

# **Camp Cowabunga 2021 Handbook**



# **Your most fun summer ever awaits! Welcome to Camp Cowabunga!**

Families & campers,

We are so excited to meet you! In the cold winter days, many of us count down the moments until we can begin planning a festive and warm summer program for you. In a year that has been so topsy turvy, we are thrilled to provide a sense of comfort, normalcy, and summer fun.

At Camp Cowabunga, we strive to celebrate everyone as the courageous, inventive, kind, and talented person they are. We will work with the beautiful outdoor resources that we have at Moharimet elementary school to play group games, foster creativity with art enrichment, and find many creative ways to stay cool in the summer heat! Growing Places values the importance of outdoor play and we will be spending our days in the warm sunshine as much as possible!

With the joys of summer of course comes the hope that we can find creative ways to form connections and togetherness in the wake of a global pandemic. Included in this packet you will find registration information, Covid-19 policies and procedures that reflect the guidelines of ORCSD, as well as calendars for fun themes and events that we will celebrate together.

Whether this is your first summer with us or you come every year, please be sure to read through this packet for events, themes, and rules and regulations. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns for us please feel free to reach out.

Kindly,

*Erin Evans*

Erin Evans

Camp Cowabunga Program Director

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# FAQS

**Where is Camp Cowabunga located?:** This summer we will return to our typical home at Moharimet Elementary School! Hooray! Moharimet (often affectionately referred to as MOH) is located at 11 Lee Road in Madbury, NH.

**What are your hours of operation?:** Due to Covid-19, our limited hours of operation this summer will be 8:30am-4:30pm. **Please note that our start date is subject to change depending open ORCSD's last day of school.** We look forward to the future when we can spend more time together!

**Will you still offer extended care?:** Unfortunately we are unable to do so because of these above mentioned restrictions. Our apologies.

**Will you be offering field trips to the pool or will enrichment specialists come in?:** We are still navigating best practices for whether field trips or booking outside special guests to provide enrichment opportunities are in the best interest for the safety of our campers and staff. We will keep you informed if anything changes but at this juncture, we will be staying on site.

**Does my child have to wear a mask?:** Yes! Our staff and all campers will be expected to wear a mask in compliance with the ORCSD & state mandates. Please bring extra masks as we will get hot and sweaty and maybe wet! We will also have some disposable masks on site.

**What should my child wear?:** Closed toed shoes, clothing that will keep them cool and that is designed for playing, sunscreen and bug spray, and a mask!

**Should I really label everything with a permanent marker that my child brings to camp?:** Yes! A resounding yes! If you can label it, please do so. Our lovely staff are also happy to help and are equipped with sharpies.

**What does a day look like at Camp Cowabunga?:** Like this!

8:30- 8:45: Arrival/outside	12:30-1:00: Free choice
8:45-9:00: Morning meeting	1:00-1:30: Drop Everything and Read
9:00-9:15: Snack	1:30-2:30: Outside
9:15-10:00: Art activity	2:30-2:45: Wash hands/Snacks
10:00-10:30: Group movement activity	2:45-3:15: Science activity
10:30-11:30: Outside/ waterplay	3:15-4:00: Free choice
11:30-12:30: Wash hands/change/lunch	4:00-4:30: Outside/pick up

# **Camp Cowabunga Checklist of Awesomeness!**

**Please bring the following to camp! Check it off once it's packed!**

- A change of clothes
- Extra masks (and one on your face!)
- Sun protection: sunhat/baseball cap/sunglasses
- A healthy and delicious lunch (nut free please)
- Two healthy and delicious snacks (nut free please)
- LOTS of water in a water bottle
- A swimsuit, sandals/water shoes, and a towel
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Clothing/props for themed days
- A backpack or tote to keep your stuff together

## **Things that are better left at home**

- Nuts
- Electronics that include but are not limited to ipods/mp3 players, ipads, and cellphones
- Trading cards
- Toys from home
- Illegal substances
- Weapons or items resembling weapons
- Gum
- Valuables
- Jewelry
- Umbrellas
- Fireworks

# Rules and regulations!

## PARENT PICK-UP

Parent pick-up at Camp Cowabunga takes place between 4:00-4:30PM. **PHOTO ID is required for pickup EVERYDAY.** If you plan on picking your camper up prior to 4:00 PM, please send a note with your child in the morning or call camp as early in the day as possible. No camper will be released to anyone whose name does not appear on his/her Camper Release Registration Form.

## PARENT PICK UP/DROP OFF POLICIES

Parents must escort campers to the entrance of the Cowabunga space with a mask on themselves and their child. At the door, a staff member will sign the child into the program. Cowabunga staff will ONLY release campers to authorized individuals listed on the registration form. Any change in authorized individuals must be made in writing. Parents or authorized individuals must personally escort campers from the pick-up area and make contact with a staff member who will sign him/her out. Cowabunga staff will ask for a valid photo ID to confirm the person picking up the child is an authorized individual. Cowabunga staff will call all authorized individuals if the child is not picked up by his/her scheduled dismissal time. All authorized individuals must be 16 or older.

## PAYMENT AND CHANGES IN SERVICE

**Tuition Payment Schedule:** Tuition payments are due on the first day your child attends each week. Tuition fees are not based on attendance, but registered days. There will be no reductions in fees or refunds given if your child is absent (i.e. sickness, vacation, emergency, unforeseen circumstances). If tuition is not paid on time and according to this contract, we reserve the right to terminate care unless Operations Manager Sarah Nason (603) 868-1335 has been contacted. A late payment of \$10/week will be applied to your account for balances (2) or more weeks behind.

**Registration Fee & Deposit:** A non-refundable registration fee of \$35.00 per child and a \$20 per week deposit for each child is registered to secure your child's spot is due at time of registration. Your child is not officially enrolled in our program until both registration fee and deposit has been made. This tuition deposit is credited to your account on your family's first day of Cowabunga. Families receiving childcare reimbursement from the state are exempt from the tuition deposit.

**Late Pick-Up Fee:** If you are unable to arrive on time, you MUST call so that both your camper and staff can be prepared for the delay. If you are late in picking up your camper you will be charged \$1 per minute that has accrued after 4:30 PM.

**Changes/Cancelation:** You will have until May 14<sup>th</sup> to make any changes to your registered weeks or to withdraw from summer camp. After May 14<sup>th</sup>, you will be responsible for payment for all registered weeks.

## HEALTH AND MEDICATION POLICIES

***Your child's health and safety is our top priority. The following completed forms must be on file for each individual camper:***

**Camper Emergency Consent Form:** A document which contains medical history and emergency contacts with a parent/guardian signature.

**Reunification Form:** In the case of an emergency where we have to evacuate Camp Cowabunga to an alternative location, the reunification form ensures that your child is reunified with a trusted adult.

**Physical & Immunization Records:** The most up to date physical and immunization record (within the past year). This document should also list over the counter and prescription medication(s) that are currently prescribed to your child.

**Medication Administration and Topical Substance Form:** ALL medication must be in original container(s) and administration of any oral or topical medication must be discussed with the Camp Director prior to enrollment as well as have the proper form and documentation on file. Prescription medication containers must have pharmacy label and contain only the medication listed on the label. Medication will be given only in prescribed dosages and schedules. Any changes from what is printed on the label must be authorized in writing by your child's doctor.

**Head Lice:** Camp Cowabunga has a "No Live Lice" policy. A camper may remain in camp with eggs or nits but must be sent home in the presence of live lice. They may return to camp after the first treatment if there is no evidence of live lice. A camper will be sent home at any point in the treatment process if there is a presence of live lice.

**Camper Illness/Injury:** In the event of any illness or injury other than a minor one, the parents or emergency contact person will be notified as soon as possible. Emergency medical personnel may be called to the scene in the instance of emergency situations.

**BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY:** It is important that we take appropriate action to make sure your child and other children remain safe and happy while at camp. Our behavior management plan begins with positive reinforcement to strengthen camper character and prevent inappropriate behavior from taking place. Campers that fail to follow camp rules are treated fairly and appropriately. All staff members have the support of experienced directors to provide guidance and intervene if necessary. The following policies pertain to actions by a child to another child or to an adult or parent towards any child or staff. The director, upon notification to the parent, may suspend or terminate a child or family from all activities and participation in the program for the following types of misconduct by you or your child:

- Injuring another person
- Use of foul language or rudeness
- Verbal or physical threats
- Bringing in or using illegal substances
- Engaging in fighting
- Failure to consistently follow program rules and staff directions
- Stealing or vandalizing another person's property
- Leaving the facility without permission or going into posted unauthorized areas
- Running from the group space or running from group during outings
- Not following check-in and out procedures
- Defacing camp or school property or field trip facilities

**DISCIPLINE POLICY:** Camp Cowabunga expects that every individual will be or will learn to be responsible for his or her behavior and will be respectful towards others. From time to time, all individuals need help and direction in learning, developing, and maintaining appropriate behavior. If an individual exhibits frequent disruptive and/or aggressive behavior, a family conference will be scheduled. Continued disruptive and/or aggressive behavior may result in temporary suspension or permanent dismissal from the program. We recognize that children go through different developmental stages throughout their time with us. Therefore, each case will be addressed on an individual basis. Together, we will try to work out a system to manage the behavior.

**DISMISSAL FROM CAMP:** Dismissal from camp will occur if after a conference with the parents, camper, and camp director, the disciplinary instance cannot be resolved. If a camper is dismissed for disciplinary measures due to severe behavior, no refund will be issued for the unused days. A camper may be suspended or terminated immediately for severe behavior such as physical

violence, harm to other campers or staff, or attempts to leave the camp property.

**CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT AT CAMP COWABUNGA:** Camp Cowabunga is focused on nurturing the potential of every child. We provide activities that benefit children physically, emotionally, and socially. Activity and event plans are made on a foundation of character development. It is our goal to help campers discover the strength of their character through their experiences with us at camp. Recognition and behavior management practices are utilized using this method.

### **WEEKLY THEMES AND WHAT THEY MEAN**

**Wednesday:** We're going to get wet! Be sure to bring a towel, swimsuit, and waterproof shoes!

**Fabulous Friday:** Dress to the nines with props and costumes to be sure you're celebrating the weekly theme! However, your camper is welcome to dress according to our weekly theme every day that week if they wish. However, on Fridays, we'll go all out!

June 21<sup>st</sup>-June 25<sup>th</sup>: **The Great Outdoors** During this week, we will plan events that reflect wilderness exploration! We will create tiny tents out of limited materials, make smores with a tin foil oven, and go on a scavenger hunt. Be sure to wear your cargo shorts and adventurer's hat!

June 28<sup>th</sup>-July 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Out of This World** Let's get spacey! We will celebrate the galaxies, space crafts, and the possibility of aliens! This week we will participate in activities such as STEM spaceships, galaxy splatter painting, and alien sculpture construction. Be sure to dress as an alien or space explorer on Friday!

July 5<sup>th</sup>-July 9<sup>th</sup>: **Red, White & Blue** To celebrate the fourth of July wear anything Red, White, and Blue or with a flag on it. We will be celebrating by making popsicle stick flags and patriotic friendship bracelets.

July 12<sup>th</sup>-July 16<sup>th</sup>: **Superheroes** BAM! POW! SMASH! Let's celebrate our favorite heroes. We will construct superhero masks, make our own comics, and play superhero tag! Dress as your favorite hero on Friday or all week if you want!

July 19<sup>th</sup>-July 23<sup>rd</sup>: **Harry Potter** You're a wizard, camper! To celebrate the beloved boy who lived we will be making wands, playing muggle quidditch, and designing our own Hogwarts crests. Dress in your favorite house colors or as your favorite witch/wizard or magical creature!

July 26<sup>th</sup>-July 30<sup>th</sup>: **Dinosaurs** RAWR! We will be paleontologists this week. Dress as your favorite dinosaur or dress how you think a paleontologist would look. We will celebrate the week by comparing our foot to a tyrannosaurus rex's, digging for fossils, and creating dinosaur skeletons out of q-tips!

August 2<sup>nd</sup>-August 6<sup>th</sup>: **Color week** An age old camp tradition of breaking into teams to go head to head! Healthy competition is fun, and we get to have some camp pride by rocking our team's color! To celebrate we will be playing some competitive games, doing some tie dye and maybe even making some messy art! We will keep you posted about teams and tie dye events when the time comes!

August 9<sup>th</sup>-August 13<sup>th</sup>: **At the beach** The grand finale to an awesome summer with Camp Cowabunga! Get out your best Hawaiian shirt, scuba gear, or aquatic themed garb. We'll be celebrating with lots of water play, paper plate awards, and some nautical yoga adventures!