



## CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES

### Arrival at Camp/Check-In

With around 100 campers arriving each week, we strive to make the check-in process as efficient and welcoming as possible. We ask that you please be patient with our staff, as they are doing their very best to make the process as easy and welcoming for you, your camper, and all of our camp families. Check in at camp is Sunday afternoon based on the following schedule. For families with campers in various programs, please join for the earliest drop-off time.

Check-in (Arrival) Schedule for First Experience, Traditional Camp, LITs, CITs:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Cabin Groups:</u>
2:00PM	All Mini Camp, First Experience, Leaders in Training and Counselors in Training
2:30PM	GIRLS Traditional Campers
3:30PM	BOYS Traditional Campers

- Arrive at camp at the correct time so we are best prepared for your camper's arrival.
- At Camp Weona, families will experience our drive through check in and stay in their cars while stopping at all check in stations listed below. (See Camp Weona Map for Visual of Check In)
- At Camp Kenan, our staff will guide families into camp and to the parking lot to park cars and proceed to the Mess Hall to visit all of the check in stations listed below. (See Camp Kenan Map for Visual of Check In)
- Check In Stations for all Parents and Campers at both camps.
  - Attendance and Health check in with Camp Nurse. Medications must be labeled in original packaging with camper's first and last name, must be included on previously submitted Medication paperwork, and separate from luggage to pass to the Camp Nurse.
  - Pass off any camper letters/mail, labeled with camper's name and day to distribute to camper. Please remember, no care packages or snacks are allowed.
  - RSVP to our Family Friday event (free) so we can collect an accurate headcount for meals and campfire snacks
  - Drop off all luggage. Please have it neat and ready for quick curbside drop-off at both camps.
  - Say "see you later have fun!" to your camper(s) as our staff greet them and bring them to an activity area and their cabin group
- At Camp Weona, cars must follow staff and posted instructions, stay in line at all times, and may not pull around other vehicles.
- At Camp Kenan, our staff will point you in the proper direction. Please follow the flow of traffic and arrows and staff will assign you a parking spot.
- If you have a scheduling conflict that does not allow you to come at the assigned time, or you are running late, please contact the appropriate camp. Late arrivals will be asked to come at a specific time Sunday evening, or Monday morning.

Camp Weona can be found in Google Maps, and at the following address:

**YMCA Camp Weona  
4025 Poplar Tree Road  
Gainesville, NY 14066**

When arriving, please enter camp at the 'Yellow Star' and follow staff directions.

We recommend turning onto camp's street, Poplar Tree Road, from the south entrance at the Wethersfield Road intersection.





Camp Kenan can be found in Google Maps, and at the following address:

**YMCA Camp Kenan  
8571 Lower Lake Rd  
Barker, NY 14012**

Camp staff will direct you where to park. Then walk down path to Mess Hall at 'Yellow Star'. Leave luggage in the car.



Please enter camp at 'Yellow Star' and exit at 'Red Star' through Day Camp to public road.



### Tips for a Positive and Smooth Arrival

We are looking forward to summer camp and helping your child get the best experience possible. Here are a few thoughts that may ease the transition from home life to camp life for your camper.

- Whether it is their first time or returning camper, arrival at camp can be a time of excitement, wonder, and apprehension. The best thing a parent can do for their child is to be positive and encouraging.
- Tell them "see you soon" and let the Camp Staff establish a warm, caring, camp atmosphere. We require that all parents stay in their vehicles and depart camp after they have completed check-in.
- Campers will be greeted by staff and join an activity to meet other campers. After a quick orientation, tour of camp, and cabin icebreaker games, campers will begin to make new friends and become excited for all that camp has to offer.
- If you would like to visit camp, please look forward to Family Friday Pick-up
- Emphasize that your child is "going" to camp rather than you "sending" them to camp
- Missing home may occur. Talk openly with your child long before they leave for camp, not the day prior. MOST campers do miss home, but this is a passing feeling. Your child will feel less anxiety knowing these feelings are perfectly natural.
- Avoid saying, "If you don't like it you can come home". This can cause a camper struggling to adjust to camp to focus on going home immediately and not allowing our staff to do their job and open your child to the magic of camp to give it a fair chance.
- Take care not to encourage your camper to feel guilty about leaving you. Avoid statements like, "I am going to miss you SO much...I can't wait until you get back". Instead say "I am so excited for you!" or "What a great experience you will have."
- Creating a beautiful picture of camp is important. But also, be honest with your child about the rustic outdoor camp life they might not be accustomed to.
- Give them a small journal to write down five great things per day about camp. Smaller children may need help so use alphabet letters to get them started. For example, A... We saw an Apple tree today. B... it was my counselor's Birthday. They can then share their book with you when they get home.



### Departure from Camp/Check-out for Traditional Campers, Mini Camp, LITs, and CITS

- All campers may be picked up from camp between 3-4:30PM on the Friday that ends their session of camp or Mini Camp pick up will be at the same time but on Wednesday.
- Please follow the same driving direction and process as Sunday Check In.
- **Parents/Guardians or other adults 21 years or older picking up camper(s) must show VALID PHOTO ID, and be listed as an Authorized Pick-up on camp paperwork.**
- At Camp Weona, cars will be asked to continue driving to the posted cabin sign or area, where we can assist in loading luggage, and any camper medications.
  - At that time, a camp staff member will be walking camper(s) from nearby activity areas to the vehicle.
- At Camp Kenan similar to check in, parents/guardians picking up their camper(s) will proceed to the Mess Hall to begin the check-out process and be directed where to go to pick up their camper(s). Parents/Guardians must sign out their camper(s) with the cabin counselor after leaving the Mess Hall.

After going through our pick-up process, families have TWO choices after pick-up from camp: Departure from Camp, or “Family Friday” dinner and a campfire. Families joining for Family Friday can indicate their attendance and food order at drop off on Sunday.

### Family Fridays for Traditional Camp, LITs, and CITS

- Dinner is scheduled promptly for 5PM, followed by a campfire at 5:30PM and departure by 6PM
- At Camp Weona, after picking up your camper(s) and their luggage at the entrance of camp, please follow signs and staff directions towards parking. Please be prepared for a short walk from the parking area to Dining Hall where dinner is served.
- At Camp Kenan, after signing out your camper(s) with their cabin counselor and picking up luggage at the cabin, you will head back to the Mess Hall where dinner is served.
- After dinner at both camps, parents/guardians and camper(s) will head to the Campfire Circle for a tasty treat and camper showcase.
- Please remember to wear proper footwear for the outdoor camp setting.

### Departure from Camp/Check-out for First Experience Camp (Tuesday)

- First Experience Campers are picked up on Tuesday at 5:30PM of their session.
- Please follow the same driving direction and process as Sunday Check In.
- **Parents/Guardians or other adults 21 years or older picking up camper(s) must show VALID PHOTO ID, and be listed as an Authorized Pick-up on camp paperwork.**
- Please have valid photo ID ready and follow staff instructions for picking up camper(s), luggage, and camper medications.

After going through our pick-up process, families have TWO choices after pick-up from camp: Departure from Camp or join us for dinner with the rest of camp and S’mores to follow.

- All families are invited to join us for dinner at 6PM, followed by a campfire, S’mores and departure by 7PM.
- Families joining us for camp dinner can let us know at drop off on Sunday.
- Please remember to wear proper footwear for the outdoor camp setting.
- If you are picking up a First Experience Camper and also have a Traditional, LIT, or CIT camper at camp, please keep in mind that your older camper is in a separate dining area at the Dining Hall with their cabin group and is not available to say hello. This will greatly help your older campers continue their week on their own, as seeing family on Tuesday may increase missing home and disrupt their camp experience.