
2024 Parent/Junior Camper Handbook



Welcome to OVS Summer Camp

We are excited your camper will be joining us this summer. Our goal is to provide a safe and caring environment for campers to connect, contribute, and have fun!

This handbook is designed to help you prepare for camp and become familiar with camp policies and procedures. Please take the time to read and review this handbook with your camper, and contact us with any questions.

At OVS, we work with intention to make camp
a place where everyone:



Feels at home, safe & secure

Practices kindness & respect



Supports learning & growth

**Celebrates new adventures
& challenges**



**Experiences laughter,
joy & silliness!**

JUNIOR CAMPERS – READY, SET, CAMP!

CAMPER READINESS FOR OVS SUMMER CAMP

Firstly, all Campers must be fully potty trained. We want everyone to feel comfortable and confident during their time at camp, and being able to use the bathroom independently is an essential part of that.

Next, Campers must be able to follow instructions. We will have lots of fun activities and games planned for them to enjoy, and being able to listen and follow directions will help them get the most out of their camp experience. Group play is a big part of summer camp, so it's vital that they feel comfortable playing with other campers ages 3-5 years old.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our Summer Camp Director, Ben Malkin. Mr. Malkin and his staff are available to help ensure your Camper has a safe and enjoyable experience this Summer.

DAILY DROP-OFF and PICK-UP SCHEDULE

- Day Camp Classes begin at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m.
- Each family will be given a name card to be displayed in your car during your pick-up session.
- We ask that you please have your name card visible in your right-hand visor or dashboard, so we can see your camper's name. Additional name cards are available upon request.

DAY BUS

OVS provides day bus service for campers living in the Ventura area. The bus stops are located at:

Marina Park Beach, 1400 Greenock Lane, Ventura

DAILY ATTENDANCE and COMMUNICATION

Parents should contact the Camp Office if the camper will not be attending that day, or will be picked up/and or leave early for any reason throughout the day.

BRING TO CAMP

- Bathing suit (one-piece), and rash-guard appropriate for active swimming and play
- Water bottle (OVS will provide every camper with a water bottle upon arrival)
- Pool towel
- Sun hat/baseball cap
- Spray Sunscreen
- Change of clothes in a labeled zip-loc bag
- Crib sized sheet (for 3- to 4-year-olds to use during rest time).

SUMMER CAMP CONTACT INFORMATION

Camp Office: (805) 646-1423

Summer Camp Director: Ben Malkin, email: bmalkin@ovs.org

Assistant Summer Camp Director: John Rowan, email: jrowan@ovs.org

Equestrian Director: George Halkett, email: ghalkett@ovs.org

Health Center: (805) 646-1423, ext. 1238, email: healthcenter@ovs.org

CAMP COMMUNITY

The community at OVS is the basis of your camper's summer experience. Learning to work alongside others and contributing to camp is key to a successful summer. Campers should arrive at camp with a cooperative and positive attitude, ready to learn and play in a group environment. Campers will be guided with respect by camp staff and are expected to treat each other and the faculty and staff with that same respect. As a part of the community, campers will pitch in with classroom upkeep.

COVID-19 and CAMP

We continue to monitor the COVID-19 case rates locally and the new updates from the Centers of Disease Control (CDC) nationally. As we prepare to open camp, we will follow the current health protocols recommended by the CDC for summer camps to ensure a safe experience for everyone.

MONEY and VALUABLES

Campers are discouraged from bringing money or valuables of any kind to camp.

MEALS

Meals are freshly prepared on-site by our OVS Food Service team. Included in tuition, day campers receive morning and afternoon snack as well as lunch. Please make sure to list any allergies on your camper's health forms. If you have concerns about your child's dietary needs, please contact the Summer Camp Director. We can accommodate most needs, but will consult with health and kitchen staff if allergies are severe.

COMMUNICATION

At the start of the program, parents will receive instruction on how to access the online platform where OVS and the Camp Staff will post and share pictures, videos and class updates.

Teachers will communicate class information and updates via the email provided at registration. Please make sure your contact information is current, so you receive the most up-to-date information.

POOL TIME and WATER PLAY

Our Junior Campers will either visit the pool, or participate in water play each day.

DRESS CODE

Campers are expected to wear clothing and footwear that is modest and appropriate for an active camp program. Our goal is to focus on what campers are doing, not what they are wearing. Camp clothing will get dirty and worn. All clothing items should be marked with camper's FULL name in indelible ink or sew on patches.

- Campers should wear T-shirts, shorts and athletic type shoes, or sandals with heel straps.
- Flip flops not allowed
- Bathing suits should be one-piece and appropriate for active swimming and play. Water shoes are recommended.
- Attire should be neat, size appropriate, cover undergarments and may not be ripped or torn.
- If worn, jewelry must be modest and may need to be removed for safety purposes.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Ojai Valley School and Camp expects campers to show respect for each other, the staff, the property of others and the policies and procedures of the school and camp at all times. In recognition of the Camp's responsibilities to the law and to other members of the community, there are major infractions which will be handled seriously and may result in immediate dismissal without refund.

They are as follows:

- Violations involving drugs and alcohol, which include, but are not limited to: Use and/or possession of any harmful drugs or chemicals and/or paraphernalia; use and/or possession of alcohol, use and/or possession of marijuana, use and/or possession of cigarettes, electronic cigarettes or tobacco.
- Use or possession of any weapons is against camp rules. This includes guns (real or play), knives, slingshots, and any other implement designed for or used to harm or threaten others.
- Unauthorized absence from camp, or leaving off campus excursions without permission.
- Violations of honesty, integrity, and consideration of other members of the school community which include but are not limited to: lying, academic dishonesty, stealing, willful property damage, harm to oneself, harm to another camper or threats to others, any activity which would disrupt the operation of camp.
- Campers may not create a hostile environment for one another, which includes teasing, taunting, bullying and/or harassment.
- Involvement in explicit sexual activity.
- Violations involving computers and telecommunications including, but are not limited to: misuse of computer equipment; introduction of computer viruses; unauthorized access of on-line services, misuse of electronic mailing services, including telephones, to harass, intimidate or bully the internal or external part or person of the Ojai Valley School and Camp community; use of the internet, computer software or video games involving acts of violence, racial hatred, drugs, alcohol, explicit sex; and misuse of social media.

MEDICATION

If a camper has prescribed daily medication that must be taken while at Camp, our Medication Form must be completed and signed by the parent and Healthcare provider and returned to our Health Center by June 1.

MEETING GUIDELINES for HEALTH and WELLNESS

Our goal is to provide a healthy camp experience that can be run safely. The health and well-being of our campers and staff is our top priority. In establishing our health protocols for camp, we intend to follow the guidance of:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Ventura County Public Health (VCPH)
American Camp Association (ACA)

This includes the Field Guide for Campers for the Implementation of the CDC Guidance from the Environmental Health Engineers (EHE), which was prepared for the American Camping Association.

In a combined effort from camp administrators, medical staff, counselors, parents, and campers we want to ensure the health and safety of all participants are protected. Please monitor your children for any COVID-19 symptoms and keep them home if they are sick. Working together we can help to prevent the spread of the virus.

To support these efforts, all campers must submit completed medical forms (Medical Release, Health Questionnaire) to healthcenter@ovs.org by June 1st. Additionally, all resident campers (including Outdoor Activity campers) must complete the Over-the-Counter Medication Consent Form (required) and the Medication Form (if applicable) by June 1st. Please note that the Medication Form requires a signature by the camper's licensed healthcare provider.

All medical releases, orders and recommendations written by a licensed doctor or nurse practitioner must be submitted to the Health Center (healthcenter@ovs.org), which will then confidentially convey the information to the appropriate staff members.

Our Health Center maintains a team of highly qualified and compassionate nurses who care for all campers. In addition, all camp faculty and staff are CPR and First Aid Certified. During off hours, the nurse on duty can be reached by cell phone for emergencies. If a resident camper becomes ill and needs to be isolated, staff will remain overnight with the camper. Ojai Valley Community Hospital is located a short distance from Ojai Valley School, where a physician is on duty 24 hours a day in the unlikely event that an emergency does occur.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

To ensure the safety of the campers and staff, the following protocols will be in place:

Ojai Valley School follows the guidance of the California Department of Public Health and the Ventura County Department of Public Health. Ojai Valley School employees and students need to follow policies that are implemented based upon the guidance given which may include on-campus antigen testing for resident students when indicated. Such guidance may include mask wearing, vaccinations, and testing. Vaccinations are not currently required of students or employees. Please follow best practices to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Please do not send your child to camp if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Temperature is higher than 100.0F degrees- orally
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Fever or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose

Circumstances in which a camper is admitted to the Health Center for observation:

- Fever
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Injuries, including all head injuries
- Severe pain/headache
- Allergic reaction
- Illness of unknown etiology
- Any health concern which inhibits class participation

Circumstances in which a parent is to be notified:

- Any illness or injury requiring further medical assessment
- Camper sustains head injury, or any type of facial injury
- Fever over 100.0 F degrees – orally
- Suspected joint sprains
- Any illness, or symptoms of an illness, that differs from student's historical information
- Dental emergencies
- Demonstration of psychological behavior out of character from student's historical information
- Before and after any doctor's visit to relay information regarding diagnosis, treatment and laboratory results
- If a camper requires medication
- Before any credit card number on file is used for medical services or medication purchased

Circumstances in which a day camper may be sent home: (if your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, please keep them home)

- Fever over 100.0 degrees – orally
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Any unusual discharge or drainage from the eyes, nose, ears or wounds
- When diagnosed by a doctor as having a communicable disease requiring isolation
- If camper has pediculosis (head lice) and has not received treatment
- When diagnosed with a condition that requires 24-hour observation by a nurse
- Camper requires treatment out of the scope of the school nurse practice
- Camper is found to be a threat to himself/herself or to others
- When diagnosed with an illness requiring intensive education and treatment (example: Diabetes)

When a day camper may come back to camp:

- If camper has been fever-free for at least 24 hours
- If vomiting and/or diarrhea have stopped for 24 hours
- If symptoms of cold/flu are over, may attend school with a minor, clear fluid nasal drip
- If eye irritation and drainage have stopped and medical treatment received
- If an infectious wound is properly covered and medical treatment received
- If after being diagnosed with a communicable disease that requires isolation (i.e. Chicken Pox), the doctor provides a written release for the student to return to school
- If pediculosis is being effectively treated
- Following a mental health crisis, a doctor provides a written release for the student to return
- Following surgery, significant injury, or having received a new diagnosis of a major illness, a doctor must provide a written release to attend school and explicit instructions regarding care, medication administration and follow-up treatment