

# PARENT HANDBOOK

#### **PARENT TIPS:**

We are committed to giving you all the information you need to be prepared and have an awesome camp experience! You'll receive a "Welcome to Camp" email with detailed camp information the Friday before your child's camp begins. Please read through it thoroughly. If you do not receive an email the Friday prior to camp starting, please email us (see staff directory below).

Log on to our Y Camp Life portal to check out fun photos of your camper in action! <u>Visit Y Camp</u> Life >>

#### Find us on Facebook >>

#### **CAMP STAFF:**

YMCA Email us with any questions at <a href="mailto:mccroreycamps@YMCACharlotte.org">mccroreycamps@YMCACharlotte.org</a>

Or contact our camp leaders directly:

Jemarion Young Senior Program Director (Day Camp and Teen Camp) jemarion.young@ymcacharlotte.org

SaTashia McKinney Early Education Coordinator (Preschool Camp and Art Camp) satashia.mckinney@ymcacharlotte.org

DeNorris Johnson Sports Coordinator (Sports Camp) denorris.johnson@ymcacharlotte.org

Sunny Anderson Aquatics Coordinator (Swim Camp) sunny.anderson@ymcacharlotte.org

#### **DROP-OFF & PICK-UP:**

Camp programming begins at 7:00 AM. Campers MAY NOT be dropped off at camp prior to 7:00 AM. This allows the camp staff to properly prepare for the day without interruption. Camp Staff will be ready to greet your campers promptly at 7:00 AM. Please help us keep camp on schedule by dropping off and picking up your child on time.

#### **Drop-off**

Curbside services will be offered to our families. We ask that parents come in through the main parking lot. A counselor will record your time, and your child will be walked to their respective group.

#### Pick-Up

Curbside services will also be offered at the end of the day. Children will only be released to legal guardian or responsible adult listed on the registration form. Every authorized individual must

present a photo ID at rides out. In the event that a child will be picked up by an adult not listed on the registration form, a parent note (including the person's name as it appears on their photo ID) is required and a photo ID must be shown during rides out.

#### WHAT TO BRING/WEAR:

Check the weather daily and dress your camper accordingly — the camp day will continue rain or shine! Be sure to label EVERYTHING you send to camp with your camper and check the camp's lost and found at the end of the week before items are donated.

- Children should dress comfortably in clothes that can get dirty
- McCrorey YMCA provides breakfast, lunch and a snack for all campers. You may pack your child a healthy lunch, water bottle and two snacks for morning and afternoon.
- Water, water, water we encourage a refillable water bottle
- Swimsuit and towel with sandals to walk to the pool and back from the changing area
- Plastic bag for the wet swimsuit and towel
- Spray sunscreen and bug spray
- Extra change of clothes
- Day pack or small book bag to hold all belongings that your child can comfortably carry
- Campers will be outdoors 90% of the day so be prepared for hot weather days
- Please dress your kids in cool clothing for hot weather days (light colors, light fabric, hat and visor)
- We strongly recommend kids wear tennis shoes to protect their feet during camp activities
- Please label everything

#### **LUNCH INFORMATION:**

Breakfast, lunch and snack will be provided for all campers every day. Campers may bring a bagged lunch and/or snack daily. Please note, we are a peanut free facility. Also, campers may not bring lunch that requires heating.

#### **CAMP SCHEDULE:**

While individual camp agendas vary, here's generally what a typical full day at camp looks like:

7:00 AM: Drop-off begins / Small group games

9:00 AM: Opening assembly. Drop-off closed. No late arrivals admitted after 9:00 AM

10:00 AM: Activity Rotation 1 11:00 AM: Activity Rotation 2

12:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM: Activity Rotation 3 2:00 PM: Activity Rotation 4

3:00 PM: Snack 3:30 PM: Rotation 5

4:30 PM: Pick-up begins / Rotation 6

5:30 PM: Closing assembly 6:00 PM: Camp Closed

See additional schedules at the end of this handbook.

#### **SWIM ASSESSMENT:**

Before swimming at camp, all campers are swim tested in the pool under the direct supervision of certified lifeguards and camp staff. Parents can help speed up our swim testing by having your child swim tested before camp begins. Swim tests can be given at any YMCA of Greater Charlotte branch. If you are planning to have your camper take the swim test prior to his or her session, it must be completed by close of business the Wednesday before the session begins. Certified Life Vests are available for any child not able to successfully pass our swim test. Learn more >>

#### **HEAT ADVISORY:**

The safety and comfort of our campers is always our top priority and we want you to be aware of the changes we will make to our camp schedule on extremely hot days. During extreme heat and heat advisory days, we will adjust our schedule when possible. The safety and comfort of our campers is always our top priority and we want you to be aware of the changes we will make to our camp schedule with the heat is on.

- We will limit the time we spend in direct sun.
- We will spend more outside time in shady places.
- We will take more breaks that usual to "chill out."
- We'll play games that keep kids hydrated and cool (like water fun).
- We will move activities inside when possible.
- We will take extra water breaks and make sure water is always available.

Here are some tips to help your kids stay comfy cool during summer fun:

- · Pack a frozen water bottle.
- Dress campers in lightweight and light colored clothing.
- Store lunch in an insulated, chilled lunch box.
- Send your child with a hat.
- Apply sunscreen before camp.

Tell your camp staff if your child has a health condition that makes them more sensitive to the heat.

#### **SUNSCREEN APPLICATION:**

The sun at camp is always a concern for us. We want you to know that we are committed to making sure your child is safe from the sun. We strongly encourage you to pack your camper with SPRAY ON SUNSCREEN. In addition we ask that you provide a sunscreen with at least an SPF of 30 that is labeled "All Day" and "Waterproof". Campers should arrive to camp with sunscreen on – they will be reminded throughout the day to reapply. We will assist our youngest campers in applying sunscreen during each sunscreen break. However, campers 8 years old and up will be responsible for applying their own sunscreen during the day (with plenty of reminders from their counselors). If sun exposure is ever a problem – please notify the director immediately so that extra precautions and applications can be made.

#### PARENT FAQ:

Here are some answers to our most frequently asked questions about day camp at the McCrorey YMCA.

#### Should we put our name on our child's belongings?

Yes! Please label ALL items you are sending with your child to camp. Check the camp's lost and found at the end of the week before items are donated.

#### Do we update pick up information or other personal information at the front desk?

Yes, to ensure the safety of all children in our programs, we need your most current information. The quickest and easiest way is to go to your account on the website and update your information online. You can also update your information at the branch.

#### Who is caring for my camper while he/she is at camp?

Well-trained and energetic staff! Our counselors, camp staff and lifeguards are required to complete 30 hours of pre-camp training including CPR, First Aid, AED and Child Abuse Prevention. We conduct background checks and drug screenings on all camp staff and employees. Our counselors also learn child development best practices as well as techniques to encourage all campers to be inclusive and celebrate our differences.

### What is your counselor to camper ratio? How many campers is one staff member responsible for?

- For our Pre-School Aged Camps, our ratio is 1:8
- For our School Aged Camps, our ratio is 1:10
- For our Teen Camps, our ratio is 1:12

Want to learn more about child safety at the Y? Here is our commitment to ensuring the protection of every child. <u>Learn more >></u>

## **ART CAMP SCHEDULE**

7:00 - 9:00	Rides-In/Breakfast			
9:00 - 9:45	Opening Devotion			
9:45 - 10:00	Transition / Attendance			
10:00 - 10:45	Outside Free Play			
10:45 - 11:00	Transition / Water			
11:00 - 11:45	Swimming (T, Th, F)   Themed Art Activity (M, W)			
11:45 - 12:00	Clean up / Prep for Lunch			
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch			
1:00 - 1:45	Themed Art Activity			
2:00 - 2:45	Creative Kids Rotations			
3:00 - 3:45	Team Building			
3:45 - 4:00	Snack			
4:00 - 4:45	Themed Art Activity			
5:00 - 5:45	Free Choice Centers			
5:45 - 6:00	Rides Out			

## **DISCOVERY CAMP SCHEDULE (AM/FD)**

7:00 - 9:00	Rides-In/Breakfast			
9:00 - 9:45	Center Time			
9:45 - 10:00	Transition to Pool			
10:00 - 10:45	Swimming (T, TH, F)   Circle Time			
10:45 - 11:00	Transition from Pool			
11:00 - 11:45	Lunch			
11:45 - 12:00	Clean up / Prep for Crafts			
12:00 – 1:00	Crafts			
1:00 – 1:45	Outside Play			
2:00 – 2:45	Story Time			
3:00 – 3:45	Movin' and Groovin'			
3:45 – 4:00	Snack			
4:00 – 4:45	Group Games & Activities   Rides Out Begins			
5:00 – 5:45	Circle Time   Center Time			
5:45 – 6:00	Rides Out			

	MCCROREY FAMILY YMCA SPORTS CAMP SCHEDULE			
7:00-8:15	RIDES-IN / BREAKFAST / DAILY CHALLENGE			
8:15-8:45	RIDES IN CONT. / BREAKFAST			
9:00-9:45	OPENING ASSEMBLY			
9:45-10:00	TRANSITION / ATTENDNACE			
10:00-10:45	Clinics			
11:00-11:15	Break			
11:00 -11:45	Skill Challenge (M, W), Swimming (T, TH, F)			
12:00 - 1:00	Free Play			
1:15 - 2:00	Lunch			
2:00 - 2:15	Water break /Transition			
2:15 - 3:00	Game Time			
3:00 - 3:45	Team Building (M, W, F)   Archery (T, TH)			
3:45 PM - 4:00	Break / Snack			
4:00 - 4:45	Clinics			
5:00 - 5:30	Free Play			
5:30-6:00	TEAM BUILDING / CLEANUP / RIDES OUT CONT.			

MCCROREY FAMILY YMCA TRADITIONAL CAMP MASTER SCHEDULE						
	YELLOW GROUP	ORANGE GROUP	BLUE GROUP	RED GROUP	GREEN GROUP	
7:00-9:00	RIDES-IN / BREAKFAST / DAILY CHALLENGE					
9:00-9:45		OPENING ASSEMBLY				
9:45-10:00	TRANSITION / ATTENDNACE					
10:00-10:45	Team Building	Crafts	PE	Centers	Lit Kids	
11:00-11:45	Crafts	PE	Centers	Lit Kids	Outdoor Free Play	
11:45 -12:45	LUNCH					
1:00 - 1:40	Swimming (M, W, F) Archery (T, TH)	Centers	Lit Kids	Swimming (M, W, F) Archery (T, TH)	PE	
1:55 - 2:35	PE	Swimming (M, W, F) Archery (T, TH)	Swimming (M, W, F) Archery (T, TH)	Outdoor Free Play	Crafts	
2:50 - 3:30	Centers	Lit Kids	Outdoor Free Play	PE	Swimming (M, W, F) Archery (T, TH)	
3:30 - 4:00	SNACK / HUDDLE DEVO					
4:00 - 4:45	Lit Kids	Outdoor Free Play	Team Building	Crafts	Team Builing	
5:00 - 5:45	Outdoor Free Play	Team Building	Crafts	Team Building	Centers	
5:45-6:00	CLEANUP / RIDES OUT					

Team Building	Outside / Obstacle Course		
Crafts	Classroom		
PE	Gym (Side A)		
Outdoor FP	Blacktop / Playground		
Lit Kids	Classroom		
Centers	Classroom		
Swimming	Pool		
	Archery Range		
Archery	(Nature Trail)		