

Camp Herrlich

Day Camp



Parent Handbook

Summer 2025

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Camp Herrlich's Summer Day Camp! It is our expectation that your child(ren) will have a happy, healthy and exciting summer with us.

Goals and Outcomes:

- For every child to grow in understanding and appreciation of the outdoors and natural surroundings that are found here at Camp.
- For our campers to recognize that they have responsibility for themselves and those around them.
- For the campers to respect oneself and others in spite of differences.
- For the campers to participate in planning programs, establishing limits and responsibility for the safety and welfare of campers and staff.
- For the campers to facilitate creative self-expression through thought, song, creative work, physical activity, and learning new skills.
- For the campers to have a fun-filled, beautiful, and safe summer vacation!

We appreciate communication from parents and campers regarding these goals and how we can help your child achieve them so please do not hesitate to contact us at the camp office with questions or ideas.

In this handbook you will find lots of information to prepare you and your child for Camp, please refer to the index for a comprehensive page listing of information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the camp office at 845-878-6662. We are greatly looking forward to seeing you at camp!!!

Directory:

Name	Position	Phone	E-Mail
Jess Vanacoro	Associate Exec. Director	845-878-6662 x304	jvanacoro@campherrlich.org
Sarah Burrone	Registrar	845-878-6662 x301	registrar@campherrlich.org
Scott Riches	Camp Director	845-878-6662 x306	sriches@campherrlich.org
Leah Greggo	Senior Program Director	845-878-6662 x307	lgreggo@campherrlich.org
Rain Hubbell	Admin. Program Dir.	845-878-6662 x308	rhubbell@campherrlich.org
Molly Foley	Summer Day Camp Dir	845-878-6662 x300	mfoley@campherrlich.org

Communication

We want to hear from you and we want you to hear from us! These are the ways we will communicate with you:

- **E-Mails** - Our e-mail comes from Constant Contact or CampSite and will have jvanacoro@campherrlich.org, registrar@campherrlich.org, or info@campherrlich.org as the reply-to address. Please make sure to add campherrlich.org to your approved senders so you get our e-mail. Also, feel free to e-mail us! If there is a change in pickup, schedule, unexpected doctor's appointment, or if you just want to check in on how your camper's day is going. Please e-mail us.
- **Phone calls** - Please inform us of the most up-to-date phone numbers for your family. That includes anyone who is authorized to pick up your children and any emergency contacts in case we are unable to reach a parent or guardian.
- **Face-to-Face at drop-off and pick-up** - Say hi to us! If you have anything you would like to talk about, please let the staff member who comes to your car know so that we can pull your car to the side and get you the right person. If we have any news for you, we will come right to you! Morning and afternoon pickups are BUSY, so if you need us, please make sure to tell the staff member who comes to your car that you would like to park and speak to someone, or call to let us know you are coming so we can expect you.
- **Social Media** - Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. We will post photos from all of the great events and activities we have going on throughout the summer and the rest of the year. We are @campherrlich on Instagram and Twitter and [facebook.com/campherrlich](https://www.facebook.com/campherrlich) We even have a Facebook Parent group where we do fun things like post picture links and giveaways! You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/320949205327734/>

PLEASE do not send your children to camp with cell phones. **They can have access to call you at any time during the day using the Camp office phone if they need to. You can have access at any time during the day to call them at the Camp office phone as well.** Cell phones prevent the genuine, face to face interactions we promote here at Camp and they can escalate problems before a counselor even has a chance to solve them. Help us give your children a true Camp experience they will never forget and keep the technology at home.

If a cell phone comes to Camp Herrlich with your camper, we will hold it in the program office for them and return it before they go home. Please do not encourage your campers to break our rules about cell phones. If you need to reach them, you can call the camp office at any time and we will find them. If they need to reach you, they can come to the program office at any time and have access to the phone to call you. Cell phones that come to Camp will be held safely in the office until pick up time. Read on for our official policy.

Cell Phone Policy for All Campers

Camp Herrlich is a place for our campers to connect with each other, our staff, and nature. We strive to make the experience as authentic and fun as possible, and to do that - we need your help!

We want there to be face to face interactions at Camp. That means that we DO NOT ALLOW our campers to have their cell phones on them while they are with us. **Please help us enforce this rule by having your child leave their cell phone at home or with you before coming to Camp.**

If you have a sleepaway camper that is traveling to us on our bus, they are welcome to have their phones with them on the bus but they must turn them in when they arrive at Camp. Their phones will be kept safe in the office for the duration of their stay and returned the morning they leave Camp.*

- If you need to contact your child while they are at Camp, it's easy! Just call the Camp Office at 845-878-6662 and we will be able to get your child to the phone if it is an emergency, or get them a message if it is not.
- If your child needs to contact you while they are at Camp, it's also easy! They can come to the Camp Office and use our phones.
- If there is a health need - the nurse will contact you.
- If there is a behavior need - the program staff will contact you.

We have had, in the past, parents who encourage their children to hide their phones and keep them with them so they can be in contact during the camp days. This is a HUGE distraction for the camper and a detriment to the work that we do with them. Campers need to be able to interact, solve problems, ask for help from their counselors, and resolve conflicts both on their own and with the help of our trained staff. This process is not well served if a child texts their parent that they are having an issue before they tell their counselor. Please help us help your children grow and become mature and independent campers. We promise that we will inform you of any issues that are unresolved or that we need your assistance on.

*Camp Herrlich is not responsible for any electronics that are brought to Camp.

CAMPER DROP OFF AND PICK UP

****Important: You must have a camper pick up card with the names of the campers you are picking up in order to pick up campers. Please write the first and last names of the campers in dark marker in the spaces on the card and display it on your dashboard or hold it to your window so our staff can see it when it's time for pickup. If you do not have this card, you will be asked to show identification and your name will be checked against the Authorized Pickup Information provided to us. If the pickup person is not on the approved pickups list, we will then call the parent or guardian to obtain permission for dismissal. Thank you!****

Hours:

Summer Day Camp hours are from 8:45 AM to 4:30 PM. Please arrive **no earlier than 8:45 AM** for drop off and **no earlier than 4:15 PM** for pick up. If you arrive outside of those times, you will be asked to proceed to the parking lot by the basketball court to drop off or pick up your camper directly from the program office. Campers dropped off consistently before 8:45 or picked up after 4:45 will be billed for before and after care services. If you have an emergency, we are more than happy to accommodate your needs, just let us know through a phone call or e-mail.

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures:

In the interest of safety for all children attending Camp Herrlich, and to alleviate potential traffic problems, please follow the procedures outlined below:

- **ALL** vehicles must enter Deacon Smith Hill Road from Route 311, regardless of which side of town you are approaching from.
- Make a **left** into the camp driveway and follow the directions given by the camp staff.
- Upon exiting the camp, make a **left** back onto Deacon Smith Hill Road, continuing to Fair Street.

Camp Herrlich has always enjoyed the benefit of peaceful relationships with its residential neighbors. The above flow of traffic allows the least amount of intrusion on our neighbors, as well as provides the safest avenue for the access of emergency vehicles.

Due to the volume of cars anticipated this summer, we strongly encourage families to carpool when possible. If you require more than one pick up card for that purpose, please ask us for extras!

*******Please drive slowly! If you do not drive slowly and carefully or if you give our staff a difficult time, you will be asked to find someone else to pick up your campers. We are very serious about the safety of our staff, campers, and parents at this high intensity time of day.*******

Authorization for Pick-Up:

All families need to provide us with authorized people to pick up their children. You can submit that information through the parent portal, which can be found on our website. This indicates who is authorized to pick up your child, other than the child's parents. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. If it is necessary for someone *other than the person(s) authorized* to pick up, written permission from the parent/guardian is required, an e-mail or note will work. If the person picking up your child is unfamiliar to our staff, a photo ID will be requested. Please understand that this process is for the safety of your child as well as others at Camp Herrlich.

Before and After Camp Care:

Only campers pre-registered for Before and/or After Camp Care are permitted to be dropped off/picked up outside the regular Day Camp hours. If you have a child who is working as a staff member AND a camper or campers, you are welcome to use the before and after care services at no extra charge so that you can get your staff member to the morning and afternoon meetings. That way you don't have to make an extra trip.

When dropping off and picking up from Before and After Care, please pull up to the top of the driveway by the basketball court and turn left towards our new building - the Herrlich Education and Retreat Center. Pull around the turning circle and our staff will meet you.

Please note: After Care pick-up has the same requirements as regular pickup - a Car Card or ID must be shown and it must be someone authorized to pick up the campers.

If you need to speak to one of the counselors or program directors at the camp, you are always welcome to do so. You will be directed by a staff person where to park your car and meet with the individual you wish to speak to. You are also encouraged to call the camp office at 845-878-6662 at any time with questions or concerns.

Schedule Changes

If you need to change your schedule in any way, including adding weeks, cancelling weeks, adding or changing before or after care, please make sure to e-mail those changes directly to our registrar, at registrar@campherrlich.org

Any week switches made after June 1st will incur a \$10 fee. There is no fee for adding weeks.

Early Pickup Policies

We will be allowing early pickups at the following two times ONLY (except for emergencies): **12:00/12:30pm and 3:00pm.**

If you will be picking your child up early, either at 12:00/12:30pm or 3:00pm, please send a note in with your child in the morning, or e-mail the information to jvanacoro@campherrlich.org. The reason the lunchtime pickup is 12 or 12:30 is because some groups finish lunch at 12 and some finish at 12:30, just ask your child or one of our staff which lunch session your child is in!

There will be NO PICKUPS ALLOWED between 3:15 and 4:15. If you need to pick up your children early from camp, the designated pickup times are 12/12:30pm and 3pm. This is because our Program Directors and staff need to be running programs and working with campers during the day camp day and it takes away from the campers' experiences when they are unable to do so due to pickups outside of the 12/12:30 and 3pm times. If you arrive after 3:15pm, you will be asked to wait until the regular road procedure starts.

In the event of an emergency, call the camp office and let us know as soon as you can what time you need to pick up your child so we can get the information to their counselor and have them at the office for you.

If you are picking up before 2:45, drive up to the parking lot by the basketball court and pull nose-in towards the yellow chain across the driveway. If a staff member does not come to greet you, please come to the Program Office and let us know you are here to pick up your child.

If you are picking up between 2:45 and 3:15, someone will be in the guard hut down at the bottom of the driveway to greet you and get your child for you.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Late Drop Off

If you are dropping off your camper off after morning drop off, you must drive up to the basketball court. There should be a yellow chain blocking the driveway right by Schweiger Hall. Pull nose-in towards that chain OR park in a space in the lot. If a staff member does not come to your car, please walk your camper all the way to

the program office so we can get them to their group. Please be advised that late drop off may result in your camper missing some of their morning activity and group time. There may also be a delay in getting your children to their group, since their group may be doing activities away from our Program Office. Activities begin at 9:30, attendance and morning meetings happen before that.

REMINDERS

WHAT TO WEAR:

- Comfortable play clothes
- Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. If it's cool in the morning, a light jacket or layered clothing is fine, as long as they have a change of clothes for the warmer part of the day.
- Sneakers or other closed toe shoes are a must. Please do not send your child wearing sandals. We will call you to bring closed toe shoes.

Please send your children with their first application of sunblock and bug spray already applied.

WHAT TO BRING:

- A camp bag, backpack, or similar type carryall.
- A water bottle. We will have water coolers all over the property to fill your bottles. Campers who forget their bottles will get plastic cups that they must keep track of throughout the day.
- A towel.
- A spare change of clothes, including socks, shoes, and underwear.
- A swimsuit. Please encourage your child to wear their swimsuit under their clothing in the morning. This allows more free-swim time for the entire group, avoiding delays taken to change twice.
- Water shoes if desired.

BE SURE TO LABEL ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS.

Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries, Inc. and Camp Herrlich are NOT responsible for loss, theft or damage of personal items.

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- ANY Gaming Devices or Electronics, including smart watches
- Expensive jewelry or clothing
- Glass bottles
- **Cell phones** – Cell phones will be taken away from campers if they bring them. Please see Cell Phone policy for more information.
- Personal toys or sports equipment from home, including trading cards • Alcohol, tobacco, vapes, drugs, or weapons of any kind.

****If the above items are brought to camp they will be taken from the child and stored in a safe place until the end of the day.****

Please don't hesitate to call the camp office at 845-878-6662 or e-mail jvanacoro@campherrlich.org if you have any questions or concerns. Any of the program directors will be happy to assist you.

Some words about Mud...

“Mud-pies gratify one of our first and best instincts. So long as we are dirty, we are pure.” - Charles Dudley Warner (American Editor and Author, 1829-1900)

Being outside and getting down and dirty in nature are important parts of the camp experience for children. It is so rare in our every day lives that we get to do things like go fishing or frog catching or roll around in the grass. Because children can and are encouraged to do these things at camp in a safe and supervised environment, they are going to get dirty! The “nature” of our program space is such that we do lots of things in the same spaces, for instance fishing and frog catching can take place in the same area of the lakeside. Therefore, we have to ensure that the children are safe from harm, aka. fish hooks, and we insist that they wear their closed toed shoes when going fishing or hiking.

Long story short... Your children may come home with very muddy clothes and sneakers! Please make sure that they are wearing inexpensive, old clothes and sneakers to camp. We do our best to rinse them down before they get in your car at the end of the day but having a spare towel in the back seat may be a good idea.

And don't forget to check their pockets for frogs!

“The world is mud-luscious and puddle-wonderful.”
- E. E. Cummings (American poet 1894-1962)

Some words about Rain...

“The best thing one can do when it's raining is to let it rain.”
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

“When it rains at camp, you get wet!”
- Camp Herrlich Staff

It is so hard for us to keep children inside when it is a beautiful, (or not-so-beautiful,) summer rain! **Therefore, when it rains at camp, please send your children with rain clothes – a hat,**

a poncho, a rain jacket, rain boots, etc. so that they feel like they are able to still play outside even when the weather isn't perfect. We will do our best to keep you updated on the weather via e-mail and notices sent home at drop off and pick up, but make sure you check the forecast!

If the rain turns to thunderstorms, we will make sure all the groups are under cover, safe, and entertained, until the storm passes.

"A rainy day is the perfect time for a walk in the woods." - Rachel Carson

Some words about Heat...

It has been getting hotter and hotter every summer in New York! When we have a heat advisory at Camp, we do the following with the campers:

Frequent water and shade breaks. If campers are scheduled for a sport in a sunny area, they are only allowed to play for about 10 minutes before their counselor will have them rest in the shade and drink some water.

10 minute air conditioning breaks in one of our air conditioned spaces.

Water games and activities, if they have kickball on your schedule, it can turn into splash kickball, etc.

LOTS of encouragement to get in the lake for free swim time.

A Word From the Health Director...

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Camp Herrlich! We are looking forward to a fun, safe and healthy summer and I need all parents and guardians to assist me with this. By now you all should have received or will soon receive medical information forms for your child. Prior to your child coming to camp, please make sure these forms are filled out completely with current dates, and are signed by you and your child's doctor. We also need proper consents for all medications including as needed and over the counter medicine.

***Children arriving to camp without proper medical forms will not be allowed to attend camp.**

***Any medications required to be taken during your child's time at camp must have up to date physician's orders and come to camp in the original bottle with a pharmacy label prescribed to your child.**

THIS INCLUDES OTC DROPS, SPRAYS, AND OINTMENTS/CREAMS

****Medication can come with your camper on their first day of camp.** If you would like to speak to the nurse, please tell a staff member, they will have you park, and show you over to the health center.**

It is important to document all medical conditions past and present. This will assist us in treating your child should a medical situation arise. If your child is temporarily being taken off medication for the summer, please make us aware of this as well. Lastly, please make note of any allergies that your child has been diagnosed with and/or treated for

including bee stings, environmental, and food allergies.

If your child is sick the day he/she is scheduled to come to camp...**PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO CAMP.** Day Campers who present a fever or any symptoms of illness will be sent home immediately. Symptoms include but are not limited to: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever or chills. This is to ensure the safety of all campers and staff. Children must be fever-free or vomiting/diarrhea free for 24 hours before they can come back to Camp.

In the event that your child has been seen at the Health Center for something more than a band-aid, drink of Gatorade, or to apply their sunscreen, you will receive communication from us in the form of a note that we send home at the end of the day. If your child has an illness or injury that requires further medical attention, we will call you on the contact phone numbers you provided on your campers' health forms. Please make sure we have current contact information.

Thank you for your cooperation as we look forward to a fun, safe and healthy summer with your child!

Sincerely,
The Camp Health Center Staff

Sunscreen and Bug Spray and Tick Checks

Please make every attempt to apply sunscreen and bug spray to your child prior to morning drop off at camp.

Counselors and staff make every effort to recognize signs of overexposure to the sun, however our counselors are not responsible for reapplying sunscreen to campers on a regular basis. Hats and sunglasses are welcome and encouraged as well.

Make sure you check off the Health Form section for Sunscreen! That enables your child to carry and apply their own throughout the day.

Mosquito and tick-borne illnesses are on the rise, please apply bug repellent to your child and send them with it to Camp so we can re-apply when we help them with their sunscreen. Also, please make sure to do a tick check every night! Here is more info on ticks, tick checks, and how to prevent them! https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_people.html

If you have any specific requirements, please write them on the health form or in a letter to us.

Camper Groups

Campers are grouped by the grade they just finished and by gender. Kiddie Camp and Senior Camp groups can also be co-ed.

If you have a request for your camper to be grouped with a specific friend or friends, please let

us know ahead of time so we can arrange the groups accordingly. We will do our best to accommodate group requests that are submitted in writing **at least one week ahead of time**. Other group requests may not be accepted and **group requests are NOT guaranteed**.

If you have other special group requests, just e-mail or call the Program Staff at the office - 845-878-6662.

If your child is unhappy in their group and would like to switch, they need to bring it to the attention of the program staff. We will do our best to accommodate group switches as long as we can do so and remain in the appropriate supervision ratios. We highly encourage campers to make new friends while they are at Camp and our staff is trained to help facilitate that.

A note about group requests...

All group requests must be submitted in writing via e-mail or note **before** the week that the campers will be at Camp. Group requests need to be made by **both** campers in order to be honored, so please communicate with the other family.

We strive to help our campers make new friends, find commonalities, solve problems, and learn to work in groups. Sometimes that means being in a group with new people. We will do our best to accommodate group requests. Once we arrive at the first day of each week of Camp, we will only make group switches based on camper request if there are mistakes in age, grade, or in-writing group requests.

The Program Staff reserves the right to change camper groups due to behavior or personality conflicts.

Safety and Emergency Procedures

Camp Herrlich has a comprehensive series of safety and emergency procedures. All visitors must report to the program office and during our busiest times of day, we have a staff member stationed in our security booth at the bottom of our driveway. We take the safety of our campers very seriously, we expect to see ID when people are picking children up, and we check identification against the authorized pick up list that parents provide.

Our emergency procedures are specific to different scenarios - Fire, Lost Camper/Swimmer, Medical Emergency, and Severe Weather, and are signaled to the campers and staff through the use of airhorns and the PA system here. We review our emergency procedures and the campers' responsibilities every Monday morning at Day Camp orientation. We also do a safety drill at the beginning of every week. Any situations that need to be communicated to parents will be done so through e-mail and/or handouts given out at the road.

Food Service

Lunch and snack are included every day in your Summer Day Camp tuition. Please see the menu on our website for what is being served on a daily basis. This menu is subject to change dependent on our suppliers, but will not deviate too far. You are welcome to send food with your child if you feel that they will need additional snacks during the day or if you think they will not like what is being served that day. Usually, there is a secondary option available and that can include sandwiches. We are a peanut free camp, please do not send peanut products.

We are happy to accommodate medically necessary dietary restrictions and we need advance notice to be able to do so, so please return your campers' medical forms and camper questionnaire with those restrictions specified as soon as you can.

Sample Daily Schedule

8:45-9:15am: Drop Off and Welcome

9:15 - 9:30am: Morning Flagpole and Announcements

9:30 - 10:30am: Activity Block 1

10:30 - 11:30am: Activity Block 2, Free Swim Session 1

11:30 - 12:00pm: Lunch Group 1

12:00 - 12:30pm: Lunch Group 2

1:00 - 2:00pm: Activity Block 3, Free Swim Session 2

2:00 - 3:00pm: Activity Block 4, may include Free Choice

3:00 - 4:00pm: Activity Block 5, may include Free Choice

4:00pm: Afternoon Flagpole and Dismissal!

Canteen will happen sometime in the afternoon, dependent on the group's schedule. **Parents do not receive copies of the campers' schedules. If you have any questions about upcoming activities, please call or e-mail us - 845-878-6662 or jvanacoro@campherrlich.org**

Canteen Information

An Afternoon Snack is included with your child's Camp experience. Each day we will provide a dry good such as pretzels, popcorn, graham crackers, SunChips, etc.

There are also other items available for sale at the Camp Store – candy, ice cream, and Camp Herrlich souvenirs. Campers are welcome to bring their money to camp and hand it in to our canteen staff person to buy their snack or souvenir, but if you are more comfortable sending in the money directly to the office, here are the procedures:

Send them with cash or a check which they can deliver to the office, or call with a credit card. We will keep track of how much they spend and if there is any left at the end of the session, we will either return it to the camper before they finish their Camp sessions or credit the family account.

Please make sure to tell your camper they have funds on their account! Check out the Camp Store Price List on our website!

One to One Counselor Policy and Availability

It is important to us at Camp Herrlich that we provide the safest and most supportive environment for all of our campers. We also value the inclusion of all campers in our programs and are confident that having children of different abilities together allows everyone to become better, stronger, and more empathetic campers.

In order to provide the best service we can for your child, we will be offering one to one counselor services for our campers with special needs. The need for this service can be requested by the parent or by the camp directors. We strongly recommend a one to one counselor for campers with special needs, such as behavioral, communication, and social issues. Having a one to one counselor will allow your child to grow within the camp structure, make new friends, and try new activities.

Please see the registration portal or brochure for fees. We have a fee for a senior counselor 1:1 and one for a junior counselor buddy. The best thing to do so we can assess your camper's needs is to set up a visit to Camp so our program staff can meet them and we can get more information from you on how we can best set them up for success. 1:1s are limited.

We want all our campers to succeed while they are with us. We also want to be flexible and adjust to the needs of our campers as they grow with us over time. We are always willing to discuss options to best suit your family's needs.

Waterfront Information

- Every group has one hour of Free Swim Tuesdays through Fridays and MAY have an additional hour of Swim Fun each week.
- Campers are swim-tested on Monday of each week of Camp, therefore they may not get their full free-swim time on that day.
- Campers are tested into Shallow, Intermediate, or Deep, depending on guidelines from the American Camp Association and the New York State Department of Health. • The Deep test involves swimming out to our dock on the far side of our Deep section, approximately 20 meters. Campers must then be able to climb up onto the dock without assistance, re-enter the water, tread water for 30 seconds, and swim back to the shore with no assistance.
- If Campers cannot complete the Deep test, they are placed into the Intermediate section and can swim and play there. They are welcome to re-test for Deep each week that they are at Camp. We love to help our Campers reach their Deep goals!
- Our water, both drinking and lake, is tested every week by the Putnam County Health Department to ensure the health and safety of our campers and staff.

At Free Swim, there are always 4 lifeguards on duty along with all the counselors and junior counselors from the groups. Counselors and Junior Counselors are stationed in the water and around the beach to provide the best supervision we can.

SOCIO-EMOTIONAL LEARNING STATEMENT

The importance of the physical and emotional safety of each and every camper and staff member is paramount to our camp and the American Camp Association (ACA) mission. We try to identify critical concerns that are important to our campers and staff. We take the issues of bullying and violence in our culture very seriously and work hard to resolve conflicts in a way where all campers can learn and grow.

We encourage you, as parents, to please let us know about any particular concerns you may have for your child or any off-season, camp-related emails, instant messages, or text-messages that may have led to exclusion or meanness towards your child by somebody else in camp. We want to ensure that this problem can be managed by a strong partnership between our camp and you.

It is essential that you communicate to your children that we will not accept behaviors such as bullying, (including cyber bullying and sexting), violence, possessions of weapons, repeated profanity, disrespect, bigotry, homophobic comments, inappropriate sexual behavior, drug and alcohol use, hurtful internet, cell phone or instant messaging blogs or any other inappropriate uses of electronic devices (before, during, or after camp), or any other unsafe behaviors that are potentially harmful to themselves or others. They must understand that a consequence of one of those behaviors can mean the loss of this program.

Our Camp philosophy is based on our mission statement which ensures that every camper has the opportunity to grow in an awareness of themselves, the rich diversity of the natural world and their role in the global community, to develop ethnic harmony, environmental stewardship, and community service in an atmosphere of acceptance and love. We work together as a team to ensure that campers gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great memories.

Unfortunately, persons who are bullied or experience one of the other negative behaviors listed above may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience. Our leadership addresses all incidents of negative behaviors seriously and trains staff to promote communication with their staff and their campers so both staff and campers will be comfortable alerting us to any problems during their camp experience and between camp seasons. 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 behaviors, we can help ensure that all campers and staff have a great summer at Camp Herrlich.

If you have any feedback for us that you think would be helpful, we would appreciate hearing from you. We look forward to having your child with us at camp this summer.

Positive Behavior Management

Our rules and expectations for our campers will be clearly explained to them at their level so that they have a good understanding of positive behaviors we expect while they are with us. We strive to set children up for success and be proactive about creating the kind of environment where our campers get along, solve problems, and grow in their relationships with their peers and with our staff.

In this handbook is a copy of the Camper Rules that you and your child reviewed and submitted through the website. We work toward positive conflict resolution where children can talk out their issues and learn better ways to deal with the diverse people they encounter. Our staff participate in an extensive orientation before every summer, including workshops on conflict resolution, behavior management, Dynamic Discipline, positive culture, health, safety and nutrition workshops, and communication.

Safety is one of our top priorities. If campers are consistently engaging in behaviors that are against our rules, despite the behavior management interventions of our staff, there are a series of consequences that will be put into place that include write-ups at the Program Office. If your child's behavior gets to that point, the program staff will review the procedures for our behavior intervention plan. Parents will be informed of ALL camper write-ups, either by phone or in person at pick up time. There may be times where we call you to come pick up your child early to help them avoid further behavior consequences. If you have any questions about any of this, please give us a call. Families will only be informed of disciplinary circumstances relating to their own camper.

We want your children to succeed! Any information you can give us about any behavioral challenges they face would be appreciated. We also like to have consistency with home and school, so if you or your child's teacher are using a specific set of reinforcers or any kind of behavior management plan, let us know so we can participate as well.

Another area of concern has been our experience with some children who have been sent to camp with "family secrets." Specifically, children who have fit some of the categories detailed below.

- Campers with psychiatric problems including suicidal gestures or ideation
- Campers with serious medical problems
- Campers with organic problems who are off medication for the summer • Campers who were hospitalized for physical or emotional reasons since last summer • Campers experiencing traumatic reaction to family issues such as parental separation, divorce, illness, or death.

In fairness to our counselors, staff, and your child/children, we need to make informed decisions about all of the young people we invite into our community and family. "Family secrets" make those decisions harder. Our purpose in having pertinent health information, both physical and emotional, is to be able to better serve each child. We must expect that parents or guardians of any child sent to Camp Herrlich have provided us with all the necessary information we need to keep all children safe.

With these facts in mind, we must reserve the right to ask that a child at risk to oneself or the community be picked up and removed from camp, immediately. There may be a circumstance where we have agreed to accept a child, with full knowledge of his or her medical or socio emotional issues, and have attempted to take all the necessary steps of making the experience successful but find we are unable to do so. For the good of this child and/or the community, the child may have to leave.

Finally, as caretakers of your child/children, we are mandated reporters of child abuse. We have the responsibility of reporting to the State Central Registry any indication of child abuse. The regulations are specific in that "seeing, hearing about, or suspected abuse" MUST be reported, immediately without our right to do our own investigation.

INCLUSION STATEMENT

At Camp Herrlich we are committed to diversity and inclusion for all. We encourage, support and celebrate diverse voices because it helps foster leadership, learning and growth. We embrace everyone. MTOM does not discriminate against employees and campers on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, gender, gender identity and expression, actual or perceived age, citizenship, alienage, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. We follow all New York State laws regarding the above, you can find all the information at the [Division of Human Rights page](#) on the state website. There is a very good chance your child will encounter people - campers and staff - who are different from them in the ways listed above while they are at Camp Herrlich. For resources on talking to your children about differences, [THIS ARTICLE](#) has some good steps!

CAMP HERRLICH

Camper Rules

Camp Herrlich is a place of love and acceptance for all children. We believe the best in our campers and have high expectations for their behavior while they are at Camp. We want to provide the safest and most supportive environment for all campers while fostering problem solving, personal growth, independence, and interdependence.

Please review the "camper rules" below and communicate them to your campers. Any questions? Reach out to us! info@campherrlich.org or 845-878-6662.

- I will listen to my counselor and do my best to follow directions quickly. If I have questions or do not understand a direction, I will ask my counselor for help.
- I will remain with my group at all times.
- I will respect myself and others while I am at camp and make my experience the best it can be by being positive, making new friends, and trying new things.
- I will speak in a manner that is appropriate and respectful. I will do my best to use positive language only and build up my fellow campers instead of bringing them down.
- I will respect the property of the camp, the possessions and personal space of others, and every other camper and staff member's differences, especially people who look, think, or act differently from me. I understand that every camper has the right to a wonderful camp experience and I will not prevent that.
- I will not deface or damage any camp buildings or property. If I see something that is damaged, I will tell my counselor so the camp staff can fix it.
- I will respect and care for all living things at camp, this includes plants, animals, and humans.
- I will keep myself and my fellow campers and staff members safe.
- I will not bring cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, firearms, knives, or weapons of any sort onto the camp property. A violation of this rule will lead to immediate dismissal from camp.

- I will not put my hands on any campers or staff members when I am angry. I will ask for help and use positive problem solving methods instead of physical fighting.
- I will respect the privacy and boundaries of campers and staff, especially in changing areas and bathrooms. I will keep my hands and eyes to myself and respect others' bodies and property. I understand that no one is to be in and around the cabins, bathrooms, and any dormitory areas unless there is a counselor or staff member there.
- I will not touch any piece of safety equipment, ie. fire alarms, fire extinguishers, air horns, and walkie talkies.
- I will leave all of my electronic devices at home, including cell phones, headphones, smart watches, and video gaming devices. If I bring them to camp, they will be confiscated and held in the office until dismissal.
- I will listen to and obey all the rules of orientation given on the first day of each camp session.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND CAMPER WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR CAMPER'S ACTIONS AT CAMP. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PART OF THE CAMPING EXPERIENCE INVOLVES ACTIVITIES AND GROUP LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND INTERACTIONS THAT MAY BE NEW TO MY CHILD, AND THAT THEY COME WITH CERTAIN RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES BEYOND WHAT MY CHILD MAY BE USED TO DEALING WITH AT HOME. I AM AWARE OF THESE RISKS AND I AM ASSUMING THEM ON BEHALF OF MY CHILD. I REALIZE THAT NO ENVIRONMENT IS RISK FREE AND SO I HAVE INSTRUCTED MY CHILD ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ABIDING BY THE CAMP RULES. MY CHILD AND I BOTH AGREE THAT HE OR SHE IS FAMILIAR WITH THESE RULES AND WILL OBEY THEM. FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THESE RULES MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL FROM CAMP WITH NO REFUND OF CAMP FEES.