their money. Field trips are subject to change due to weather or other unforeseeable circumstances. Refunds are not given based on field trip changes.

If your camper attends camp on a field trip day, they will automatically attend the field trip. No one is left back at the YMCA on field trip days. On offsite field trip days campers must wear their camp T-shirt and be here by 9:00 a.m. Campers will not be permitted without their camp shirt. Field trips will often last until 4:00 p.m. so please do not plan on picking up before 4:00 p.m. on those days.

Field trips are a privilege. The ability to participate is subject to appropriately behave during the camp week prior to the field trip.

LUNCH & SNACKS

Please send a packed lunch with your child every day. You may also send a morning and afternoon snack with them (we do not provide snacks at camp). If you do not provide lunch for your child, you will be called and asked to bring one. There is no refrigeration available; we suggest packing an ice pack for your child's lunch. We do have drinking fountains available to refill their water bottles throughout the day. **It is very important that you send your child to camp with a labeled refillable water bottle.** They will be engaging in high levels of activity throughout the day. All children and staff are required to wash hands prior to lunch, snacks or handling of food.

SCHEDULES

Camp staff write weekly lesson plans prior to the sessions. Activities may vary from day to day including but not limited to: sports, character development, arts and crafts, games, skits, songs, teambuilding, swimming and more.

Time	Activity
7 - 9 a.m.	Drop off Extended Care – Camper's Choice
9 - 9:30 a.m.	Check-In, Attendance, Opening, Camp Songs, Rules
9:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Variety of Activities (large group games, small group games, character development, team building, STEAM, reading, arts & crafts, Rockwall-Mondays, Swimming-Tuesday/Thursday/Friday)
3:45 - 4 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies, Camp Songs
4 - 6 p.m.	Pick Up Extended Care – Camper's Choice

SUNSCREEN

Please apply sunscreen to your camper(s) before sending them to camp. We also suggest that you send sunscreen to camp with your child. Your child will have frequent opportunities to apply sunscreen throughout the day. Foglia Y camp staff will do our best to assist your child while they apply it to their skin. Spray sunscreen is recommended. Sunscreen is not provided by camp. Hats/visors are always recommended for camp.

SWIMMING

Children participating in our camp programs will enjoy and participate in recreational swimming at the Y on **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays**. The time your child swims depends on which age group they are in, but will be between 11am and 4pm. Campers in grades 3rd-8th who want to go in our larger pool are required to complete a swim test to ensure they can safely swim in deeper water. Campers in grades 1st-2nd only swim in our small instructional pool which goes to 3ft. Depending on the child's swimming ability, your child may be required to wear a life jacket (U.S. Coast Guard approved) while in the water (at the Y or on waterpark field trips).

Lifeguards are on duty whenever the pool is open. Camp counselors are in the water and on deck supervising and engaging with children. Lifeguards are trained in CPR/AED, First-Aid, lifeguarding, Child Abuse Prevention and Blood Borne Pathogens.

Swimsuits: Males are required to wear swim shorts with lining (speedo suits are not allowed). Females are required to wear a one-piece bathing suit or a two-piece suit that does not show the midriff. If inappropriate swimwear is worn at camp the child may not be allowed to swim.

ROCKWALL

Campers will have the opportunity to use our rock climbing wall once a week on Mondays. This is a camper's choice. If a camper does not want to climb they will participate in a different group activity in the gym like basketball, tag, etc. Our youth sports staff are certified in the proper procedures and monitor the campers at all times. Counselors are there as well to assist with equipment.

ABCs of DAY CAMP

BABYSITTING

YMCA camp staff is not permitted to babysit for families involved in our YMCA programs while they are employees of the YMCA.

BULLYING

Bullying is a form of youth violence and an adverse childhood experience (ACE). CDC defines bullying as any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths, who are not siblings or current dating partners, that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance, and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. Bullying may inflict harm or distress on the targeted youth including physical, psychological, social, or educational harm.

Common types of bullying include: Physical such as hitting, kicking, and tripping; Verbal including name-calling and teasing; Relational/social such as spreading rumors and leaving out of the group; Damage to property of the victim

Bullying can also occur through technology, which is called electronic bullying or cyberbullying. A young person can be a perpetrator, a victim, or both (also known as "bully/victim").

At the Foglia Y, bullying is inexcusable, and we have a firm policy against all types of bullying. Each child is expected to treat all other children with respect and to help each other achieve the best possible experience. If a camper has difficulty meeting this expectation, parents may be called upon to assist. We work together as a team to ensure that children gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great camp memories!

Unfortunately, people who are bullied may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience. Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying seriously and trains staff to promote communication with staff and their groups so both children and staff will be comfortable alerting us to any problems during their camp experience. We can't manage an incident if we don't know about it. Every person has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all children and staff have a great summer at the Y.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

Children who bring any item to camp designed to cause bodily harm or any item that is deemed potentially harmful will have it confiscated, and the parents/guardians will be notified. Bringing such items to camp may result in children being sent home and/or suspended from camp. All types of dangerous items (including knives) must be kept off camp property. Items confiscated will only be returned upon request from the parents/guardians.

EMERGENCY & WEATHER PLANS

Our program has emergency/response plans in place to include evacuation, shelter in place, lock-out and lock-down. Staff are trained in these plans and we do conduct periodic drills.

For all camps residing at the Y site, the Fire Department will notify the camp of all-weather warnings issued by the U.S. Weather Service. If necessary, the children will be brought inside of the Y where the campers will continue with activities. Whenever camps are off-site, there are pre-designated safety shelters.

FIGHTING

The Y does not tolerate children who harm other children or counselors. This includes and is not limited to degrading, demeaning, threatening or physically harming another child or staff person. Any child or group of children found to be harassing, making fun of or intimidating other children will be subject to disciplinary actions including being sent home or suspended from camp.

GANGS

Children will refrain from any gang related activity while at camp including:

- Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying or selling any evidence of a membership or affiliation in a gang.
- Committing any act or omission, using any verbal or non-verbal speech (gestures, handshakes, drawing pictures, etc.).

INCLUSION/DIVERSITY – AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, The YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago does not discriminate against persons with disabilities.

If your child has an IEP or a 504 plan during the school year, you may choose to be connected with our Inclusion Department. Doing so creates a partnership to determine and plan for support in order to promote the most successful summer experience for your camper. The Inclusion Department can be reached at inclusion@ymcachicago.org.

INSURANCE

The Y summer camp program does not provide accident insurance for your camper. Insurance and payment of treatment is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

NEWSLETTERS AND COMMUNICATION

Camp newsletters will be sent out weekly via *REMIND*. Please read them to keep informed about camp updates, announcements and information about each week's camp. Periodic emails may also be sent out by the camp leadership staff regarding updates and other necessary information. See how to sign up for the Foglia Day Camp *REMIND* account at the end of this handbook.

OBSCENITY

Obscene, profane or vulgar language that is written, oral or expressed by symbols will not be tolerated. Being respectful of children and staff is expected. A violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

PARENT VISITS

The Y has an open door policy for the parents/guardians of all children. Parents are invited to visit camp at any time and do not need to ask permission to do so, but must not interfere with or disrupt the ongoing activities. Also, please introduce yourself to our staff and let them know you are visiting.

PERSONAL CARE SERVICES (such as toileting, feeding, and dressing)

Y staff will provide reminders, verbal and visual cues, and minimal assistance with clothing management.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs and videos, which may include the children, are sometimes taken for use with the Y (social media, program brochures, flyers, newspaper articles about the center, etc.)

RELEASE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Y to not release any information about our children or their families without a signed release form. All medical and personal forms and information on the children are the property of the Y and will remain on file after the child leaves the program.

SEARCH OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Camp staff reserve the right to inspect a camper's property, with the aid of law enforcement officials, if the Camp staff deem the search is necessary to maintain the integrity of the Camp's environment or the protection of the group participants, staff, or other campers.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to all offsite field trips is provided by approved bus vendors who provide safety compliance letters or on Y buses driven by Y Staff who have gone through a background check and driver training.

Camp staff maintain staff to camper ratios when on buses and ensure safe behavior with campers when riding on buses. Campers are not permitted to stand, move about, or disrupt the bus environment to ensure safety of all passengers and the driver.

BUS RULES

- All passengers must wear a securely fastened seat belt if available.
- Children must be seated and facing forward at all times.
- No food or drinks are to be consumed on the bus/van.
- Children must keep their hands and feet to themselves and inside the bus at all times.
- Destruction of seats or any other property on the bus is not allowed.

- No yelling, screaming, or distracting the bus driver.
- No throwing objects inside the bus, or out of the bus windows.
- Staff will be dispersed throughout the bus for maximum supervision.

VANDALISM

Campers involved in vandalism or malicious mischief against camp property, other children or staff members will be disciplined accordingly. Payment to repair any damage accrued as a result of the vandalism is the responsibility of the child's parent/guardian. Violation of this policy may result in the child being suspended from camp.

VENDING MACHINES

Campers are not allowed to use the vending machines during camp hours.

YMCA'S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

We're committed to an environment where open, honest communications are the expectation, not the exception. We count on our members, employees and volunteers to let us know if they become aware of any criminal conduct or violations of our Code of Conduct by contacting an executive, department or program director.

In situations where you would prefer to anonymously or confidentially make a report, you are encouraged to use this helpline, which is hosted by an outside provider, EthicsPoint. Concerns about child safety, violations of policy, illegal activity, requests for guidance regarding policies, as well as positive suggestions and stories may be reported to the helpline in strict confidence.

EthicsPoint Hotline: 855-249-5700. Learn more at ymcahicago.org/report.

Remind

Sign up for important updates from Foglia YMCA Day Camp Leadership.

Get information for Foglia YMCA Day Camp right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for Foglia Y Day Camp 2025:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/fydc25

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the [message @fydc25](https://www.facebook.com/fydc25) to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try [texting @fydc25](https://www.facebook.com/fydc25) to **(415) 749-9891**.

** Standard text message rates apply.*



Please return this signed page with the enrollment paperwork:

I have received and read the Sage YMCA Summer Day Camp Parent Handbook. I understand and agree with its contents:

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Child's Name

Date