

FAQs for Waldorf Summer Camp:

1. Who runs the Waldorf Summer Camp?

Our seasoned Camp Director and Waldorf Faculty Member leads our Summer Camp Program. Also onsite is our Camp Health Director.

2. What is the makeup of a camp group and what is the counselor/camper ratio?

The Waldorf Summer Camp takes pride in amply staffing our camp groups. Our general camp groups are comprised of approximately 12-15 campers. The group will be a mix of male and female campers and has both Waldorf Students along with Non-Waldorf Students. Each group is lead by an adult Counselor (at least 18 years of age) and at least one Counselor-in-Training (over the age of 16). We frequently have 2 CITs per group. Groups are overseen by the Camp Director and the Camp Health Director.

3. My child is not yet 4; can he participate in camp?

Our camp offerings are specifically designed for children aged 4 years and older. Our experience has shown that children aged 4 and older enjoy our daily transitions and play opportunities the most.

4. Does my young child need to be toilet trained to attend camp?

Yes, campers must be toilet trained to attend camp. Counselors are available to assist our youngest campers with clothing and hand washing. Toileting accidents occasionally occur, and a spare change of clothing is always recommended. Please contact your child's counselor or the Camp Health Director if you have specific concerns regarding your child's toileting needs.

5. What is the daily schedule for campers?

The rhythm of the camp day is a well established routine that makes the camp day fun, yet predictably satisfying to young children. At drop off, Counselors greet their campers at 8:30 and the day begins with a welcome and free play outside. Campers aged 4-5 enjoy a daily circle time filled with stories, song, finger plays and gestures to awaken their bodies. Weekly morning assemblies provide unity among campers aged 6-11. After songs and games, they will move into a daily "specialty" activity. This exciting time may consist of bread baking, handwork craft, simple woodworking, painting, clay work, sun painting fabrics, making s'mores, gardening, or tie dying. As the summer sun warms the day, the groups enjoy a wholesome snack together. Later, the camp groups head out for a woods walk ending at a favorite spot on campus, The Creek. Campers enjoy daily play exploring in The Creek. Wading in the shaded creek provides laughter and smiles for all. Camp groups return happily from the creek to change their attire and enjoy a picnic lunch together before dismissal at 1pm.

6. Is snack provided?

The Waldorf Summer Camp is known for providing a uniquely wholesome and tasty snack for the children each day. In addition, parents are asked to send their child(ren) with a serving of fruit to share each day. Our camp Counselors are experts at preparing beautiful fruit platters to be shared among each group. This sharing of snack and fruit from home generates excitement and fosters unity among the campers within each group.

7. Does my child need to pack a lunch?

Yes, each child brings a packed lunch from home. We encourage a well balanced lunch with ample protein and limited sweets to help nourish the children after a full morning of play. Lunch should be brought in an insulated bag which will be placed in a cooler. A labeled reusable water thermos should also be brought from home. If deemed necessary, parents will be notified if there are food restrictions necessitated by allergies within the group, ie: Nut-free lunch requirements.

8. How much time will my child spend inside?

Children spend most of their day outside on our beautiful 20 acre campus. Campers aged 4-5 generally eat inside around the table, while older camp groups often enjoy daily lunches outside on our lawns or at our picnic tables. Campers are inside during some of their specialty activities such as bread baking, clay work, and painting. They are also inside during transition times such as changing attire for the creek and toileting/hand washing breaks.

9. What happens if it rains?

Summer rains provide unique experiences for our campers. In the absence of thunder/lightning, campers enjoy rain walks on campus. Puddle jumping and the pitter-patter of rain drops on leaves can be purely magical for children. As part of their camp gear, campers are requested to have a rain jacket and boots (or closed toe water shoes) for rainy days. Properly preparing for time spent outdoors helps Waldorf Campers truly experience their inherent connection with nature.

10. My child is not an avid swimmer. Will there be any swimming at camp?

Children are well supervised at the shallow creek. While children wade in the creek, they do not submerge their heads and they are not permitted to swim as per camp rules.

11. My child overheats easily. How will he stay hydrated?

While Counselors are trained to recognize symptoms of overheating, they are also trained on preventative measures. Campers are encouraged to wear sunscreen, sunhats and protective clothing. They are also encouraged to take frequent breaks for drinking water. Each camper is instructed to bring a labeled reusable water thermos. This bottle will be refilled periodically which helps staff members determine which campers are in need of drinking additional fluids throughout the day. Campers play heartily in the cooler earlier hours and play at the shaded creek or in the woods and sprinklers during the hottest hours of the day. In addition, the Camp Director and Camp Health Director are on hand to attend to the needs of any child requiring medical attention.

12. What happens if my child feels ill while at camp?

Basic First Aid and Safety is reviewed with all staff before the start of camp. Counselors will escort ill children to the Health Office where the Camp Director or Camp Health Director can provide evaluation and attention to medical needs. Parents will be notified if a child is unwell while at camp.

13. Will there be scheduled breaks for toileting/hand washing?

Yes, campers have scheduled breaks for toileting and hand washing with soap and water before meals and throughout the day. Hand sanitizers are also available for use.

14. I've heard of Festival Day. Tell me more!

On the last Friday of each camp session, we host a Festival Day. This much anticipated day is filled with obstacle courses, bean bag tosses, digging for treasures, bead work, flower making, face painting, songs, watermelon and homemade ice cream and more! The day finishes with a delightfully age appropriate puppet show. This exciting and magical day is reserved just for our campers. Parents and siblings of campers will be enthralled with stories about the day's activities at dismissal.

15. What is included in the Afternoon Option?

The Afternoon Option runs from 1:00pm-3:30pm. A Counselor, along with assistants, leads the mixed aged group through the afternoon hours on campus. Our youngest children often begin their afternoon by enjoying a restful story time, while our older campers participate in group cooperative play. The children are then provided with a light snack with fruit and enjoy a trip to the garden, a woods walk, additional craft time or creek play, and time in our play yards. Cooling down with a homemade ice pop is a favorite treat enjoyed before dismissal!

16. What type of medical forms are required for camp?

To register for camp, parents are required to fill out a simple health history Medical Form that also includes parental authorizations. Please note, this form does NOT need to be completed by a physician. This form is attached to the Registration brochure and may be downloaded above. Additionally, please include a copy of your child's Immunization Records, fax them to (609) 333-9991, or email a PDF to summercamp@princetonwaldorf.org.

17. My child requires medication while at camp. How should I proceed?

Whenever possible, children requiring daily medications should receive them at home to avoid an interruption in their camp day. Occasionally, children may require the administration of medication while at camp. If you anticipate the need for your child to receive medication while at camp, please download the Medication Request Form and have it completed by your child's physician. Forms must be reviewed by the Camp Health Director prior to the start of camp; please plan accordingly. Medications must be brought to camp in the original packaging, must be labeled with child's name, and must be the exact medication as prescribed by the physician. Please check expiration dates.

18. My child has allergies/asthma. How should I proceed?

Allergies and asthma among children are on the rise. If your child has special medical circumstances related to allergies or asthma, please contact our Health Director so we can plan for a safe and healthy camp experience. Additional forms from your child's physician are required; please plan accordingly. Forms may be downloaded from our website., such as Allergy Treatment Plan or Asthma Treatment Plan. Epi-Pens, Anti-histamines, and/or Inhalers must be brought to camp in the original packaging. They must be labeled with child's name, and must be the exact medication as prescribed by the physician. Please check expiration dates.

19. How do I register for camp?

Registration forms may be downloaded above.

Your child's space at camp will only be reserved following the receipt of all documents and payment in FULL. This includes:

- Completion of Registration form for each child.
- Completion of attached Medical and Authorization forms for each child. This is to be completed by PARENTS.
- A copy of your child's Immunization Records, or signed letter of Religious Exemption, or letter of Medical Exemption from child's physician. (Forms/Letters may be attached, faxed to (609) 333-9991, or emailed as a PDF to summercamp@princetonwaldorf.org.)
- Payment in FULL

Spaces fill quickly; register before May 1st to receive most favorable pricing. Children requiring medical prescriptions may fax physician forms after returning the camp registration packet/payment, but before their session begins.

20. What is the cost of camp?

Please see above pricing for our various offerings of General Camp, Specialty Camps, and Afternoon Session.

21. What types of payments are accepted?

We gladly accept cash, checks, or money orders made out to Waldorf School of Princeton; memo: Summer Camp. Regretfully, we do not accept credit cards at this time. Registration will be confirmed with the emailing of a Summer Camp Practical Details Letter in June before the start of camp.

Payments can be mailed to: 1062 Cherry Hill Road Princeton, NJ 08540; attention: Summer Camp. Payments made also be left in the school lockbox located on campus. The lockbox is affixed to the left wall near the front entry doors to the Golden House.

22. Is there a refund policy for cancelled camp registrations?

A partial refund per child will be offered if a cancellation requested is received via email before June 1st. A \$100 administrative fee will be assessed per child for cancellations made before June 1st. Refunds will not be granted for cancellations after June 1st.

23. How should I prepare for my child's camp experience?

We ask that you provide your child with the following labeled items in a bag:

- A spare change of clothes including underwear
- A rain jacket
- A pair of CLOSED TOE water shoes
- A bathing suit and a towel
- A sunhat and extra sunscreen
- A sturdy pair of CLOSED TOE outdoor shoes
- A reusable water thermos labeled with child's name
- An insulated lunch bag

24. How will I know who my child's Camp Counselor will be?

Camp groups are thoughtfully created by our Camp Director, once all registrations have been received. If your child has requested placement with friend, please have both families make note of this on the registration forms. We will do our best to honor your request. In late June, Camp Group Placements will be sent via email to the email address listed on your child's registration form. *Group Placements will only be sent to families that have registered AND submitted all medical forms, immunization records and payments in FULL.*

25. How will I know where to report on the first day of Camp?

In late June, after receiving all registration documents, medical forms and payments, you will receive an email confirming your child's Camp Group Placement. Along with this email announcement, you will receive an email containing a Camp Practical Details information and policies document. This document contains detailed information on preparing your child for camp, information regarding any pertinent Food Restrictions, as well as how you can reach our Camp Director during camp hours.

26. Is there a way for my child to see the campus before camp begins?

Yes, we are sensitive to the needs of our young camp families. Throughout the year, our school hosts several events which are open to the public and offer a preview of our campus. Additionally, we welcome our newest campers to attend an Open House before the start of camp. Although invitations are for registered campers and their families only, we do require advance registration for planning purposes. Upon registering for camp, you will be notified of the Open House date via the emailed Camp Practical Details information document.