TAL TAL DAY CAMP/SCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK

GOALS OF TAL TAL DAY CAMP/SCHOOL

The goal of TAL TAL programs is to build a child's self esteem, encourage creativity, and assist in creating strong families

and strong communities. Our camp programs reflect these values and are designed to help our campers grow mentally,

physically, and spiritually within a fun, safe camp environment. Well-trained camp staff that lead the campers in

challenging activities act as a catalyst for growth in your child.

The goals and principles of TAL TAL are firmly based on the specific program objectives from which our program

operates. These principles are related to self and interactions with others. The specific principles of the day camp

program are:

- . The achievement of personal growth in body, mind and spirit.
- . The formation and practice of socially constructive habits and attitudes.
- . The acquisition of knowledge about and the development of skills and interests in outdoor activities and in group

settings with their peers.

- . The development of an appreciation of nature and a love of the outdoor environment.
- . The strengthening of social and family relationships through participation in the day camp program.

TAL TAL CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

At TAL TAL, character development and values are a part of who we are. We reinforce the values that you teach at

home. TAL TAL is committed to embracing and demonstrating character through the modeling of the four core values:

caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Our goal is to challenge the children and staff to believe in and act on these

positive values.

Caring:

To be sensitive to the well being of others, to help others.

Honesty:

To tell the truth, to act in such a way that you are worthy of trust, to have integrity; to make sure your choices match

your values.

Respect:

To treat others as you would have them treat you; to value the worth of every person, including yourself.

Responsibility: to do what is right, to be accountable for your behaviors and obligations.

TAL TAL Day Camp Dates:

June 26th Monday August 18th. There will be no camp on July 4th and July 27th.

Camp Howrs/ School Howrs

TAL TAL DAY CAMP- Monday through Friday: 8:00am to 4:00pm Friday 8:00am to 12:30pm

Extended Hours are available as follows: Weekdays until 5:00pm Friday until 3:00pm

Drop-off

Sign in your child each morning when you bring him/her to camp.

Early Pick-Up

If your child will be leaving early, please notify the classroom or, via email at Talidaycare@gmail.com, on the morning of the designated day. The staff will have your child prepared to depart at your requested time. Remember that you will still need to sign your child out.

BABY-SITTING

Employees of TAL TAL are prohibited from babysitting for families with children enrolled in any TAL TAL Program. Camper / staff contact ends when camp ends. This is an area where parents can be an extra set of ears and eyes for us. Please notify the office if a staff member reaches out to babysit.

CAMP ATTIRE

Please remember to dress your child appropriately for camp. We use discovery and play as a major part of our camp

program. We encourage you to dress your child in clothing that you do not mind getting dirty or stained with art

materials in the course of your child engaging in a fun activity. Here are some other reminders of clothes for camp: .T-Shirt

- . Shorts
- . Socks
- . Sneakers (closed front sandals for swim only please!)
- . LABEL EVERYTHING!! (Even underwear!)

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

We plan to provide the best day camp program possible. At TAL TAL, that means more than just activities. We believe

character development is an important challenge for all of us – staff, participants and parents – to accept and

demonstrate the positive values of caring, respect, honesty and responsibility.

COMMUNICATION

Prior to the start of camp, you will be contacted by your child's Group Leader to introduce themselves. If you listed any

special concerns on the camper application, they will be addressed at this time. We will post a newsletter on our website

carefully and save it for future reference.

each Friday with important information regarding schedules, field trips, special events, etc. Please read all information

Code of conduct

Our Code of Conduct states that TAL TAL DAY CAMP is committed to providing a safe and welcoming

environment for

all of our members and guests. To ensure safety and comfort for all, we ask individuals to act appropriately while

they are in our facility or participating in an event.

Our code of conduct does not permit language or action that can

hurt or frighten another person or that falls below a

generally accepted standard of conduct. Specifically this includes: Angry or vulgar language including swearing, name calling, and

shouting;

 Physical contact with another person in an angry or threatening way;

 Any demonstration of sexual activity or sexual contact with another person;

Harassment or intimidation with words, gestures, body language

or other menacing behavior; Behavior which intends to or results in the theft or destruction of

property;

Carrying devices that may be used as weapons.

If you are aware of any of the above, please call the office immediately.

Everyone at TAL TAL is responsible for their own personal comfort and

behavior threatens their personal comfort to refrain. Staff are trained and

safety and should ask any person whose

expected to respond to any reported

violation of our code of conduct. Please do not hesitate to notify a staff person if you need assistance. We want to help!

TAL TAL Management will investigate all reported incidents. Dismissal

from a program or termination of TAL TAL

privileges may result from any violation of the code of conduct.

This year, and in future years, Tal Tal will host a MANDATORY workshop for all staff addressing the many areas of

inappropriate behaviors between staff and campers, including prevention

and mandated reporting

responsibilities.

Behavioral Guidance

In order to promote your child's physical, intellectual, emotional, and social well being and growth, staff shall interact

with the child and one another to provide needed help, comfort, and support and:

- . Respect personal privacy
- . Respect differences in cultural, ethnic, and family backgrounds
- . Encourage decision making abilities
- . Promote ways of getting along
- . Encourage independence and self direction
- . Use consistency in applying expectations

Behavioral guidance will be constructive in nature and age appropriate, and will be intended to redirect children to

appropriate behavior and resolve conflicts. Parents will be notified if persistent behavioral problems are identified.

EXPECTATIONS

Good behavior will be encouraged in a positive manner. The staff will work cooperatively with parents, keeping them

informed of behavior problems and methods used to teach and guide them toward socially acceptable behavior. If

your child has been receiving assistance in behavior management during the school year, it is imperative that this

information be shared with the camp Director. This will enable us to work more effectively and productively with your

child.

EVALUATIONS

TAL TAL DAY CAMP is always looking for feedback from the parents to further improve our camp program. We will be

sending you a customer satisfaction survey at the end of the summer. Parental assessment of the camp's strengths and

weaknesses will aid in the improvement of camp programs and in the facilitation of new ideas. Parents are invited to

give regular assessments of the camp program to the director at any time.

LOST AND FOUND

We do have a lost and found area for each division. It is highly recommended that you label all clothing with your child's

name. While we make every effort to keep all campers' belongings in their backpack or on their person, TAL TAL will not

be held responsible for lost or stolen items. At the end of each week, we will display the found items, and then take any

remaining items to Goodwill at the end of the summer.

LUNCHES & SNACKS

TAL TAL must be made aware of any child who requires a special diet due to medical or religious reasons.

TAL TAL is a NUT AWARE ZONE. We ask that you do not provide lunch or snacks that contain peanuts, peanut butter or

other nuts at camp to ensure the safety of all children. If you do, we ask that you notify your child's Group Leader that

there is a nut product in your child's lunch. Your understanding and support in helping us to provide a NUT

AWARE ZONE is greatly appreciated.

TAL TAL continues to work towards an inclusive environment that supports and acknowledges the right of each person

to be fully included in all activities that occur in our programs.

Address & Telephone Numbers

Please inform TAL TAL in writing of all changes to address and phone numbers. If your emergency numbers change, it is

important that we are notified immediately to ensure proper notification of parents in case of an emergency.

MEDICAL / EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Essential Forms:

☆ Camp Registration form

☆ Health/Immunization Form signed in two places

☆ If needed, a Medication Consent form

These forms must be given to TAL TAL prior to the start of camp or your child will NOT be able to attend camp! Please be

sure that the information on the forms is accurate and complete. Please do not leave any of the fields blank on any of the forms.

MEDICAL / EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Prior to the start of camp, all children must have a current physical on file. Physical examinations must be complete and signed by a child's physician. All immunizations must be current.

Children must be healthy enough to participate in the program's daily routine. If sick, and for the safety and comfort of your child, please keep them home until they feel better and no longer present the possibility of passing on their illness. If you are keeping your child home due to illness, please contact the camp by 8:00am and let the staff know of your child's absence. When your child has a fever (fever of 101 or higher) or vomiting/diarrhea, please make sure they remain at home 24 hours after their fever and symptoms return to normal. We may require a physician's release for any medical or health condition. If your child becomes ill while at TAL TAL, you will be asked to pick up your child as soon as possible.

MEDICAL / EMERGENCY INFORMATION

The following are defined as illness or communicable health problems:

- . Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- . A chronic runny nose with colored discharge
- . A chronic cough
- . A fever
- . Vomiting or upset stomach
- . Signs of general fatigue or discomfort
- . An open rash
- . Head lice
- . Knowledge that the child has had a fever within the past 24 hours

Please notify TAL TAL if your child or any member of your immediate household develops a communicable condition

(as defined by the local health department), such as pink eye, chicken pox or lice. Parents are responsible to notify TAL

TAL within 24 hours or the next business day. In the case of a life-threatening illness, please notify TAL TAL

immediately. It is important for us to post a notice to other parents as soon as possible.

In the case that your child becomes ill during the program, you will be contacted as soon as possible. If the parent or

guardian is unable to be reached, the child's emergency contact will be notified. It is the responsibility of the parents to

arrange for the child to be picked up from the Nurses office as soon as possible.

Accidents/Emergencies

All precautions will be taken to prevent serious health risks to all campers. In the event that a minor injury occurs, First Aid will be administered at the camp location by the camp staff. The following procedures will be followed: . First Aid will be provided and the incident will be recorded in our school incident report book .

. The child will periodically be observed after First Aid has been applied.

If more than a minor scratch, parents will be notified by one of our teachers.

In the event of a medical emergency, immediate action will be taken by the staff as per your orders on the camp medical form and policies and waivers. Please be sure to keep these forms updated at all times. If parents or other responsible adults are unable to be reached, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital for any necessary treatment. In general, in the event that a major injury or health problem arises and professional medical care is required, the following steps will be taken:

Accidents/Emergencies

- . Immediate First Aid will be administered by the camp staff person until professional services arrive.
- . You will be contacted. If you cannot be reached, the emergency contact person will be notified. .

911 will be called.

- . A staff person will accompany your child to the hospital and remain until you or your emergency contact person arrives.
- . The incident will be described in writing on the TAL TAL incident report.

Emergency contact information is very important for us to provide the safest possible environment for your children.

*** Please notify us right away when there is a new work or home phone number, or if you have moved and have a new address. If your child is sick or injured, it is important for us to be able to contact you right away. Please keep these accurate at all times.



In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of children with severe allergies to peanut products and other things in our camps. We try our best to accommodate these campers without inconveniencing other campers. If you're aware that your child is severely allergic to something, it is your responsibility to notify TAL TAL in advance so we may take proper precautions.

Bugs & Bees

At TAL TAL, we spray for bugs on a regular basis, typically on a Friday, after the camp day ends. To reduce the possibility of both bug bites and stings, a few simple precautions can be taken. Bugs and bees are attracted to patterns on clothing that resemble foliage outdoors. To reduce this attraction, wear solid, light colored shirts, shorts, or trousers.

Another major attraction occurs from "smell". Sweet smelling soaps and shampoos will attract both bees and bugs so try

to use unscented products when showering and bathing and avoid the use of perfumes.

Emergency Plan

Each camp site will have a site-specific emergency plan including an assembly area program, facility evacuation plan,

notification (sounding of alarms) system, shelter-in-place plan, locations of fire extinguishers and first aid kits, etc. Staff

has been trained and are expected to be well-versed in emergency procedures. Each session of summer camp will

include a fire drill so that campers are aware of what to do in an emergency.

Severe Inclement Weather:

In the case of severe inclement weather campers will meet at their designated camp area. All campers will remain in

their groups until the weather passes or the parents pick the camper up.

Parents: Please create an emergency plan to have your child picked up during emergency situations. Due to the number

of campers attending camp, TAL TAL will not call you to pick up your child unless the camp is canceled.

Child Abuse

State laws require ALL CAMPS in New York State to report suspected or actual child abuse and/or neglect to the proper authorities. In compliance with the laws, TAL TAL has adopted a policy, a summary of which is as follows: a. Sexual misconduct and / or child abuse on the part of employees is prohibited by TAL TAL. Any employee that admits to or is found guilty of an incident of illegal sexual misconduct shall be immediately terminated from employment and any position of responsibility with TAL TAL.

Child abuse

- a. Any employee of TAL TAL who is suspected of illegal sexual misconduct or other type of child abuse will be reported to the local department of child protective services by TAL TAL, and suspended and/or restricted from direct contact with campers until an investigation is completed.
- b. Any employee of TALTAL who has reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected should report that matter immediately to his/her supervisor who shall make a report forthwith to the local department of the county or city where the child resides or where the abuse or neglect is believed to have occurred. If neither locality is known, then such a report shall be made to the local department where the abuse or neglect was discovered.
- C. Any employee making a report of child abuse or neglect pursuant to the appropriate sections of the NY statutes or who participates in a judicial proceeding resulting there from shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability in connection therewith, unless it is proven that such employee acted in bad faith or with malicious intent. Failure to report is grounds for dismissal.

Licensing

TAL TAL program is licensed by the State of NY. A copy of the licensing plan is available for your inspection at all times.

Please contact the camp Director for more information.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Parents of enrolled children may make unannounced visits at any time. Any parent has the right to enter the day camp

at any time unless prohibited by court order. We request, however, that visits of a lengthy nature are scheduled with the

Director ahead of time.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please do not allow your child(ren) to bring personal belongings to camp. TAL TAL cannot be responsible for the loss or

damage of toys, games, clothes or other personal belongings.

Please do not bring the following to camp:

- . Any electronic games / devices (including, but not limited to: Gameboys, PSPs, iPods, CD Players, etc., etc.)
- . Money, with the exception of Travel Programs.
- . Cell phones, with the exception of Travel Programs.
- . Trading Cards
- . Valuable items

Special Events & Birthdays

Special food treats may be brought in for holidays, special events or birthdays. Arrangements should be made ahead of

time with the camp director. All food must be brought in covered containers with written directions if necessary. If sending in store brought items, please send unopened packages.

PHONE CALLS

Please do not call to speak to your child or your child's Group Leader/ Morah unless it is an emergency. If your child is

experiencing problems, we will call you immediately. If you need to speak to your child's Group Leader, please leave a

message with the office, 347-924-5141 and she will return your call as soon as possible. This procedure enables our

Directors to be aware of any and all situations. You may call the day camp/school director with your questions or

concerns at any time.

RULES & SAFETY

Safety is paramount to the camp program. All children MUST be brought to and picked up from camp by a parent or

authorized person. All parents will be asked to show an I.D. when retrieving their child. This helps ensure their safety.

SIGN-IN/SIGN-OUT

This is a very essential part of the camp program. Legal documentation of custodial rights may be required. This helps us

to provide the safest environment possible as well as provide the opportunity for us to talk with you about your child's day. Children will be released only to those authorized by the parent on the child's Registration Form. It is the parent's responsibility to notify the camp/school of any changes in authorization. If someone other than these people must pick-up your child, a written note must be sent in ahead of time. Those picking up children should be prepared to show identification to the school staff member upon request. No child will be released to anyone who is not authorized to pick up that child. Please help to ensure the safest possible environment and remember to notify the camp of any absences. No camper will be allowed to leave by him/herself and / or sign him/herself out of camp, regardless of written permission.

SWIMMING

On swimming days please send your child/children to camp with a towel and also wearing a bathing suit underneath

their clothing . The towel will be sent home on every wednesday.

TAX INFORMATION

TAL TAL tax ID number is 462650787

WEATHER

Outdoor play is an important part of our daily camp schedule. Parents are asked to dress their children appropriately for

the weather conditions. A light sweater or jacket may be needed in the mornings.

During periods of extreme heat the camp staff will scale down the physical camp activities. The staff will increase the

campers' water intake on these days. All precautions will be taken to prevent heat related injuries during these times.

Rainy days are specially programmed days at camp. Alternative indoor activities have been planned and may include

instructional videos, sing-a-longs, and games. Swimming, outdoor activities will resume as weather permits.

STAFF

TAL TAL strives to hire a highly qualified, well-trained staff to conduct all TAL TAL programs. The summer camp staff is

primarily school teachers. The day camp/school staff members are innovative and creative individuals who love working

with children. All staff meet requirements set forth by the State, County and TAL TAL, as applicable. TAL TAL staff

members participate in planned training and education processes to further their skills in child development and

recreation. All staff have provided two professional references and have been checked against the New York State

Department of Criminal Justice Sex Offender Registry.

Special Notes to Parents:

As a provider of children's programs, TAL TAL CAMP strives to effectively screen and train all staff. TAL TAL CAMP is

licensed by the state and/or jurisdiction in which they take place. Our quality programs enrich the lives of hundreds

of children each year and the safety of every child is a top priority for us.

To make sure your child remains safe outside of TAL TAL supervision and to protect our staff, TAL TAL DAY

CAMP/SCHOOL encourages your cooperation in the following areas:

. It is a violation of TAL TAL policy for a TAL TAL employee to babysit, host sleepovers, or spend time one-on-one with

your child outside of the TAL TAL program.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to address them with the TAL TAL Senior Staff at 347-924-5141. We

look forward to a happy and safe summer with your campers!