



2026 JUNIOR CAMPER HANDBOOK

Welcome to OVS Summer Camp

We are excited that your camper will be joining us this summer. Our goal is to provide a safe and caring environment for campers to connect, contribute, and of course, have fun! Please read this handbook carefully and contact us with any questions.

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1. Contact Information

Camp Office	(805) 646-1423
Directors	John Rowan jrowan@ovs.org
	Nick Almanza nalmanza@ovs.org
Health Center	(805) 646-1423 ext. 1238 healthcenter@ovs.org
Email updates	ovs@ovs.org

2. Camp Community

The community at OVS is the foundation of your camper’s summer experience. Learning to work alongside others and contributing to camp is key to a successful summer. Campers should arrive 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 faculty/staff with that same respect. As part of the community, campers will pitch in with crew jobs, cafeteria clean-up, and grounds upkeep.

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 Services team and are included in tuition. Junior Campers receive a morning snack, lunch and an afternoon snack. Please list any allergies on your camper’s health forms. Contact our Health Center (healthcenter@ovs.org) with any dietary concerns.

Communication

At the start of the program, parents will receive instructions on how to access the online platform where OVS and Camp Staff will post pictures, videos, and class updates. Teachers will communicate via the email provided at registration — please keep your contact information current.

Pool Time and Water Play

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

3. Dress Code

Campers are expected to wear clothing and footwear that is modest and appropriate for an active camp program. Camp clothing will get dirty — please don't pack your best items. All clothing items should be marked with the camper's full name in indelible ink or sew-on patches.

- T-shirts, shorts, and athletic shoes, or sandals with heel straps.
- Flip flops are not for daily wear.
- 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.

4. Code of Conduct

The Ojai Valley School and Camp expects campers to show respect for each other, staff, property, and camp policies at all times. The following are major infractions that may result in immediate dismissal without refund:

Drug & Alcohol Violations — use or possession of drugs, alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes, or e-cigarettes.

Weapons — possession of guns (real or play), knives, slingshots, or any implement designed to harm.

Unauthorized Absence — leaving camp or off-campus excursions without permission.

Dishonesty & Harm — lying, cheating, stealing, property damage, or threats to others.

Harassment & Bullying — teasing, taunting, bullying, or creating a hostile environment.

Explicit Sexual Activity.

Technology Misuse — unauthorized computer access, harassment via digital means, or 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.

5. Health and Wellness

The health and well-being of our campers and staff is our top priority. Our protocols follow guidance from the CDC, CDPH, Ventura County Public Health, and the American Camp Association.

Required Medical Forms

All forms must be submitted to healthcenter@ovs.org by June 1st:

- Medical Release Form
- Health Questionnaire
- Over-the-Counter Medication Consent Form (resident campers)
- Medication Form — must be signed by a licensed healthcare provider (if applicable)

Keep Your Camper Home If They Have

Fever above 100.0°F • Cough • Fatigue • Sore throat
Nausea / Vomiting / Diarrhea • Chills • Shortness of breath
Muscle aches • New loss of taste or smell • Congestion / runny nose

Health Center Admissions

Campers will be admitted to the Health Center for:

- Fever, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- All injuries, including head injuries
- Severe pain or headache
- Allergic reactions
- Any health concern that inhibits participation

When Parents Are Notified

- Any illness or injury requiring further medical assessment
- Head or facial injuries
- Fever over 100.0°F
- Suspected joint sprains or dental emergencies
- Any illness that differs from the student's historical information
- Before and after any doctor visit
- Before any credit card on file is used for medical services

When a Camper May Be Sent Home

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, please keep them home:

- Fever over 100.0°F
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Unusual discharge or drainage from the eyes, nose, ears, or wounds
- Diagnosed with a communicable disease requiring isolation
- Head lice (pediculosis) with no treatment received
- Requires treatment outside the scope of the school nurse

When a Camper May Return

- Fever-free for at least 24 hours

- Vomiting/diarrhea stopped for 24 hours
- Communicable disease: doctor provides written release
- Following surgery or significant injury: doctor provides written release and care instructions

6. General Camp Information

Camper Readiness

All Junior Campers must meet the following readiness criteria:

- Must be fully potty trained.
- Must be able to follow instructions and participate in group activities.
- Must be comfortable playing with other campers ages 3–5 years old.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Summer Camp Director John Rowan (jrowan@ovs.org). Staff are available to ensure your camper has a safe and enjoyable summer.

Daily Schedule

Drop-off	8:30 a.m.
Pick-up	4:30 p.m. (name card required in visor/dashboard)
Day Bus Stop	Marina Park — 2950 Pierpont Blvd, Ventura

Daily Attendance and Communication

Parents should contact the Camp Office, (ovs@ovs.org) if the camper will not be attending that day, or will be picked up or leave early for any reason.

What to Bring

- Bathing suit (camp appropriate) and rash-guard appropriate for active swimming and play
- Water bottle (OVS provides one on arrival)
- Pool towel
- Sun hat / baseball cap
- Spray sunscreen
- Full change of clothes in a labeled zip-loc bag
- Crib-sized sheet (for 3- to 4-year-olds to use during rest time)
- Plastic bin for crib sheet.

We look forward to an incredible summer together!

Questions? Contact us at (805) 646-1423 summer@ovs.org