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Dear Camp Shai Families,

We are SO excited to have you at Camp Shai, Shai Sports & Full Day Specialty Camps this summer! We have been working hard in the off-season to build a fantastic team of counselors, plan amazing activities, and create exciting memories. We can’t wait to make this summer a positive and unforgettable experience for you and your camper.

It is our goal that your camper has a fun, engaging summer filled with learning opportunities guided by our highly-trained and caring staff. Campers will acquire new skills, develop a sense of self, and independence while also discovering what it means to belong to a safe, supportive, and enriching community.

To make any summer successful, communication is paramount! In the following pages, we have laid out some helpful tips to get you and your camper ready for the summer. We will also be regularly communicating with you via e-mail and regularly posting camp photos (for photo-released campers) on our private Facebook page. If you have not joined it yet, we highly encourage you to do so, so you can join in on the fun photos and videos of your camper and favorite counselors throughout the summer.

We care deeply about your camper and their experience with us this summer! If you have feedback along the way, please let us know! Lastly, if you have any information about your camper that we should know about, we highly encourage you to get in touch with us – the more we know about your camper, the easier we can accommodate their needs.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Cheers,

Courtney, Daniel, Molly, and Allison

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Camp Mission
At Camp Shai, we are more than just a day camp. We are a community, made up of campers, families, and staff, all with the same desire—to give all kids a fun and safe space to explore, imagine, and belong. Camp Shai provides engaging activities for our campers that spark their imagination and inspire them to celebrate their individuality.

Behavioral Health & Inclusion Philosophy
Camp Shai is a place where ALL campers in our care can feel safe, nurtured, and accepted. We do our best to support the individual needs of our campers while providing a safe, healthy, and inclusive social environment for the greater camp community. Core to our mission, Camp Shai welcomes many campers with identified needs, so long as we are able to support them and provide the appropriate level of care without compromising the safety and wellbeing of them or their peers. All camp staff are trained in the most current inclusive behavior practices, and for campers with higher needs, Camp Shai has inclusion counselors that are trained and supported by a behavioral health specialist. While we are able to serve many campers with identified needs and do our best to do so, we are unable to serve everyone. If your camper has learning, cognitive, and/or behavioral differences or special needs, please contact the Camp Shai director directly prior to enrollment, so we can determine whether we are able to provide the necessary resources and accommodations to support your camper.

Camp Shai Middot (Values)

Chesed: Kindness - We treat one another with kindness and compassion. We appreciate each member of our community for who they are.

Kavod: Honor/Respect - We appreciate and celebrate the unique identity of each individual in our camp community. We honor and value ourselves and others by being compassionate and considerate of our feelings and the feelings of others. We treat others as we would like to be treated.

Kehilla: Community – Everyone is welcome to our community. We are representatives of our community at Camp Shai and in the greater community.

Ruach: Sportsmanship/Positive Attitude - We play sports and games with respect, fairness, honesty, and accountability. By cooperating with teammates and opponents and playing with a sense of compassion and integrity, we help to create an environment of friendly competition.
Camp Groups, Locations, & Dates

Camp Shai, Shai Sports and Full-Day Specialty Camp – Camp Units

- **Rishonim (Starters)** – Rising Kindergarteners
- **Chaverim (Friends)** – Rising 1st graders
- **Giborim (Heroes)** – Rising 2nd-3rd graders
- **Bonim (Builders)** – Rising 4th-5th graders

**Shai Sports** – Entering Grades K - 6 (age group divisions of grades K - 1, 2-3, & 4 - 6)

**Full-Day Specialty Camps** – Including Shai Art, Shai STEM, Shai Music, Pluss Theater, and more - various camps for entering Grades K - 6 (age group divisions of grades K - 1 & 2 - 6)

**Middle School Programs**

*On the Road (OTR)* & Middle School Art Specialty Camps

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week One</td>
<td>June 1 - 5</td>
<td>JCC Denver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Two</td>
<td>June 8 - 12</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Three</td>
<td>June 15 - 19**</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Four</td>
<td>June 22 - 26</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Five</td>
<td>June 29—July 2nd (*No Camp Friday, July 3rd)</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Six</td>
<td>July 6 - 10**</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>July 13 - 17</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Eight</td>
<td>July 20 - 24</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Nine</td>
<td>July 27 - 31</td>
<td>Graland Country Day School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Ten — Post Camp One</td>
<td>August 3 - 7</td>
<td>JCC Denver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Eleven — Post Camp Two</td>
<td>August 10 - 14</td>
<td>JCC Denver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pizza Potluck Week**, Thursday – 5:30 - 7:00 pm at Graland.

**Pluss Theater Performance, Thursday - 5:30—7:00 pm at JCC Pluss Theater**

**Camp Hours & Locations for Drop Off/Pick Up**

Camp Hours – Camp Shai operates between 9:00 am — 4:00 pm with Extended Day (8:00 – 9:00 am and 4:00 – 6:00 pm) and Transportation options available.

**Drop Off/Pick Up Locations - Our drop-off locations are below.**

See Transportation for specific drop off times for your respective drop-off/pick up location:

- JCC at 350 South Dahlia Street, Denver, CO 80246 at Wolf Theatre Entrance
- Graland Country Day School at 55 Clermont Street, Denver, CO 80220. Middle School Wing
- Temple Sinai at 3509 South Glencoe Street, Denver, CO 80237
- Saint Peter Lutheran Church at 9300 E Belvuevie Ave. Greenwood Village, CO 80111
- Target at Arapahoe & I-25 at 6767 South Clinton Street, Englewood, CO 80112
Judaism at Camp & Kashrut Policy

Shabbat
Shabbat is a special time that we celebrate as a camp community each Friday afternoon. In Jewish tradition, Shabbat begins at sundown on Friday and is observed through sundown on Saturday. Each Friday at Camp Shai, we will participate in all-camp theme days and then welcome Shabbat through singing, blessings and a community celebration. Families are invited and encouraged to join in the All-Camp Shabbat & Community celebration each Friday afternoon at 3:00pm.

Packing your Camper’s Lunch
Please put your child’s name on his/her lunch. There is no microwave, hot water, or utensils available. There is no refrigerator available for storing lunches; therefore, if your child’s lunch requires refrigeration please pack an ice pack. Licensing regulations require that an ice pack be placed in each child’s lunch.

Kashrut/Food Allergy Policy
We request that all incoming food be sensitive to basic kashrut (no pork and no shellfish). In addition, Camp Shai is a Nut Aware camp. This means that due to a high prominence of allergies, we strongly discourage sending foods with nuts in your camper’s lunch.

All food provided by Camp Shai will have the following approved kosher symbols.

Snack
Our campers get hungry early on in the day! Therefore, every day our campers will have an opportunity to eat a morning snack. Their morning snack comes from their personal packed lunches. Please make sure to pack accordingly, so that they have enough food for a morning snack as well as lunch. Camp Shai will provide a healthy afternoon snack for all campers. These snacks are Kosher certified and allergies and other health restrictions are strictly followed.

Birthdays at Camp
If a camper’s birthday occurs during camp, please talk to the Camp Director before sending something to camp. We would ask that you do not send a sweet treat, but rather talk to us about other ideas for your camper’s group.
A Day in the Life...

Each week, you will receive your camper’s daily schedule. Schedules will also be posted in the office and on our website. Schedules include multiple activity rotations (Sports, Music, Arts & Crafts, Teva, and Teambuilding) and include Tennis and free swim or swimming lessons, depending on the group. Below are sample schedules for Camp Shai and Shai Sports/Full-Day Specialty Camps.

**Sample Daily Schedule – Camp Shai**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:45 am</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 - 10:45 am</td>
<td>Activity I</td>
<td>Activity I</td>
<td>Activity I</td>
<td>Activity I</td>
<td>Friday FUNday Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 - 11:45 am</td>
<td>Activity II</td>
<td>Activity II</td>
<td>Activity II</td>
<td>Activity II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 – 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Activity III</td>
<td>Activity III</td>
<td>Activity III</td>
<td>Activity III</td>
<td>Activity I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Shabbat &amp; Community Celebration @3:00 pm Families Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Daily Schedule – Shai Sports/Full-Day Specialty Camps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:45am</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
<td>Morning Circle &amp; Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am - 12:15 pm</td>
<td>Sport or Specialty Program</td>
<td>Sport or Specialty Program</td>
<td>Sport or Specialty Program</td>
<td>Sport or Specialty Program</td>
<td>Activity Rotations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 - 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Free Swim</td>
<td>Free Swim</td>
<td>Free Swim</td>
<td>Free Swim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Chugim (Free Choice Activity)</td>
<td>Friday FUNday with Camp Shai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Closing Circle &amp; L’Hitraot (See you tomorrow)</td>
<td>Shabbat &amp; Community Celebration @3:00 pm Families Welcome!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attendance, Pick Up/Drop Off, Transportation, & Extended Day

Attendance & Late Drop Offs/Early Pick Ups
If you know your child will not be at camp, please let us know by 9:00 am by either:
Calling – 303.316.6418  (Leave a message if you don’t reach someone)
E-mailing – attendance@jccdenver.org
Note: If you need Sunrise/Sunset care, please make sure to call or e-mail at least 24 hours in advance.

If you know ahead of time that your child will be late to drop-off in the morning, please call the Camp Office. You must sign the child in to camp directly with his/her Unit Head. If their camper group is off-site, they will be integrated into an on-site group until their group returns. Because the groups may be enjoying camp in different locations, it is imperative that any late drop-offs or early pick-ups be pre-arranged through your Unit Head and/or the camp office.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up Procedure
Drop off each morning is from 8:45 – 9:10 am and pick up is from 3:45 – 4:15 pm. For your child’s safety, our drop-off and pick-up lines at the beginning and end of the camp day will operate in a “HUG & GO” fashion. Camp staff will greet vehicles as they arrive, and parents/guardians are asked to stay inside their vehicles while campers are signed into camp and escorted quickly and safely to their group. If you would like to come in for pick up or drop off or speak with the Camp Director or a staff member, please park outside of the Hug & Go Lane and walk your camper in.

At Graland, Pick-up and Drop-off will only occur from the entrance on Bellaire Street. Please do not enter through other gates. If you would like to park, parking is located along 1st Ave, Ellsworth, and Clermont. We are asking that only traffic for HUG & GO drive north on Bellaire Street and that no one drives south on Bellaire Street. See the map below.

At JCC (Weeks 1, 10, & 11) Pick-up and Drop-off will only occur from the Wolf Theatre Entrance on the South Side of the JCC Building. The HUG & GO lane will take place in the middle parking lot of the JCC.

If you arrive after 9:10 am or 4:15 pm, please come into camp to drop off or pick up your camper. At 4:15pm, campers that have not been picked up will be checked into Sunset Care for the day.

Sign In/Sign Out Procedure
Parents/guardians must sign their child in and out of camp with a camp staff member each morning and afternoon for Pick Up & Drop Off. For campers riding the bus, a staff member will have the attendance list for you to sign your camper in and out. For Sunrise/Sunset campers, you must walk in to the site and sign your camper in/out. Authorized caregivers must sign in/out their child with a Camp Shai staff member present. Whenever signing a child in or out of camp, please make sure to have a State Issued Photo ID.

Authorized Pick Ups & Visitors
All authorized caregivers must be noted on your “Pick-Up Authorization” form online in your camper’s CampMinder account in order for us to release your child to them. If a child is going home with a friend, we must have a signed note from the child’s parent/guardian. Visitors must sign the Visitor Sign-In Book located in the Camp office. Please ask other authorized adults to bring a photo ID when picking up your child.

Note: This also includes CITs, unless a written note is provided and approved by Camp Director.
Extended Care
For your child’s safety, you need to come inside and sign your children in/out when dropping off your child for Sunrise Care or picking them up from Sunset Care. If you need drop-in care, please make sure to call the office and talk to the staff – you are not confirmed for coverage unless you have gotten a confirmation from the Camp Office. The Location of Sunrise and Sunset Care is at the JCC in the Phillips Social Hall for Week 1, 10 and 11, and at Graland in the Cafeteria during Weeks 2 – 9.

Sunrise Care (8:00 – 9:00am) - All campers registered for extended early care may be dropped off as early as 8am. Sunrise care is $10/day for drop-in care or $40 for the week.

Sunset Care (4:00 – 6:00 pm) – All campers registered for Sunset Care may be picked up as late as 6pm each day. Sunset Care is $20/day for drop-in care or $80 for the week. When picking your child up from Sunset extended after care, please be on time. If a child is not picked up by 6:10 pm and we are not able to reach the parents, individuals listed on the child’s emergency form will be called to pick-up the child. Social services and/or the police will be called as a last measure if no individual can be contacted to pick-up the child.

Rainy Day Procedures
When it is raining during the camp day, camp staff are trained to modify their schedules and locations to ensure campers are in a safe, dry, and fun environment. Specialists have back-up programs planned in case the designated location requires a shift in the programming. Depending on the extent of the rain, camp units may all come together for a large camp activity in one of our larger indoor spaces. In case of inclement weather, parents should check their email and their text messages regularly for communication from Camp Shai and the JCC regarding drop off and pick up.
**Designated Bus Stops**

For families who do not live close to the JCC and Graland, Camp Shai offers busing. **Pick Up and Drop Off Times are precise!** Camp Shai will have a counselor on the bus checking attendance and providing supervision on the bus. If you are not on time, the bus will leave without you. If you know you are not going to make the bus on any given day, please report your camper’s absence to the Camp Office ASAP.

**South Bus: Cherry Creek & South Denver** – Campers have the option to catch the bus at:

**Drop Off**
- Arapahoe & I-25 (Target Parking Lot) 8:00 – 8:10 am
- Saint Peter Lutheran Church 8:15 – 8:25 am
- Temple Sinai 8:35 – 8:45 am

**Pick Up**
- Temple Sinai 4:05 – 4:10 pm
- Saint Peter Lutheran Church 4:20 – 4:30 pm
- Arapahoe & I-25 (Target Parking Lot) 4:40 – 4:45 pm

**Special Activities**

Camp Shai has many special activities throughout the summer:

**Friday FUNdays** - Fridays are special days at Camp Shai, as we all come together to celebrate our camp community, to reflect on a fun-filled week, and welcome the arrival of Shabbat. As the name implies, our activities on Friday are FUN and BIG! Campers and counselors are encouraged to dress up for the themes.

**Swimming Lessons** - Unless prior arrangements are made with the Camp Director/Unit Head, every camper will be required to participate in the camp’s swimming activities. Campers will swim in the JCC pool throughout the week and there will be opportunities for outdoor water play as well. **Please send a swimsuit and towel (as well as goggles and swim shoes, if desired) EVERY DAY so your camper can participate in every water-related opportunity. Rash guards are highly recommended for campers who are sensitive to the sun since they provide additional protection from sunburn. Please label towels, swimsuits and any other belongings with your camper’s name.**

**Field Trips** - It is possible that we will offer occasional day trips in the Denver Metro area during the summer for our campers. Parents will be notified in advance. When this happens, campers will return to camp by 3:45 pm. All campers are responsible for carrying out our policies and procedures off-site, and representing Camp Shai and the JCC in public. For safety reasons, campers are required to wear their Camp Shai shirts on off-site trips.

**OTR Overnights and Extended Evenings** - Each Wednesday, OTR Campers will go on a longer adventure for the day and be ready for pick-up at 7pm. On Weeks 3 and 7, Wednesdays will be a campout. Campers will arrive back at camp on Thursday afternoon in time for pick up. If other overnight programs are arranged for campers, specific details and logistical information will be shared with families and permission slips will be issued in advance.
What to Wear & Bring To Camp

Much of what we do at camp involves hands-on activities that may result in dirty (and creative!) campers. Therefore we request that you send your children in clothing that shows the signs of summer fun. Camp Shai DOES NOT provide lunch. Please pack a sack lunch every day. A healthy snack is provided each day.

What to Wear:
- Tennis shoes
- Sunscreen – We will provide it repeatedly throughout the day, but please come wearing it too!
- Comfortable pants or shorts
- A light jacket/sweatshirt for cold mornings and rain jacket for rainy days
- Swimsuit & towel every day
- Rash guards for campers who are sensitive to the sun while swimming.
- A water bottle and brimmed hat
- Lunch (and extra snacks if your child gets extra hungry at camp)
- Younger Campers - A change of clothes to leave at camp in case of accidents (Suggested)

Please Avoid:
- Sandals (Flip Flops, except for swimming)
- Nice clothes that you do not want to become dirty
- Cell phones, iPods, and electronics
- Toys from home
- Clothing or toys that promote war, violence, racism or sexism
- Tobacco, Illegal Drugs, or Alcohol
- Money: There is no spending money at camp. Campers with money at camp create inequalities that can be harmful to the camp experience.
  
  **Note:** OTR campers may bring up to $10 for overnights.
- “Anything that will make you cry if it gets lost or broken”

Labeling Clothing/Belongings

Please label all items that your child brings to camp (including lunches). This includes shirts, shorts, pants, sweatshirts, jackets, shoes, swimsuits, towels, water bottles and daypacks. Proper labeling will assist us in returning misplaced items to their proper owner.

Lost & Found

Camp Shai staff will make every effort to keep the campers' belongings together and to ensure that no child leaves any items behind. Nonetheless, we strongly discourage bringing any items of value to camp, as things get lost, broken, or possibly stolen. **Camp Shai is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged camper items, belongings, and property.**

Lost & Found items are collected and placed outside the camp office. We encourage all families to take a look at the lost and found table for any items that a camper may be missing. At the end of Week 4 and Week 8, the contents of Lost & Found will be donated to a local shelter.

Cell Phones

Campers are NOT permitted to have or use cell phones or electronics of any kind at camp (or on the bus). Cell phones and electronics should be stored in camper’s backpacks during camp hours. If cell phones or electronics are visible or used at all during camp, a counselor will collect them and return them to the camper at the end of the day. If it becomes a reoccurring issue for a camper, the Camp Director or Head Counselor will contact parents.
Standards of Behavior
Camp Shai strives to support the individual needs of its campers while providing a safe, healthy, inclusive social environment for the entire community. Conflict resolution and positive reinforcement are used to encourage desired behaviors. Camp Shai is a place where all campers can feel safe, nurtured and accepted. As such, the following behavioral standards have been set:

- Ridiculing and teasing are not allowed. Campers are reminded about this policy in a gentle but firm manner. It is explained that the above behavior makes all of us feel bad, and often times results in aggressive physical acting out.
- Physically violent and aggressive behavior is not allowed. A child will be sent home immediately if they are involved in a physical altercation.
- Aggressive and vulgar language is not allowed.
- Bullying is not tolerated at Camp Shai.
- Graffiti and other actions that damage property will be dealt with by charging parents for the damage.
- The Staff of Camp Shai is here to create a positive environment for all involved. We take a firm and gentle stance to campers who compromise the effectiveness of the staff (e.g., non-cooperation, not listening, being in an unsupervised location).
- Any type of toy or garment that depicts or is a representation of acts of war and violence, drugs or alcohol is not allowed at Camp Shai. Personal toys are not to be brought to camp.
- Repetitive occurrences of any of the above behavior after repeated warnings may result in expulsion from Camp Shai without a refund. Parents will be notified prior to any action taken.

Behavior Expectations on the Bus:
- The bus will be left in the same condition (clean) as it was found in the morning. If the bus is left messy, everyone will work together to clean it.
- Campers may sit where they want on the bus as long as they are being cooperative, respectful, and kind to each other.
- Hands, feet, personal belongings may not go out of the bus windows.
- Our bus drivers are here to keep our campers and staff safe and to make sure they get to and from their destination on time. Campers and staff will do their best not to disturb them. The drivers also have important information to share. When the driver needs to say something everyone pay close attention and listen.
- If campers have a problem, or need help, there is a staff member who they should seek support from. Campers must ask first before standing up or moving toward the staff member.
- In the event of an emergency, campers must adhere to instructions from the bus driver and/or staff member. This can include directions on how to vacate the bus, or how to help others in need.

Behavior Agreement
As part of your camper’s forms there is a document titled “Behavior Agreement”. Please make sure you go over these behavior expectations with your child as it will set them up for success this summer. The document requires signatures from both a parent and a camper.

Dismissal
The Camp Director reserves the right to dismiss without a refund or to cancel the enrollment of any child whose mental condition, conduct, influence or behavior is deemed unsatisfactory, unsafe, or not in the best interest of the program or the child’s experience.
Philosophy of Care
The first and foremost responsibility of Camp Shai staff members is to get to know each child and his/her family well. Prior to the beginning of summer, Camp Shai has an “Open House” and families are invited and encouraged to come with their children to meet staff, explore the camp space and set goals in partnership with parents. It is important for us to understand each child as well as possible prior to the start of camp.

Submitting Camper Forms
Having these forms makes for safe and healthy children at camp and at home. This information will help us get better acquainted with your family and child, and the information on health history form will assist our staff in caring for any special needs your child may have. The forms are necessary and required in order for your child to attend camp. Please note any allergies or asthma that your child has, as well as medication taken during camp hours. We are a nut-aware camp, meaning that all products provided by the camp will be peanut-free; however, some children may bring products containing peanuts to camp with their lunch. Feel free to arrange a meeting with the Camp Director to discuss specific dietary and health-related restrictions.

Parents must provide updated information, including all medical, developmental or psychological information regarding their child prior to their time at camp so we may plan effectively. Changes in life situations (such as divorce, death, loss, recent moves, accidents, fears) often influence children’s behavior and are important for us to be aware of. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED CONFIDENTIALLY.

All forms for camp are found in your CampMinder account online and must be completed and submitted no less than 7 business days before the start of camp. No camper can attend camp without completed forms. Many of the forms require parent signatures or physician signatures.

Planning for Individual Children
Camp Shai and the JCC welcome all children so long as we can provide the necessary resources and support to provide appropriate care. If your child has learning, cognitive, and/or behavioral differences or special needs, we ask that parents contact the Camp Director prior to their child’s enrollment, so that Camp Shai can determine whether we are able to provide the necessary resources and accommodations to support your child(ren). While we are able to serve many campers with identified needs and do our absolute best to do so, we are unable to serve everyone.
Health & Safety

Camp Shai General Health Policy
The safety of our campers is the highest priority to all Camp Shai Staff. As such, The JCC Denver and Camp Shai reserve the right to refuse participation to any camper deemed by executive staff to be at elevated medical or emotional behavioral risk. In order to understand and care for your child, it is helpful to us if you keep us informed of significant factors at home, such as prolonged illness in the family, a parent being away, death closely affecting the child, moving, etc., and of course, nice things, too!

Camp Shai also reserves the right to request clearance from a licensed medical or mental health professional at any time prior to or during camp to allow participation. **Contagious diseases must be reported to the camp by the parent as soon as the illness has been diagnosed so that other parents may be notified of the possible exposure.** Please remind your child that all injuries, no matter how minor, must be reported to his/her counselor.

A child with the following symptoms may NOT attend Camp Shai:
1. Conjunctivitis (pink eye) or thick discharge from one of both eyes.
2. Fever in excess of 100.0 degrees. Campers must be fever free for 24 hours to return to camp.
3. Excessive sneezing or coughing.
4. Unidentified rash.
5. Vomiting or diarrhea.
6. Lice (please see Camp Shai Lice Policy below).

In addition to the above symptoms, you will be asked to pick up your child from camp if he/she is experiencing any of the following:
1. Is so uncomfortable that he/she is unable to participate in normal camp activities
2. Is experiencing signs of a concussion or head injury

Medication
Medications that are to be administered during camp hours must have the “Medication Administration Permission” completed and submitted at least 48 business hours prior to the first day of camp your child is attending. Allergy and Asthma Plans are included in this 48 hour window. Other medications that require special training, such as emergency seizure medications, require that paperwork is submitted at least two weeks before the child’s first enrolled session. **All medication must be in the original container (including box), and must be clearly labeled with:** (1) the child’s name, (2) directions, (3) physician’s name and phone number, (4) original prescription label if the medication is prescription. Campers are not permitted to personally carry medications, including aspirin, Epipens, inhalers, or special sunscreens.

Campers with medication, allergies and/or asthma must be walked in with a parent bringing in their medication every Monday morning when they are beginning a new session at Camp Shai. The medications (Epipens/Inhalers/etc) will be kept in specifically designated areas for the entire week the camper is present. Your camper should have additional medication and Epipens/Inhalers in the car and at home since their camp-based medication/Epipen/Inhaler will remain at camp all week. Only Camp Shai staff that are specifically trained to administer medication as delegated by our camp nurse, Mandee Jacobsen, RN, BSN, CCHC, will have access to and be permitted to administer medication to your child.

As per state licensing, if your child has a life threatening allergy or condition, and there are any errors in medication paperwork or medications supplied, Camp Shai CANNOT have your child in our care. Make sure to check expiration dates on medications, that all paperwork is year to date beyond your child’s time at camp, etc.

Immunizations
All Camp Shai campers must be immunized according to the State of Colorado recommended immunization schedule or be on a plan via the physician to get on schedule. Medical exemptions for immunizations are the only exemptions recognized by Camp Shai. All Medical exemptions must be completed by a doctor and on the appropriate state approved form. Children that cannot provide immunization records will not be permitted to enroll in Camp Shai.
**Sunscreen**
Please apply sunscreen to your child every morning before arriving at camp. We will do our best to ensure that sunscreen is re-applied frequently to every camper. If a child does not have sunscreen and has a signed the sunscreen agreement we will apply a generic brand of sunscreen. Please mark sunscreen on your Health History. Please let us know if your child has any allergies. Camp Shai specifically provides Rocky Mountain Sunscreen 50 SPF Spray Mist.

**Lice Policy**
Camp Shai follows the Colorado Department of Public Health (CDPH) Lice Policy:
The Colorado Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends that schools and child-care facilities maintain an active educational campaign for parents on the accurate diagnosis and correct treatment of head lice cases to prevent transmission of lice in schools and reduce lost school days due to head lice infestation. Head lice, while a significant social problem, do not transmit disease to humans. Traditionally, head lice policies in schools emphasized that a child infested with head lice could not return to school until no nits were found in their hair (“no-nit” policy).

If it is determined that a camper has lice, Camp Shai will check ALL campers for lice or nits. Parents will be notified should we do this and if campers have lice or nits, parents will receive a phone call to pick up their camper from camp. Campers will not be allowed to come back until they are fully treated and lice/nit free.

**Injuries at Camp**
Camp Shai has a series of policies in place to ensure that parents are informed about any injuries their child may sustain at camp. For injuries like scrapes and bumps, counselors will perform the necessary first aid and log the care they provided in a First Aid Log. If it is a more serious injury, your child’s counselor or office staff member will phone to inform you of the injury and you may receive an Incident Report.

**On-Call Camp Nurse**
Camp Shai’s on-call nurse, TOTTS Nurse Consulting, is available by phone for our staff should any medical questions, concerns, or medical emergencies occur. The Nurse has reviewed all Camp Health Policies and Procedures and is in regular contact with the Camp Director to discuss any medical related incidents.

**Staff Certifications & Preparedness**
At least one Camp Shai staff in each group is certified in First Aid and CPR and all Camp Shai Staff have undergone training in safety and emergency procedures. Each group carries a First Aid Kit and Emergency Binder at all times. All staff are trained in emergency drills and procedures prior to camp. During emergencies, they utilize specific supervision strategies to ensure campers are safe.

**Child Protective Services**
In the State of Colorado, all professionals who care for children, including Camp Shai staff, are required by law to report “reasonable suspicion” of child abuse to either a law enforcement agency or a county child protective agency. Camp Shai staff are experienced and trained in assessing situations which may lead them to make a child abuse referral. Camp Shai is committed to maintaining a safe environment for children and for serving our children and families in the best way we can. In situations where we would have to make a referral to either law enforcement or protective services, we will attempt to make the process as supportive as possible.

As a parent of a child in a licensed childcare center, you may report any suspected abuse by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 1.844.CO.4.Kids or 1.844.264.5437. If you wish to make a complaint or have a concern regarding your provider you may call the Public Health Inspection Division at 303.285.4075 or the Colorado Department of Human Services at 303.866.5958.
Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency please call the Camp Shai on-site cell phone. This number will be forthcoming, please keep an eye out for an email. If you are unable to reach us in the office, please call the JCC main number: 303.399.2660.

Accident & Illness Procedures

In the event of an accident or illness, trained JCC staff members will administer First Aid. Should additional treatment be needed, parents/guardians will be notified immediately. If they cannot be reached, Camp Shai staff will move on to the camper’s emergency contact list and begin calling until we reach someone. If a child is in need of immediate emergency medical attention, we will call 911 and the child will be taken to the nearest hospital.

All Camp Shai staff are trained in CPR, First Aid, and Universal Precautions. Additionally, Camp Shai Head Counselors are trained in medication administration, including emergency epinephrine (EpiPen) and asthma medications.

Inclement Weather

Colorado is famous for summer storms! If there is a storm or storm warning, it is not necessary to retrieve your child. In the event of a tornado warning, all campers will seek safety and shelter in a designated area at the JCC or Graland. **If there is a change made in dismissal due to any kind of threat, you will be notified by text and email.** In the case of inclement weather, please call the Camp Shai office at: 303.316.6418. If you are unable to reach us in the office, please call the JCC main number: 303.399.2660.

Suspicous Persons

In the case of a suspicious person, all campers will be directed to seek safety in designated areas throughout the JCC and Graland facilities depending on their current location. Dismissal will be delayed until the warning is over.

Missing or Lost Child

Camp Shai takes all precautions to prevent a missing or lost child. A missing or lost child is any camper who is known to have been signed in to camp and who is currently unaccounted for. If a camper is missing, the premises will be searched (i.e. closets, under tables, restrooms, etc.). Other children will be asked if they know where the child may be. If the child is still missing, he/she is immediately reported missing to the Camp Directors who will take the appropriate next steps to find the missing child.

Drills

Camp Shai practices fire, tornado, and active threat drills regularly during the camp and year-round youth programs season, so that children and staff are familiar with procedures for emergency exits. Camp Shai keeps track of the dates of these drills, the number of adults and children present during each drill, as well as the time that was taken to evacuate the building and/or move safely into secure spaces.
Communication and Media

Parent Communication
Please regularly check your CampInTouch account, personal email, and our Facebook page for camp updates, media, pictures, etc. Camp Shai makes every effort to keep parents informed of the weekly activities of our camp with emails and Facebook updates. Each Friday, a newsletter containing that week’s activities and any announcements will be emailed home. **Please make sure we have your correct email address. Special notices for field trips and overnights will also be emailed to you regularly. Please check your spam folders for the following email addresses:**

- General Camp Email: campshai@jccdenver.org
- Courtney Jacobson, Camp Shai Director: cjacobson@jccdenver.org
- Daniel Siegel, Camp Shai Associate Director: dsiegel@jccdenver.org
- Molly Cohn, Assistant Director of Youth Services: mcohn@jccdenver.org
- Allison Marshall, Business Registrar: amarshall@jccdenver.org

We welcome any questions or concerns you may have during the camp season. You can:
- email us at the addresses listed above or visit our website at jccdenver.org/denver-jewish-community/camp-shai/
- find us on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/campshai/
This is a closed group and you will have to request to join.

Pictures at Camp
Say Cheese! We may take photographs and/or video of your child for promotional purposes for Camp Shai or other JCC programs. Please indicate on your child’s application if you would not like your child’s image to be used.

Camp pictures will be taken and used at any time throughout the summer, and may be posted on the JCC’s webpage, our Facebook page (facebook.com/groups/campshai/), and/or in CampMinder. To access photos in CampMinder, use your login and scroll down and click on the “Photos” tab. Make sure you are looking at the “2020” folder and then you can click on any Camp Shai album to view pictures.

Television & Video Viewing
Camp Shai is an activity-focused educational environment, and we believe that children learn best through active participation, hands-on experiences, interactive conversation, and exploration. Though rare, programming may provide an opportunity to use media as an educational tool, or specific programs might be geared towards watching media or a movie. Television and movies rated PG are only permitted with the written approval of a child’s parent/guardian. Parents/guardians have an opportunity to provide consent for their child to view a PG-rated movie in our Terms & Conditions (available on CampMinder).
Shai FYI

What are middot?
In Hebrew, middot translates to ‘values’. Camp Shai focuses on the values of kindness, community, respect, and good sportsmanship. In fact, these values permeate every aspect of camp from the staff to the campers to the activities.

What are the camp hours?
The day begins at 9 am and ends at 4 pm. We have extended care both in the morning and afternoon to stretch the camp day from 8 am – 6 pm.

Who should I turn to with questions about my child?
The most important person for you to speak with regarding your child at camp is the Unit Head of your camper’s group. The Camp Director should be notified if your child has special needs (i.e. health requirements or to dispense medicine). Your child’s Unit Head and Counselors would be so happy to discuss how your child is doing on a day-to-day basis. The Camp Shai Directors are available to assist you with questions and/or concerns in all areas of Camp Shai.

What is the Pizza Potluck?
These fun-filled evenings give you a chance to socialize with campers, other families, and counselors. The events feature songs, skits, and a slide show. Details will follow closer to the time of these events. The Potlucks are open to all Shai families regardless of whether they are attending during that session. Don’t forget to bring a pizza to share!

Family Pizza Potluck – Thursday, June 17 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm
Family Pizza Potluck – Thursday, July 8 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Don’t forget about our Family Concert with the amazing Andrew and Polly on July 22nd, 5:30 - 7 pm.

Can I come visit my child at camp?
Parents are welcome to join us for Shabbat on Fridays 3:00 – 3:30 pm. At all other times, please check in with the Camp Director and we’ll get you scheduled as best as we can!

What’s your policy on cell phones and electronics?
Camp is a great place to meet life-long friends, make great connections with counselors, and have fun outdoors. We strongly discourage campers from bringing cell phones or electronics to camp and they will only be allowed at very specific times.

How “Jewish” is Camp Shai? Do I have to be Jewish to attend?
Camp Shai focuses on universal humanist values with a Jewish lens. We embrace everyone who wants to be a part of our community. While Camp Shai is the premier Jewish day camp in Denver, we welcome campers of all backgrounds.

We don’t live close to the JCC Denver or Graland. Is there something to help the commute?
Yes! We have buses that pick campers up in the morning and drop them off in the afternoon. We have a South-bound bus that picks up at Arapahoe & I – 25, Cherry Creek High School and continues on to Temple Sinai then camp. See Transportation for exact times.

My child has never been to Camp Shai and doesn’t know anyone.
Will your counselors help make a positive experience?
OF COURSE! We have a nice mix of new and returning campers each week of camp – and we pride ourselves on getting to know each camper. Our staff are trained in best practices for positive youth development and fostering relationships among campers and staff. We work hard to make sure your camper makes a friend while they are with us!