

B"H



HANDBOOK

WELCOME

Camp Gan Israel, Summer 2024 is here!

Our staff are busy preparing to get to know your child and give them the summer of a lifetime. Our unique program offers a variety of activities that give attention to each camper as an individual as well as creating a strong camp community. The program is designed to promote social, emotional and cultural well-being and growth. With themes relating to their Jewish identity and by infusing the daily schedule with activities, arts and crafts, songs, and stories, their experience becomes interactive and meaningful.

Our staff are devoted to giving personal attention and connecting with each camper. Your child will grow and form special relationships with friends and role models that will last them a lifetime.

At Camp Gan Israel, our #1 focus and priority is the safety and well-being of your child. We are committed to providing a superb day camp experience for your child. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

We are looking forward to an exciting summer!

Yours sincerely,
Mendel and Mussi Weinfeld



CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: info@ganisraelsj.com

Camp Director: (408) 910-2034*

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 3:45 pm

Financial Support: (408) 910-2034

Website: www.ganisraelsj.com

**During camp hours only*

Please don't approach counselors with concerns during camp hours so they can remain focused on the children in their care.

The director is available for all questions and concerns.

Important communication will be sent through the camp WhatsApp group. If you prefer to receive updates via email, please notify info@ganisraelsj.com.



Gan Israel Summer 2024

WhatsApp group



LOCATION, DATES & TIMES

We are located at **Noddin Elementary School** at
1755 Gilda Way, San Jose, CA 95124.

The Summer Camp Season for 2024 begins on Monday,
June 24th, and runs through Friday, August 2nd.

Camp runs from 9:00 am to 3:45pm Monday-Friday.

Drop off is from 8:50-9:10.

For late arrivals, please message the director.

The gate will be locked during camp hours.

Pick up is from 3:35-3:45. Please be prompt.

**Please note that we are share the campus with other groups
this year. Be mindful of the carpool lanes and all signage.*

Gan Israel drop off and pick up is from Gate B.



LUNCH & SNACKS

Camp Gan Israel provides a full lunch program for all our campers and staff, no additional fees! Fresh daily meals will be prepared by our dedicated kitchen staff. Our menu includes a starch, protein and vegetable each day.

Food from home is not allowed on camp grounds. *We go out of our way to accommodate each camper's needs. Please email us if your child has specific meal needs or will be celebrating a birthday in camp.*

MENU: *(Subject to change)*

Monday: Macaroni and Cheese, Fresh salad & Peaches

Tuesday: Fish Sticks/Eggs, Rice/French Fries, Cucumbers & Baby Carrots

Wednesday: Themed Lunch (Contains chicken/meat)

Thursday: Sandwiches - Jelly, Cream cheese, Tuna, Egg Salad, Hummus

Friday: Pizza Bagels, Green Beans or Corn, & Applesauce

We will also have alternative options including bread with spreads
& cereal with dairy free milk available daily.

SNACK

Camp Gan Israel serves two nutritious snacks daily. Our snack menu includes fruits or vegetables in the morning and a crunchy snack in the afternoon.

Although water will be available for drinking throughout the day, we highly recommend sending a labeled water bottle with your child.



WHAT TO SEND

- **SUNSCREEN** Please apply sunscreen to your children before their arrival at camp and send along additional sunscreen to be applied throughout the day.
- **WATER BOTTLE**
- **SWIMWEAR, TOWEL & WATER SHOES** on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays** campers will partake in swimming or water activities. Floaties are recommended for young children who are not comfortable in the water.
- **CAMP TSHIRT** on Tuesdays and Thursdays, campers are required to wear their camp shirts visibly. Campers who forget their t-shirts will automatically be charged a \$3 fee and lent a t-shirt.
- **LABEL** everything that is sent to camp

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME

- **FOOD** No outside food is allowed on camp grounds.
- **ELECTRONICS** Cellphones and all electronic devices, including **smart watches**, are not permitted on camp grounds. Any electronics will be sent to the office for the day.
- **PERSONAL ITEMS** - jewelry, toys, etc. personal items should not be sent to camp. Any toys or cards seen during camp will be sent to the office for the day. Please do not send your child to camp with any valuables.
- **DANGEROUS ITEMS** Alcohol, drugs, weapons of any nature (including small pocket knives, slingshots etc.) dangerous items, pets or animals of any kind can never be brought onto the camp grounds. Violation of this policy may result in immediate termination from the program without financial reimbursement.
- **MONEY** campers may not purchase anything on trips; there is no reason to send along money.



JUNIOR DIVISION

Our young campers have an incredible sensory based schedule filled with fun and Torah lessons. Their incredible staff look after each child with love and dedication. Check the camp calendar for a glimpse of some of the incredible activities in store!

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES:

In addition to a labeled water bottle and swim supplies, younger campers must bring a full change of clothes on their first day of camp. Those that require should bring wipes and diapers as well. Children who nap better with a blanket or stuffed toy can bring it to camp as well.

Monday: Water Play, Mad Science

Tuesday: Baking, Sports

Wednesday: Color Dress Up, Water Play

Thursday: Art, Music and Movement

Friday: Water Play, Shabbat Party

The fun is brought to camp for our younger division. If a field trip will take place, parents will be notified beforehand.



MAIN DIVISION

Our young campers have an incredible sensory based schedule filled with fun and Torah lessons. Their incredible staff look after each child with love and dedication. Check the camp calendar for a glimpse of some of the incredible activities in store!

HANDS ON JUDAISM: With daily blessings and prayers, a taste of Shabbat on Fridays, and special programs throughout the summer, campers express their Jewish pride. Together, we create an experience they will treasure.

SPORTS: The CGI sports program offers a safe and fun environment for children to develop self-esteem, a positive attitude towards sports and teamwork all while enjoying a good physical workout with our a wide range of fun sports and activities.

ART: Tapping inward, art allows children a centered space to get creative and create something beautiful.

DRESS UP DAYS: Wednesdays are dress up days, with a different theme each week. Joining in the fun creates a charged excitement in camp throughout the day.

SWIMMING: Swimming will take place at a local outdoor pool. The experienced staff of lifeguards are on duty the entire time to ensure the campers safety. Our program caters to and is safe for swimmers of all levels. Non-swimmers and beginners are encouraged to bring flotation devices whenever in the water. The counselors will assist your child in re-applying sunscreen before they swim.

TRIPS: We plan our trips with the Bay Area's best fun spots to include a wide variety of activities and styles keeping in mind our #1 safety priority. All campers and staff are required to wear the Camp Gan Israel t-shirt on all trip days. While our goal is to return to camp with plenty of time for the 3:45 dismissal, occasionally circumstances cause us to be delayed. Should there be a delay, all parents will be notified via the camp WhatsApp group.



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, hit, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Bullying happens when a person or group of people want to have power over another and use their power to get their way, at the expense of someone else.

At Camp Gan Israel bullying is inexcusable, and we have a firm policy against all types of bullying. Our Camp philosophy is based on our mission statement which ensures that every camper has the opportunity to a safe and fun camp experience. We work together as a team to ensure that campers gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great memories.

Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying seriously and trains staff to promote communication between staff and campers so both staff and campers will be comfortable alerting us to any problems during their camp experience. Every person has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we help ensure that all campers and staff have a great summer at Camp Gan Israel.

