



Camp Summer Blast



PARENT HANDBOOK

Camp Summer Blast
Milton Fairgrounds
136 Robert St,
Milton, ON



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Welcome

Welcome to Camp Summer Blast! Our camp was created with a vision to provide Milton children with a unique summer camp experience. Located at the Milton Fairgrounds, our summer camp has what we feel is the best location in town! Our weekly programs offer day campers with a variety of activities that meet the needs and interests of all children. Our counselors are experienced and strive to provide an experience that will create memories for a lifetime!

Please take the time to **read our parent guide thoroughly** as it contains important information about our camp and policies.

Our Motto

“Let’s Create Memories” because that’s what we do!

Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to equity and inclusivity of all campers and EVERYONE is accepted. Our counselors also receive annual equity, diversity and inclusivity training as part of our ongoing commitment to include all.

Summer Camp is a place where everyone should be welcomed and celebrated for the who they are. We recognize the uniqueness of all children and have an unwavering commitment to our campers.



Code of Conduct

Camp Summer Blast is a camp dedicated to **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion** of ALL camper regardless of age, gender, religion, ability/disability, ethnicity, or any other characteristic. We provide an exciting, inclusive environment for all of our campers!

INCLUSION - Above all else we want to ensure that all children feel safe and included. This means we treat your child as an individual, not simply one of many campers. If your child is experiencing an off day, we understand. We know children and we know that no child will have a perfect day of behaviour. Thus we treat your child with respect and will work them through any misbehaviours in an understanding, constructive manner.

While we will most definitely work with a child if they are having an off day, we want all parents to know their children are in a safe environment and that any form of bullying, harassment, theft/vandalism, will not be tolerated. This means that bullying as a misbehaviour will not be tolerated.

Bullying - Camp Summer Blast maintains a **zero tolerance** policy for bullying. This includes, but is not limited to: intimidation, name calling, profanity, racism, physical assault, and refusal to follow safety guidelines.

Vandalism and/or Theft - any camper involved with vandalism and/or theft involving Milton Fairground property or buildings, Camp Summer Blast belongings, or those of another camper will be reported to Police. Parents of the campers involved will be held financially responsible in all instances of theft and/or vandalism.

***Note:** Camp Summer Blast recommends that valuables not be brought to camp. This includes cell phones, iPads/Tablets, and other devices. Camp Summer Blast is not responsible for lost or stolen devices or personal property brought to camp.

Consequences - any camper involved in an incidence of bullying, theft, or vandalism may be suspended from the camp. Suspension may be 1 day, 2 days, or permanent. Refunds will not be provided in any instance of Bullying, Theft, or Vandalism.

***Note:** if a child is suspended (1 or 2 days, or permanently) the Camp Director will provide a written statement detailing the reason for suspension. The Camp Director will also meet with parents to discuss the situation in detail.

Important Camp Dates

Monday July 3, 2023 - **First Day of Camp**
Friday August 25, 2023 - **Last Day of Camp**
Monday August 7, 2023 - **Civic Holiday (no camp)**

Session Dates & Themes

WEEK 1: July 3 - 7, 2023

WEEK 2: July 10 - 14, 2023

WEEK 3: July 17 - 21, 2023

WEEK 4: July 24 - 28, 2023

WEEK 5: July 31 - Aug 4, 2023

WEEK 6: August 8 - 11, 2023

WEEK 7: August 14 - 18, 2023

WEEK 8: August 21 - 25, 2023

***August 8 - 11 is a 4 day camp week**



Theme Weeks

For our 2023 Summer Camps we are super excited to introduce our seasonal theme weeks! On **Wednesday of each week** our facility will be decked-out to match the season-of-the-week! Crafts and activities will match the theme of the week and campers will be invited to dress up for the day (if they choose).

WEEK 1 & 4 - SUMMER

WEEK 2 & 6 - FALL

WEEK 3 & 7 - WINTER

WEEK 4 & 8 - SPRING

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF CAMP



MONDAY

Welcome to Camp

Campers will meet their counselors and engage in a variety of exciting indoor and outdoor activities.

TUESDAY

Park Day

Campers will visit Rotary Park in downtown Milton and have the opportunity for Water Fun in the Splash Pad!

WEDNESDAY

Seasonal Theme Day

Every Wednesday our facility will be decked-out in the theme-of-the week. Campers are invited to dress up in seasonal costumes for the day!

THURSDAY

Camp Games

Campers will engage in a variety of fun games throughout the camp.

FRIDAY

Summer Blast Amazing Race!

Every Friday campers of all ages will partake in Camp Summer Blast's Amazing Race. They will compete in groups and have a "Blast" at the same time!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SUNSCREEN

As we like to spend as much time outside, please send your child to camp ready for the day with sunscreen already provided. Please send your child with sunscreen that is labeled with your child's name so that we may re-apply throughout the day. Note: please do not send sunscreen containing coconut or nut oils.

TOILETING

Please note that it is the expectation that all campers are fully toilet trained. We do understand that accidents can happen and, as such, we ask that you send your child to camp with a change of clothes in a large Ziplock bag labelled with their name.

PRIVACY

As educators, our camp director and supervisors understand the need for privacy and respect this privacy wholeheartedly. Any information collected from families in the process of registration is kept confidential and not shared with any third party, ever.

CAMP ATTIRE

As we are an outdoor summer camp (with available indoor space for rainy or extremely hot days) we ask that you send your child to camp with comfortable summer clothing. We will have the opportunity to visit the splash pad at Rotary Park on Tuesday each week so ask that you send your child with a bathing suit on that day.

PICKUP AND DROP OFF

Our location at the Milton Fairgrounds allows our Milton Summer Camp to provide a drive-thru pickup and drop off. In the mornings we ask that you follow the guide of our staff and drive right up to the front door to drop your child off. We will warmly greet your child and bring them to their group each morning. At the of the day the process is identical. Simply pull up to the front door and we'll have your child ready to go!

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

DROP-OFF

1. Summer Camp drop-off at the Milton Fairground takes place each day between **8:50 am and 9:00 am**.
2. Staff will direct you through the pylons to the front door for drop-off.
3. Please be patient as you drop your child. We ask that you **do NOT** get out of your car.
4. If your child is experiencing anxiety show them that you are **happy and confident** they will have an amazing time. Hesitation will make your child more anxious so try your best to keep that brave face!
5. Once you drop your child **we will ensure they are safe and happy** and will escort them each day to their counselor.

PICK-UP

Pick-up each day takes place between **3:45 and 4:00 pm**. The procedure is the same as drop-off in that you will proceed through the pylons to the front door of our main building. Campers can only be signed out by pre-approved adults (Mom, Dad, Grandparent, etc.). Photo identification is required EVERY day regardless of familiarity with staff. This is for the protection of your child, which we take very seriously.

ARRIVING ON TIME

In order to ensure the smooth operation of Camp Summer Blast and to ensure the safety of all campers it is extremely important that campers arrive on time each day. Late campers disrupt our daily program as our counselors must pause their program to ensure the late camper is integrated into the group. Please ensure your child is on time each day.

ABSENCES

As we are responsible for the safety and well-being of your child it is extremely important that you report your child's absence to us by calling 905-691-8945. If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent please email us at fairgrounds@campsummerblast.ca.

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE

Camp Summer Blast operations on a 9:00 am to 4:00 pm schedule. However, we realize that some families may need an extended period of time for drop-off and pick-up. Below are the options available: Campers will meet their counselors and engage in a variety of exciting indoor and outdoor activities.

BEFORE CARE

Before-care is offered daily from 8:00 - 9:00 am at a cost of **\$25 (plus HST)** per one week session.

AFTER CARE

After-care is offered daily from 4:00 - 5:00 pm at a cost of **\$25 (plus HST)** per one week session. Note: **5:00 pm is the absolute latest** we have the Fairgrounds at our disposal. *Pick-up later than 5:00 will result in additional fees.





SETTING YOUR CHILD UP FOR SUCCESS

For Our Youngest Campers

Leaving Mom and Dad for the day can be scary for our youngest campers, and for parents too! The staff at Camp Summer Blast are here to support the little ones as they embark on this new exciting journey. Here are a few things you can do to support your child in a successful camp experience:

- Let them know how excited you are for them to have a “Blast” as Summer Camp
- Listen to them when they express worries and remind them that you’re close by
- Involve them in getting ready for camp each day:
 - Choosing Clothing
 - Packing Lunch
- Keep your own worries private: it’s normal to feel nervous for your child. It’s important thought for them to see how excited you are and to reassure them

For Our Older Campers

We know that anxiety is real for many children, regardless of age. If you have a child with high anxiety you can still practice the skills above to ease the transition to camp. You can also let us know so that we can further assist your child when needed.

Camp Summer Blast

2023 Dates and Fees

WEEKLY PROGRAM FEE: \$325 + HST

***Week of August 8th: \$260 + HST**

WEEK	DATES	THEME
WEEK 1	July 3 - 7	SUMMER
WEEK 2	July 10 - 14	FALL
WEEK 3	July 17 - 21	WINTER
WEEK 4	July 24 - 28	SPRING
WEEK 4	July 31 - Aug 4	SUMMER
WEEK 6 *	Aug 8 - 11	FALL
WEEK 7	Aug 14 - 18	WINTER
WEEK 8	Aug 21 - 25	SPRING

LEADER IN TRAINING Weekly Program Fee: \$285 + HST

***Week of August 8th: \$225 + HST**

REGISTRATION, REFUNDS, & CREDITS

REGISTRATION (February 15 - April 30)

1. Registration begins **February 15, 2023** at midnight.
2. Registration continues until available spaces fill up. Once full, we will begin a wait list but cannot guarantee a spot.
3. A **50% deposit** is required at the time of registration.
4. The remaining balance is due **April 30, 2023**.

REFUNDS: All camp fees are fully refundable until April 30, 2023. A \$50 administration fee will apply.

REGISTRATION (May 1 - August 25)

1. Camp registration continues from May 1 until August 25. All registrations **must be paid in full** at the time of registration.

CREDITS: After **April 30, 2023** there are no refunds. A 50% credit will be applied to the 2024 camp season. Notice must be given a minimum of 14 days notice prior to your session beginning.

***No credit/refund will be issued if you cancel less than 14 days prior to the beginning of your weekly session**

STAFFING

Please note that our staffing is based on the number of registrations each session. We provide an excellent counselor-to-camper ratio and registration fees go first to ensuring we have adequate staff on site. This is the main reason we have the cancellation policy above.

REGISTRATION closes 3 days prior to a session beginning to ensure that we have the correct staff-to-camper ratio and to develop a safe camp environment for all.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP



FOOD & DRINK

- Reusable Water Bottle
- Lunch Bag with Nutritious Lunch (peanut/nut free)
- Snacks (morning/afternoon)



LABEL, LABEL, LABEL

If we know anything about our children it's their ability to leave everything everywhere! Thus we will do our utmost to return items to you and your children if they are left behind.

So please ensure that **all items are clearly labeled**. There are many iron-on options out there (Amazon has some terrific options)



CLOTHING

- Backpack (labelled with child's name)
- Appropriate daily clothing (dress for the weather)
- Change of clothes in a labelled ziplock bag
- Appropriate footwear (NOTE: no open-toed shoes for safety)
- Baseball cap or sun hat

***We recommend you LABEL EVERYTHING with your child's name**

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Cell phones
- Stuffed animals
- Products containing nuts/tree nuts
- Glass water bottles
- Open-toed shoes or 'Slides'
- Trading Cards (like Pokemon)

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

MEDICATIONS

If the administration of medication is necessary during the day please communicate directly with the Supervisor on the first day. All medication must be clearly labeled with the camper name and in the original bottle/package. Campers are not permitted to keep any medications with them during the day (with the exception of Epi-Pens or Asthma Inhalers).

*Note: Camper Health Forms must be completed each year indicating any on-going medications necessary for your child.

ALLERGIES

Epi-Pens: If your child suffers from a life-threatening allergy that requires the use of an **Epi-Pen** please indicated on the Camper Health Form. We require that each camper have two Epi-Pens at camp - one with the Supervisor, and one stays with the camper.

Inhalers: If your child suffers from Asthma or another condition that requires the use of an inhaler you must provide directions for use of the inhaler in our Camper Health Form.

ANAPHYLAXIS - NOTE TO ALL PARENTS

At any given moment we will have several campers with serious, life-threatening allergies to foods such as peanuts and tree nuts. As such our camp policy is that **NO CAMPER** will be sent to camp with food containing **NUTS OF ANY KIND**. This is a strict policy and is mean for the safety of our campers.

ILLNESS AT CAMP

At Camp Summer Blast we are experienced working with children and know that children can sometimes get headaches/tummy aches. If this happens we will have your child rest and will contact the parent to speak about next steps. Often times a brief rest is all they need!

If the illness is more serious (fever, vomiting etc.) will will contact the parent for immediate pickup.