

Parent/Guardian Handbook

 ramahdarom.org/parent-handbook/

Kayitz (Summer) 2024 Parent/Guardian Online Handbook

We are thrilled you are sending your child to Camp Ramah Darom and we look forward to sharing an incredible kayitz (summer).

Camp Ramah Darom is a community of approximately 1000 people. Our policies and procedures, which reflect the values and mission of Ramah Darom, are designed to ensure a safe, healthy and exciting experience for all our campers. We ask for your cooperation in adhering to the regulations in this handbook.

Please read each section below carefully and review the policies with your camper(s).

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Medication & Health Protocols

 ramahdarom.org/crd-medical/



During the summer, Ramah Darom's Health Center (*Mirpa'ah* or MARP) is staffed 24 hours a day with medical, nursing and support staff. In case of an emergency, the Mountain Lakes Medical Center is minutes away. To make sure that the MARP staff is well prepared to care for all campers, it is imperative that you **complete and submit all medical and health information on your family dashboard by March 15, 2024.**

Ramah Darom requires an up-to-date Health History signed by your camper's Health Care Provider. All medical forms must be submitted in order for your child to attend Camp. Withholding medical information or failure to comply may result in your child's inability to attend or remain in Camp. If you have any questions or concerns, please email medical@ramahdarom.org.

If your child's medical condition, medication dosage or medication schedule should change after you have submitted the Health History, you must notify us in writing at medical@ramahdarom.org with a letter signed by the prescribing physician identifying the specific changes.



Medication Fulfillment

Camp Ramah Darom requires ALL campers who take medications (prescription and non-prescription), including vitamins and supplements, to use the services provided by Tim's Pharmacy, a local pharmacy in Cornelia, GA. The only exceptions are for inhalers, Epi-pens, insulin, Accutane, birth control pills, growth hormone injections, injectable medications, topical creams, nasal sprays and eye drops. Tim's Pharmacy

ensures that all medication arrives at Camp before the start of each session and is administered in an efficient and safe manner. This partnership also allows more time for our nursing staff to devote to our campers' other healthcare needs. *Please note that we will not accept self-packaged medication. Families that arrive with medication for their camper(s) will be given three days from the start of Camp to make arrangements with Tim's Pharmacy. Your child will not miss any medication dosage while waiting for the new medications.*

To register with Tim's Pharmacy:

1. Update the medication and insurance sections on your camper's Health History Form
2. Complete the Pharmacy and Medication Agreement on your family dashboard
3. Have your camper's doctor **submit electronic prescriptions to Tim's Pharmacy** (130 Magnolia Lane, Cornelia, Georgia 30531) for the time your camper will be at Camp.

To avoid late fees, please complete this process by April 19 (Session Aleph) and May 28 (Session Bet). Camp Ramah Darom will share your medication (including non-prescription medications), contact, and insurance information with Tim's Pharmacy. **Tim's Pharmacy staff will then contact you to collect the \$30 registration fee and any prescription co-pays.** For questions about medication fulfillment, please call Tim's Pharmacy at 706-776-3784.

We ask for your cooperation with this essential requirement which assists us in our primary goal of maintaining the health, well-being and safety of your child. We expect 100% compliance. *If your camper takes any of the exempt medications listed above, please indicate so in the online Medication Agreement and email medical@ramahdarom.org with any questions.*

If Tim's Pharmacy does not accept your insurance, we ask that you use their repackaging service, which also costs \$30 (same as the registration fee), to prepare the medications/supplements appropriately. Tim's Pharmacy will notify you and work with you to make sure your prescriptions are filled and packaged correctly. Pill medication taken on a routine basis will be individually packaged, sealed and sorted according to the date and time of administration. Non-pill medication (drops, sprays, liquids or creams) and medication that is taken on an "as needed" basis will be packaged separately.

NOTE: By law, all prescriptions must be filled, packaged and administered according to the written prescription from your camper's physician. Please confirm the correct medication, dose and exactly how and when your camper takes the medication before the prescription is sent to Tim's Pharmacy.

Noncompliance Policy for Medications/Supplements: *We will not accept self-packaged medication.* Families who send camper medication in their camper's luggage or with their camper will be given three days from the start of Camp to make arrangements with Tim's Pharmacy. We will only accept three days of self-packaged medications so your child will not miss any doses while waiting for the new medications.

Other Medication Information

Over-the-Counter Medications: the MARP stocks most over-the-counter items such as Tylenol, Advil, Benadryl and Lactaid pills. Tim's Pharmacy will not provide these medications unless your child takes them daily. Please contact our Head Nurse at medical@ramahdarom.org if you have questions about which medications the MARP stocks in its formulary.

Medication Prescribed During Camp: If your child becomes sick while at Camp and the Camp doctor needs to prescribe medication, or if there is any change in your child's medical regimen, you will be contacted by a doctor or nurse. Once we receive your permission for the prescription, we will send the prescription to our local pharmacy and provide the insurance information we have on file for your child. We will also give you the pharmacy's phone number and ask that you contact them to confirm insurance coverage and arrange payment for any insurance co-pay or medication costs.

You may send us a copy of your FSA Debit card if you prefer the MARP to utilize your FSA account for such charges; please email medical@ramahdarom.org authorizing permission to do so and your signature. The FSA Debit card can be provided as an attachment to your Insurance Info & Authorization Form; please make sure the front and back of the card are both visible.

Medication "Vacations": Camp is often assumed to be a less structured, stress-free environment. As a result, parents are sometimes encouraged by prescribing physicians to allow their campers to take a "vacation" from their regular, school-year dose of medication during the summer. Although Camp provides an environment for relaxed fun, it is not always stress-free. **We strongly encourage you to maintain your child's routine medication regimen.**

If you are considering a "vacation" from medication for your child, please communicate with us so that we can adequately prepare to work with your child in the most positive way. Please contact medical@ramahdarom.org to discuss any medication vacations.

Allergy & Epi-pen Guidelines

- During the summer sessions, Camp Ramah Darom's dining room is completely peanut and tree-nut-free.
- Make sure that all allergies are listed in your camper's information on your family dashboard. On your camper's Health History Form, let us know if they carry an Epi-Pen for emergency treatment of a life-threatening allergic reaction and whether or not they understand and know how to use it.
- **If your child does carry an Epi-Pen, they must have two Epi-Pens at Camp.** Campers will be expected to carry one Epi-Pen on their person or in their backpack throughout the day at Camp. The second Epi-pen will be kept in the Infirmary.
- Please pack the Epi-Pens in your child's carry-on bag, not in their duffel. Campers must be aware that there is an Epi-Pen in their carry-on bag for emergencies and should be instructed to inform the MARP that they have two Epi-Pens in their possession when they go through the Health Check-in on the first day of Camp.

Asthma & Inhaler Guidelines

- **If your child uses an inhaler, they must have two inhalers at Camp.** Campers will be expected to carry one inhaler on their person or in their backpack throughout the day at Camp. The second inhaler will be kept in the MARP.
- Please pack the inhalers in your child's carry-on bag, not in their duffel. Campers must be aware that they have an inhaler in their carry-on bag for emergencies and should be instructed to inform the MARP that they have inhalers in their possession when they go through the Health Check-in on the first day of Camp.

Lice, Teeth & Eye Care Policies

Head lice: Help us prevent the spread of head lice by checking your child for lice and nits (lice eggs) before Camp starts. If your child is found to have head lice or nits during the Health Check-In on the first day, he/she must be treated before moving into their bunk. We partner with a professional company to conduct lice checks on arrival day and before departure. You will be contacted and charged if your child requires treatment.

Dental & Orthodontics: Please take care of all your child's dental and orthodontic needs before the start of Camp. Camp does not have a dentist or orthodontist on site. In the event your child needs dental treatment, we will contact you and discuss possible options for care. Camp can arrange a visit and transport to a local dentist or orthodontist in Clayton. *Remember to label all retainer containers with your child's name.*

Glasses & Contacts: Children who wear glasses or contact lenses should bring an extra pair to Camp. *Glasses should have the camper's name marked clearly on the inside of the frames.* In the event your child needs eye care, we will contact you and discuss possible options for care. Camp can arrange a visit and transport to a local ophthalmologist or optometrist in Clayton.

Medical Insurance

Campers are required to have valid health insurance coverage. If you do not have insurance coverage for your camper, a short-term policy may be purchased through AMSkier (800.245.2666).

Please provide evidence of your camper's coverage where indicated in the family dashboard. If there are any changes to your insurance coverage or updates before the start of Camp, please inform us and submit the updated information.

Ramah Darom maintains a secondary source of accident/medical insurance which is available to all campers. This policy provides insurance for those medical expenses incurred at Camp that are not covered by the camper's own primary health insurance coverage, excludes any pre-existing conditions, and is limited to \$1,000 for sickness and \$3,500 for accident per person per incident. The deadline for filing any claims for secondary coverage under this policy is September 30, 2024.

Discuss & practice before Camp

Health Practices

Before the start of Camp, please have discussions with your children about the following health practices:

- Do not share clothing, anything that touches the head (hats, kippot, scarves, combs, brushes, hair clips/ornaments, pillows, sheets, or towels), drinks, food, water bottles or personal hygiene items such as razors.
- Wash hands before and after meals and after using the restroom.
- Use the hand sanitizers located throughout Camp when washing with soap and water is not readily available.
- Showers should be taken daily, along with changing into clean underwear and clothing daily.
- Brush teeth at least twice a day.
- Stay hydrated: Drinking plenty of water throughout the day is extremely important. Campers must arrive with two reusable water bottles labeled with their name. A limited number of replacement water bottles will be available for a fee charged to the camper.
- Use sunscreen and bug repellent. Please teach your children how to use these items. Counselors will remind campers to drink and apply sunscreen regularly, but it is important that the campers also take responsibility.
- Eat a healthy, well-balanced diet! This is critical to good health at Camp. We will provide a healthy variety of food choices at every meal, including snacks.
- WEAR CLOSED-TOE FOOTWEAR. Open-toed shoes should have an ankle strap. Even acceptable sandals are not permitted for most Camp activities. Many injuries seen in the MARP are due to improper footwear. One pair of flip-flops for use in the shower is permissible.

When will we contact you?

Parent/Guardian Contact

We do not contact parents for routine camper visits to the MARP, including minor injuries. Parents are only contacted in the following circumstances:

1. If a Camp doctor prescribes medication or believes there is a significant medical issue
2. If your child is taken out of Camp for consultation or x-ray
3. If your child spends the night in the MARP

Our Camp doctors, at their discretion, may determine other situations where he/she will contact parents.

Please complete and submit each camper's medical and health information by March 15. If you have any questions about medical care at Camp, please email medical@ramahdarom.org.

Health Protocols & Vaccination Policies

 ramahdarom.org/health-protocols-vaccination-policies/

Ramah Darom's Medical Committee has established a set of protocols and policies to keep our campers, retreat attendees, guests and staff healthy while on our campus. A shared living and eating environment increases the risk of transmission of infectious diseases; the Committee's key objective is to avoid introduction and spread at Ramah Darom programs.

Please scroll down for protocols and policies specific to Ramah Darom Retreats, Summer Camp, and Ramah Darom's complete vaccination policy.

This page was last updated on December 1, 2023. Protocols and policies are regularly reviewed by the Ramah Darom Medical Committee and may be adjusted in the future. Any substantial changes affecting an upcoming Ramah Darom program will be communicated directly to attendees prior to the start of the program.

Summer Camp 2024: Protocols & Policies

To make sure the MARP (Health Center) staff is well prepared to care for all campers, it is imperative that families **complete and submit all medical and health information on your family dashboard by March 15, 2024**. Camp Ramah Darom requires an up-to-date Health History signed by your camper's Health Care Provider, and all medical forms must be submitted in order for your child to attend Camp. If you have any questions or concerns, please email medical@ramahdarom.org.

Vaccinations: Ramah Darom requires that all individuals, families and programmatic staff attending or working at any Ramah Darom program (including Camp Ramah Darom and all Ramah Darom Retreats) adhere to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (ACIP) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) as outlined in US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) Recommended Immunization Schedules. You can find the complete Immunization Schedules in the section "Ramah Darom Vaccination Policies" below. Campers are required to upload proof of all immunizations.

Covid-19: For Summer 2024 we strongly recommend, but do not require, that all campers and staff be up to date with vaccinations against Covid-19. We plan to treat Covid like any camp virus – that is, campers or staff who have a fever, who are very ill or who need medical attention will stay in the MARP until they have been fever-free for 24 hours and/or their symptoms are improving. We will continue monitoring Covid-19 developments and it is possible that our vaccination or treatment guidelines may be adjusted in the future. If Ramah Darom decides to make substantial changes to our Covid vaccination or treatment guidelines as summarized above, we will share the updates with families and give you the opportunity to withdraw your registered campers.

Ramah Darom Vaccination Policies

Among our most cherished Jewish values is the importance of preserving life and maintaining health. Reducing the risk of vaccine-preventable illnesses from entering any of our programs is the single most effective strategy we can take to protect the health and wellbeing of our community. This goal can only be accomplished through the appropriate vaccination of all those in residence at Ramah Darom. Despite the best precautions taken to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, a shared living and eating environment increases the risk of transmission. While we respect that individual families may choose to forgo vaccinations, we cannot compromise the safety of our community as a whole.

Ramah Darom requires that all individuals, families and programmatic staff attending or working at any Ramah Darom program (including Camp Ramah Darom and all Ramah Darom Retreats) adhere to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (ACIP) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) as outlined in US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) Recommended Immunization Schedules. You can find the complete Immunization Schedules at these links:

[CDC Recommended Immunization Schedule for Age 18 Years and Younger](#)

[CDC Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for Age 19 Years and Older](#)

Note that Ramah Darom strongly recommends, but does not require, that attendees, guests and staff be vaccinated against Covid-19.

If you are not sure which vaccines you or your child(ren) have received, please ask your healthcare provider. Note: Not all states have the same requirements, but ALL CDC recommended immunizations are required at Ramah Darom.

ATTENTION FLORIDA FAMILIES: Camp Ramah Darom requires two vaccines not on the Florida school vaccination form. The Meningitis Vaccine and Hep A Vaccine for children 12 and older are not required by the state of Florida but are required by Ramah Darom.

Camp Ramah Darom campers are required to upload proof of all immunizations. The Ramah Darom Retreat registration agreement asks guests to affirm that everyone included on their registration meets all immunization requirements.

Vaccination Exemptions

There are exceptions to the Ramah Darom vaccination policy, but they are extremely rare. We recognize that individuals who have had a documented severe allergy or severe adverse reaction to a particular vaccine may not be able to complete the immunization schedule outlined by the AAP and the CDC. Additionally, individuals with medical conditions such as congenital immunodeficiency or HIV, cancer and who are receiving chemotherapy, transplant patients, and persons receiving immunosuppressive drugs and chronic steroids also may not be able to receive certain vaccines.

We are happy to discuss case-by-case management of these circumstances of medical contraindication to partial or complete vaccination.

Process for Vaccinations Exemption Requests for Summer Camp

Any exemption requests must be submitted by April 1st. Exemption requests should be addressed to the Ramah Darom Medical Committee and emailed to Ramah Darom's CEO, wlevitt@ramahdarom.org. Requests must include current documentation from a Physician (MD or DO), or a Pediatric/Family Practice Advanced Practice Nurse (ARNP or PNP), describing the reason for exemption from immunization. Requests will be kept confidential and reviewed by our Medical Committee Chair, in consultation with members of the Ramah Darom Medical Committee. Ramah Darom is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy community and only grants vaccination exemptions in very rare circumstances.

Process for Vaccinations Exemption Requests for Ramah Darom Retreats

Any exemption requests should be addressed to the Ramah Darom Medical Committee and emailed to Ramah Darom's CEO at wlevitt@ramahdarom.org at least 30 days before the start of the retreat. Requests must include current documentation from a Physician (MD or DO), or a Pediatric/Family Practice Advanced Practice Nurse (ARNP or PNP), describing the reason for exemption from immunization. Requests will be kept confidential and reviewed by our Medical Committee Chair, in consultation with members of the Ramah Darom Medical Committee as required. Ramah Darom is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy community and only grants vaccination exemptions in very rare circumstances.

Thank you for keeping our Ramah Darom community healthy!

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Summer Travel 2024

 ramahdarom.org/crd-travel-24/



Travel Registration

It is vitally important that we know exactly how your camper will be traveling to and returning home from Camp this summer. **We ask that you complete the Travel Form on your family dashboard by March 15, 2024** and keep us informed of any changes to your travel itinerary. It is your responsibility to ensure that we have the most accurate information regarding your travel arrangements.

If you are interested and available to chaperone the flight or bus from your city or have any questions, please contact travel@ramahdarom.org for more information.

Please make sure to also review our luggage requirements.

Session	Duration	Grade (Fall 2024)	Dates
Session Aleph	4 Weeks	4th-10th	June 5-30
Ta'am Aleph	5 Nights	2nd	June 5-10
Garinim Aleph	11 Nights	3rd	June 19-30
Session Bet	4 Weeks	4th-10th	July 3-28
Nitzanim & Sollelim K'tzara*	18 Nights	4th & 5th	July 3-21
Ta'am Bet	5 Nights	2nd	July 3-8
Garinim Bet	11 Nights	3rd	July 17-28
Ramah Bamah	2 Weeks	8th & 9th	July 3-16
Full Summer (Aleph + Bet)	8 Weeks	6th-10th	June 5-30 + July 3-28

Session	Duration	Grade (Fall 2024)	Dates
Gesher	8 Weeks	11th	June 5-July 28
Tikvah Vocational Education Program	4 Weeks	12th+	June 5-30
Ramah Israel Seminar	6 Weeks	12th	Learn More
Camp Yofi	5 Days		July 31-Aug 4

Campus Open House

Interested in visiting campus?

This summer, families are invited to tour campus from 4:00 – 6:00pm the day before our 4-week sessions begin (Tuesday, June 4 for Session Aleph or Tuesday, July 2 for Session Bet). The tour will include a chance to see a model bunk, camp activity spaces and our *chadar ochel* (dining hall) as well as a chance to meet Camp leadership. Families who plan to attend should indicate so on their camper's travel form.

Please understand that only campers and staff will be able to enter campus on arrival day. If you have any questions, please contact camp@ramahdarom.org.

Car Travel



Drop-off in Atlanta: There is no fee for the buses from Atlanta. Counselors will greet campers and take them on coach buses to Camp. Families can drop off their camper(s) at **12:00pm at the Atlanta Airport** (all arrival dates, exact location TBA) or **11:30am – 12:30pm at Congregation B’nai Torah** (June 5 for Session Aleph and July 3 for Session Bet only) in Sandy Springs.

Drop-off at Camp: We strongly encourage all families to take advantage of our FREE Atlanta buses by dropping their camper(s) off at the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport or at Congregation B’nai Torah in Sandy Springs. If you do choose to drive to Camp, please understand that only campers and staff will be able to enter campus. Here are driving directions to Camp.

- For June 5 (Session Aleph) and July 3 (Session Bet), please plan to arrive at Camp between **11:00am – 12:00pm**.

- For June 19 (Garinim Aleph) and July 17 (Garinim Bet), please plan to arrive at Camp between **2:30 – 3:00pm**.

Pick-up in Atlanta: There is no fee for the buses to Atlanta.

- For June 30 (Session Aleph and Garinim Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet and Garinim Bet), families can pick their camper(s) up at **12:00pm from the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA) or **Congregation B'nai Torah** in Sandy Springs.
- For June 10 (Ta'am Aleph), July 8 (Ta'am Bet), July 16 (Ramah Bamah) and July 21 (K'tzara), families can pick their camper(s) up at **12:30pm from the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA).

Pick-up from Camp: Here are driving directions to Camp.

- For June 30 (Session Aleph and Garinim Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet and Garinim Bet), families can pick their camper(s) up between **10:30 – 11:30am** from Camp.
- For June 10 (Ta'am Aleph), July 8 (Ta'am Bet), July 16 (Ramah Bamah) and July 21 (K'tzara), families can pick their camper(s) up between **10:30 – 11:00am** from Camp.

Note: campers must be checked in and out by a parent/guardian and therefore are not permitted to drive themselves to Camp or have a vehicle with them on campus.

Bus Travel



We are excited to offer round-trip coach buses from the cities listed below. Please note that if we do not reach a minimum number of campers registered for the out-of-state buses, we will contact those who have signed up to help make alternative travel plans.

Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport: For all arrival dates, airport drop-off is at 12:00pm. Airport pick-up on June 30 (Session Aleph and Garinim Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet and Garinim Bet) is at 12:00pm and airport pick-up on all other departure dates is at 1:00pm. The exact location will be announced via email one week prior to travel. There is no fee for the buses to or from Atlanta.

Atlanta, GA (Congregation B'nai Torah): On June 5 (Session Aleph) and July 5 (Session Bet), drop-off is at 12:00pm. On July 2 (Session Aleph) and July 30 (Session Bet), pick-up is at 11:30am. There is no fee for buses to or from Atlanta.

Durham, NC (Beth El Synagogue): On June 5 (Session Aleph), drop-off is at 8:30am. On June 30 (Session Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet), pick-up is at 3:00pm. This bus costs \$150 each way. There is no arrival bus for Session Bet.

Charlotte, NC (Temple Israel): On June 5 (Session Aleph) and July 3 (Session Bet), drop-off is at 11:30am. On June 30 (Session Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet), pick-up is at 12:15pm. This bus costs \$135 each way.

Jacksonville, FL (Jacksonville Jewish Center): On June 5 (Session Aleph), drop-off is at 7:15am. On June 30 (Session Aleph), pick-up is at 4:30pm. This bus costs \$150 each way. There is no Jacksonville bus for Session Bet.

Nashville, TN (West End Synagogue): On June 5 (Session Aleph), drop-off is at 9:00am CT. On June 30 (Session Aleph), pick-up is at 2:30pm CT. This bus costs \$135 each way. There is no Nashville bus for Session Bet.

Air Travel



Please scroll down to view the list of recommended and chaperoned flights for cities with multiple campers. If your city is not on this list, please find a flight that arrives in Atlanta between **11:00am – 1:00pm** on your camper's arrival date and departs Atlanta between **2:00 – 4:30pm** on your camper's departure date. There is no fee for the buses to or from the Atlanta airport.

We understand that it is typically cheapest to book flights 1 – 3 months prior to departure. If you plan to wait to book flights (check out Google Flights' price tracking feature), please complete the travel form with the flights you are watching and return to add your camper's confirmation number upon booking.

Please make sure to also review our luggage requirements.

Delta Discounts

Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer special discounts for Ramah Darom. Please click [here](#) to book your flights using our special **Meeting Event Code NY37L**! If your camper is flying unaccompanied or with a Ramah chaperone, please book their flights by calling Delta Meeting Network® at 1.800.328.1111 (Monday–Friday, 8:00am – 6:30pm) and refer to the **Meeting Event Code NY37L**.

Chaperoned Flights

Ramah Darom will provide chaperones on certain flights, as noted on the flight list. To book your camper on a chaperoned flight, please call Delta at the number listed above and share the name and confirmation number for the chaperone on the flight list. Campers flying with chaperones will receive an email a few days prior to traveling that includes the chaperone’s name and cell number and an airport meeting time and location.

If you are interested in chaperoning your camper’s flight, please email travel@ramahdarom.org.

Unaccompanied Minors

If your camper is not on a chaperoned flight or flying with an adult, please review airline unaccompanied minor policies and book accordingly. If you need to provide contact information for the adult meeting your child in Atlanta, please list Janel Habosha at 954.336.1351. Make sure to include your unaccompanied minor pin on your camper’s travel form so Ramah Darom staff can update the accompanying adult information with the airline. In the week before the flight, we will also email you the accompanying counselor’s name and number.

Flights to Atlanta on Arrival Dates

The information below applies to the June 5 (Session Aleph, Gesher and Ta’am Aleph) and July 3 (Session Bet, Ta’am Bet, Ramah Bamah and K’tzara) arrival dates only. If your city is not on this list, please find a flight that arrives in Atlanta between **11:00am – 1:00pm** on your camper’s arrival date.

For June 19 (Garinim Aleph) and July 17 (Garinim Bet), families can drop off their camper(s) at **12:00pm** at **the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA). All Garinim campers flying to Atlanta must land between **11:00am – 12:30pm** on arrival day. If a camper is traveling without a parent/guardian, a counselor will greet them at the gate and take them to meet the bus.

Flights to Atlanta						
City	State	Airport	Flight #	Depart	Arrive	Notes
Fort Lauderdale	FL	FLL	A: DL 1736 B: DL 1047	10:00am 9:30am	11:53am 11:29am	Chaperones both sessions
Jacksonville	FL	JAX	DL 2328	10:00am	11:11am	Bus Session Aleph, chaperones Session Bet
Miami	FL	MIA	DL 2836	10:15am	12:26pm	
Orlando	FL	MCO	DL 1610	10:05am	11:39am	
Palm Beach	FL	PBI	DL 1311	11:00am	12:48pm	Chaperones both sessions

Tampa	FL	TPA	DL 1227	11:15am	12:49pm	Chaperones Session Aleph
New Orleans	LA	MSY	DL 1502	9:05am	11:40am	
Raleigh	NC	RDU	DL 2634	9:50am	11:20am	Bus Session Aleph
Memphis	TN	MEM	DL 82	10:12am	12:29pm	
Nashville	TN	BNA	DL 2817	10:25am	12:34pm	Bus Session Aleph
Dallas	TX	DAL	WN 3831	7:55am	10:55 am	This is a Southwest flight

June 5: To Camp					July 3: To Camp	
City	State	Airport	Chaperone	Conf #	Chaperone	Conf #
Fort Lauderdale	FL	FLL	Phillip Katz	HMCS64	Jessica Smiley	HMIMC8
Jacksonville	FL	JAX	N/A		**	
Palm Beach	FL	PBI	Toby Brodtman	G9I4BW	Diane Scherer	HGLAGR
Tampa	FL	TPA	Michelle Zetoony Nudell	GHZKQR	N/A	

**We are looking for chaperones for multiple flights. If you are interested in being a chaperone, please email travel@ramahdarom.org.

Flights from Atlanta on Departure Dates

The information below applies to the June 30 (Session Aleph and Garinim Aleph) and July 28 (Session Bet, Garinim Bet and Gesher) departure days only. If your city is not on this list, please find a flight that departs Atlanta between **2:00 – 4:30pm** on your camper's departure date.

For June 10 (Ta'am Aleph), July 8 (Ta'am Bet), July 16 (Ramah Bamah) and July 23 (K'tzara), families can pick their camper(s) up at **12:30pm from the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA). All Ta'am, Ramah Bamah, and K'tzara campers flying home should depart between **2:30 – 4:30pm** on departure day. If a camper is traveling without a parent/guardian, a counselor will accompany them to and from their gate.

Flights Home

City	State	Airport	Flight #	Depart	Arrive	Notes
Fort Lauderdale	FL	FLL	DL 2345	3:15pm	5:11pm	Chaperones both sessions

Jacksonville	FL	JAX	DL 2720	3:10pm	4:23pm	Bus Session Aleph, chaperones Session Bet
Miami	FL	MIA	DL 1386	3:19pm	5:23pm	
Orlando	FL	MCO	DL 1150	2:53pm	4:31pm	
Palm Beach	FL	PBI	DL 1458	3:14pm	5:08pm	Chaperones both sessions
Tampa	FL	TPA	DL 759	2:45pm	4:12pm	Chaperones both sessions
New Orleans	LA	MSY	DL 3146	3:41pm	4:22pm	
Raleigh	NC	RDU	DL 2758	3:55pm	5:27pm	Bus both sessions
Memphis	TN	MEM	DL 2161	3:43pm	4:10pm	
Nashville	TN	BNA	DL 2777	3:13pm	3:24pm	Bus Session Aleph
Dallas	TX	DAL	WN 3464	2:50pm	4:00pm	This is a Southwest flight

			June 30: To Home	July 28: To Home		
City	State	Airport	Chaperone	Conf #	Chaperone	Conf #
Fort Lauderdale	FL	FLL	Moises Guido Cohen	HLLENS	Jessica Smiley	HMIMC8
Jacksonville	FL	JAX	N/A		**	
Palm Beach	FL	PBI	Toby Brodtman	G9I4BW	Jamie Wulkan	HK69CJ
Tampa	FL	TPA	**		Elana Ben-Ari	G9NMFC

**We are looking for chaperones for multiple flights. If you are interested in being a chaperone, please email travel@ramahdarom.org.

Shorter Sessions

Arrival Day Options for Shorter Sessions:

- Ta'am Aleph (June 5), Ta'am Bet (July 3), K'tzara (July 3) and Ramah Bamah (July 3)
Your camper's arrival day is on the main arrival day for Session Aleph or Session Bet, so please see the car, bus and plane options listed in the main sections above.
- Garinim Aleph (June 19) and Garinim Bet (July 17)
 - **Drop-off at the Atlanta Airport:** There is no fee for the buses from Atlanta. Counselors will greet campers and take them on buses to Camp. Families can drop off their camper(s) at **12:30pm at the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA).
All campers flying to Atlanta must land between **11:00am – 12:30pm** on arrival day. If a camper is traveling without a parent/guardian, a counselor will greet them at the gate and take them to meet the bus.
 - **Drop-off at Camp:** We strongly encourage families to use our Atlanta Airport busing option. Please note that while families can drive to Camp to drop off their children on arrival day, only campers and staff will be able to enter campus. For campers driving in, please arrive between **2:30 – 3:00pm**.

Departure Day Options for Shorter Sessions:

- Garinim Aleph (June 30) and Garinim Bet (July 28)
Your camper's departure day is on the main departure day for Session Aleph, so please see the car, bus and plane options listed in the main sections above.
- Ta'am Aleph (June 10), Ta'am Bet (July 8), Ramah Bamah (July 16) and K'tzara (July 23)
 - **Pick-up at the Atlanta Airport:** There is no fee for the buses to Atlanta. Counselors will accompany campers on buses to Atlanta. Families can pick their camper(s) up at **12:30pm from the Atlanta Airport** (exact location TBA).
All campers flying home should depart between **2:30 – 4:30pm** on departure day. If a camper is traveling without a parent/guardian, a counselor will accompany them to and from their gate.
 - **Pick-up at Camp:** Families may pick up their campers from Camp between **10:30 – 11:00am**. Please note that, like arrival day, families will not be able to walk through campus.

Vehicle Safety Rules

While on a Camp bus, campers should abide by the following guidelines:

- Enter and exit the vehicle according to directions from a staff member and/or driver
- Backpacks and bags should stay with you at all times unless otherwise directed by a staff member
 - Large luggage should be loaded in the storage compartments beneath the bus and backpacks/smaller bags should be stored beneath the seat in front of you or in the overhead compartments
 - Each camper is responsible for removing their own backpacks/small bags from the bus and staff will remove large luggage

- Upon boarding, find a seat and remain seated with your back against the seat
 - If seatbelts are available, once seated, adjust and buckle the seatbelt to fit you and keep it buckled until instructed to unbuckle
 - If no seat is available, inform a staff member so they can help locate one or move you to a different vehicle
- All personal items and body parts, including hands and arms, should remain inside the vehicle at all times
- Noise level should stay low so as not to distract the driver, and there should be no throwing of objects or other disruptive behavior
- In the event of an emergency, campers should follow the directions of a staff member and/or driver and, if exiting the vehicle, use the buddy system

Intersession

Intersession is the time between sessions Aleph and Bet and only applies to campers staying for both sessions.

If your camper is in Gesher, we will provide an Intersession program and an opportunity for you to see your camper at a select time. (We will contact you via email and ask you to submit your Intersession plan before Camp begins.)

Full-summer campers must either go to their own homes or travel home with a friend for the duration of Intersession. They may leave their luggage at Camp. For help with Intersession arrangements, please contact our Camper Care Team.

Please remember to complete the travel form for each camper. If you have any questions about travel or your family dashboard, please email travel@ramahdarom.org.

Luggage - Ramah Darom

 ramahdarom.org/luggage/

Luggage

2024 Luggage Requirements



Each camper is allowed two duffel bags, each not to exceed a total of 60 inches (L + W + H) and a weight of 50 lbs per bag, and a small backpack/carry-on.

Our goal is to have most campers' luggage delivered to their cabins before arrival so they can immediately begin settling in when they arrive. This will also allow our counselors to focus entirely on welcoming your kids to Camp!

Here are more specific details for your area:

- **Atlanta and surrounding suburbs:** Atlanta-based families are required to drop off their luggage on Sunday, June 3 (Session Aleph) or Sunday, June 30 (Session Bet) between 1:00–2:00pm at Congregation B'nai Torah in Sandy Springs. At the end of each session, campers' luggage will be loaded onto the coach buses back to Atlanta. Please note that Garinim campers do not need to use this service.
- **Florida:** We are excited to announce our new partnership with Door-va-Door Trucking, a luggage company well-versed in Jewish Camping and founded by a Ramah alum! This service is required for all campers flying from Florida (only one-way required for K'tzara and Ramah Bamah, strongly recommended for Ta'am and Garinim) and is strongly recommended for those who are driving or taking the bus. Please read their welcome letter for more information, visit their website to register and email info@doorvadoor.com if you have any questions.

- **Other locations:** While we welcome shipping your luggage in advance (discounted UPS/FedEx rates available through ShipCamps, Door-v-a-Door Trucking available for NC families), campers may bring their luggage with them on arrival day. If you plan to ship baggage, please schedule the delivery to 70 Darom Lane, Clayton, GA 30525, for at least three days prior to the beginning of the session. Mark bags clearly by labeling them with the camper's name and division and obtain return shipping labels. Please send copies of the labels to travel@ramahdarom.org so that we can attach the shipping tags at the end of the session. Families are responsible for the cost of shipping in both directions.

Clothing, Laundry & Packing

 ramahdarom.org/clothing-laundry-packing/

Rules for Clothing at Camp



At Camp, campers and staff dress in a way that demonstrates respect for the community and our educational environment. Clothing should be tasteful and modest. Camp is not a place to test out the latest extreme fashion trends. Dress at Camp is for comfort and activity, not for show. Campers and staff will be sent back to their *tzrif* (cabin) to change if their clothing fails to meet the standards set forth below. Please make sure to scroll all the way for our piercing policy.

Swimwear

All campers and staff must wear swimwear that reflects our modesty standards, such as:

- One-piece or tankini-style swimwear that completely covers the midriff
- Board shorts or boxer-style swim trunks
- Rash-guard/swim shirts

Shabbat Clothes

Shabbat is a very special time of the week. Please note that at Ramah Darom we celebrate Shabbat from Friday night through sundown on Saturday. Our guideline for tasteful dress is not fancy; we discourage elaborate, expensive outfits and encourage simplicity.

The following is appropriate for Shabbat:

- Collared shirt (polo or button down)
- Skirt and blouse or a dress with sleeves
- Khaki pants or similar trousers
- Shorts are acceptable on Saturday, but not on Friday night

NOTE: Jeans are not appropriate for Shabbat, and all Shabbat tops must have sleeves (short sleeve, flutter sleeve and cap sleeve are permissible).

Kippot, Tefillin & Tallit

All males are required, and others are encouraged, to wear a kippah during *t'fillot* (prayers) and a kippah or hat during mealtimes. On Shabbat, only kippot are allowed during mealtimes (no hats). PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL KIPPOT ARE LABELED. We encourage campers to carry a kippah with them in their bag throughout the day.

All males of Bar Mitzvah age are required, and females of Bat Mitzvah age are encouraged to wear Tefillin. If your child is of Bar/Bat Mitzvah age but does not have Tefillin, please acquire a set before Camp. PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL TALLIT, TALLIT BAGS AND TEFILLIN BAGS ARE LABELED. (A clear plastic zippered pouch labeled with the camper's name is helpful to keep these items protected and together.)

What NOT to Wear

The following items do NOT reflect our community standards and are NOT permitted at Camp:

- Bare midriffs
- Exposed bra or underwear
- Halter tops, strapless tops, backless tops or low-cut shirts
- "Low rider" pants
- See-through clothing
- Short skirts or high-cut shorts that expose the buttocks
- Bikini swimsuits or Speedo brief style swimsuits
- Shirts with inappropriate words, phrases or symbols
- Tank top shirts or tube tops (for men or women) that expose the back or any part of the chest (ie. shoulders should be mostly covered; racerback or spaghetti strap tank tops are not permitted; armholes must be fitted under the arm)

Label Everything

Label everything that comes to Camp with your child's name. You may choose to purchase labels online, but Sharpies work just fine, too!

Wear & Tear & Loss

Camp clothes will see a lot of wear and tear. Please consider sending clothing that is comfortable and well broken-in for everyday wear.

We do our best to protect your child's belongings, and we ask that you discuss with your child the importance of being responsible for their belongings.

Ramah Darom assumes no responsibility either for wear and tear, loss or damage to a camper's clothing or other personal items. We suggest that you arrange with your insurance agent for a floater policy to cover loss or damage.

Note: If your camper accidentally leaves items behind at Camp, please contact our office as soon as possible. We do our best to locate and return lost items, but we are only able to return items on which we can identify the camper's full name clearly marked on them. Items that are located can be mailed back home at the parent's expense.

- Labeled items will be kept for one month after Camp ends. During that time, we will make every effort to connect items with the family. After one month, unclaimed labeled items will be donated.
- Unlabeled items will be donated one week after Camp ends.

Laundry

Please pre-wash all of your child's clothing prior to Camp. In addition, be sure that all clothing you send to Camp is colorfast. Laundry will be sent out once a week and will come back 1-2 days after it has been sent. Please send your child to Camp with two laundry bags. Campers should not plan on washing their own clothes.

Packing Lists

Please use these lists as a guide and adjust to fit your child's own particular needs.

Ta'am Packing List

Garinim Packing List

3, 4 & 8-Week Packing List

Pack for Camp



Pack for Camp offers high-quality products and competitive fair prices, while giving camp families a seamless and hassle-free shopping experience. They offer free shipping on orders over \$150.

One of the great features of the website is the **smart packing list** option, where you can purchase the entire Camp packing list in one click, saving you lots of time. Alternatively, you can browse the various collections and choose items at your leisure.

Special Discount for Ramah Darom Campers: 18% OFF CLIP-ON FANS. Enter the code **PFC2023** at checkout to receive your discount.

Visit <https://www.packforcamp.com/ramah-darom> and fill your packing list today!

What NOT to Bring

- Any electronic devices that can connect to the Internet, including computers, iPads, portable game systems or other similar equipment
- DVD players, televisions, video cameras, walkie-talkies, etc.
- Guns or knives (toy or real) of any kind or laser pointers
- Alcohol or tobacco, e-cigarettes of any kind, including Juul devices
- Illegal substances or related paraphernalia, including but not limited to marijuana in any form
- Food! Please do NOT bring any food to Camp. Any food sent to Camp will be disposed of.

Money, Phones, Technology & Food

 ramahdarom.org/money-phones-food/

Money & Phones



All travel money and phones will be collected during check-in and stored in the Camp Office until departure day. We will also collect field trip money and return it when your camper's aidah (age division) goes on their trip. *Ramah Darom cannot be responsible for cash or other valuables kept in the cabin.*

Campers do not need to bring any money for field trips, but if they would like to buy items from gift shops, we recommend the following:

2nd-4th grades: \$0

5th-9th grades: \$20

10th grade: \$40

11th grade: \$100

Technology



Camp is a screen-free experience!

Any devices with screens (including phones, iPads, computers, etc.) that are brought to Camp will be collected and held in a safe space in our Camp office for the duration of the session. Campers will receive their screens back at the end of the session, as they arrive at the airport, depart the bus or are picked up by family members. (This doesn't NOT include pre-loaded Kindles, which are allowed at Camp *or MP3 players that do not connect to WIFI.*

If your child has a phone with them for travel purposes, make sure they understand that it must be turned in for storage upon arrival.

Suggestions to help your children to adapt to this screen-free environment:

- Talk to your children about the benefits of “unplugging”
- Provide your children with address labels of friends and family along with postage
- Send books, puzzles and other quiet activities that can be done during our rest hour

Music & Audio Books

Campers are permitted to bring an electronic reading device such as a Kindle or an original iPod, iPod shuffle or Nano, or other devices that do NOT require or allow web browsing or downloading.

Camp Ramah Darom bears no responsibility for lost or damaged personal electronics.

Please review the music that your child wishes to bring to Camp to be certain it is appropriate for the Ramah Darom setting. Do NOT send your child to Camp with music that advocates drug use or violence, that is sexually explicit, degrading or that includes swearing, cursing or other inappropriate lyrics.

Your assistance in this matter will help create a comfortable and positive environment for all of our campers and for our entire community and communicate the value of *Kedushat Halashon* (the sanctity of language) that Camp holds so dear.

Food Policy



In addition to the three nutritious kosher meals and two daily snacks, our Chadar Ochel (Dining Hall) always has fresh fruit available. **We ask that campers DO NOT BRING FOOD to Camp.** Any food sent to Camp will be disposed of. For the safety of our community members with allergies, we do not allow any products containing peanuts or tree nuts.

Camp Life - Ramah Darom

 ramahdarom.org/camp-life/

Camp Life

Daily Schedule

7:00 AM	<i>Boker Tov!</i> (Good Morning!)
7:30 AM	<i>Tefillot</i> (Prayers): Morning prayers with the special Ramah Darom siddur created just for our campers. This service is participatory, interactive, and age-appropriate.
8:30 AM	<i>Aruchat Boker</i> (Breakfast): M'mm...smells like pancakes!
9:30 AM	<i>Nikayon</i> (Cleaning): Time to clean up the bunks.
10:15 AM	Sports: Choose from basketball, soccer, hockey, golf, tennis, softball, archery, volleyball and more!
11:05 AM	<i>Chugim</i> (Electives): Choose from art, drama, multi-media, karate, art, boating, guitar and more.
12:00 PM	<i>Ivrit</i> (Hebrew): Learn places in Camp by going on a Hebrew scavenger hunt.
1:00 PM	<i>Aruchat Tzohorayim</i> (Lunch): It's pizza day!
2:00 PM	<i>Menucha</i> (Rest Period): Read, relax and write letters home.
2:45 PM	<i>Mayim</i> (Water): Instructional and free. Enjoy the lake and the pool!
3:55 PM	<i>Yahadut</i> (Judaics): Learn about Kashrut by baking brownies!
4:40 PM	<i>P'eulat Tzrif</i> (Bunk Activity): Today it's getting ready for the play!
5:25 PM	<i>Perek Zayan</i> (Free-Time): Time to hang out with friends.

6:45 PM	<i>Aruchat Erev/Shira</i> (Dinner and Singing): A delicious dinner and awesome song session.
7:45 PM	<i>Peulat Erev</i> (Evening Activity): By age and division. Tonight it's a pool party!
9:15 PM	<i>Laila Tov</i> (Good Night): Bedtime according to age.

Birthdays at Camp



Every camper with a birthday during Camp will receive a birthday cake for a *tzrif* (cabin) party in the dining hall at mealtime. There is no need to call Camp with a similar request. Campers with birthdays during Camp will be allowed to phone home on their birthday. Calls are generally made between 8-10pm EDT and are facilitated by the *Yoetz/et*.

B'nai Mitzvah Reviews



As an educational institution, Ramah Darom is committed to making sure that the hard work your child has put in preparing to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, prior to Camp, is not forgotten during an amazing, fun-filled summer. If your child has a Bar/Bat Mitzvah between July and December 31, 2024, please complete the “B’nai Mitzvah Guided Review Request” on your family dashboard. Camp will provide some guided scheduled review with a staff member on a weekly basis. Since there is very little “free time” at Camp, the review will usually take place during rest hour. Camp staff will schedule the review times and make every effort to make sure your child attends, but it is ultimately the camper’s responsibility to attend their review sessions!

While we do not offer review sessions for children with Bar/Bat Mitzvah occurring after December 31, 2024, every camper will have the opportunity to learn valuable skills during the summer like leading services, *Birkat Hamazon*, reading Torah and Haftarah (Camp does have its own melodies though, which may vary from what your congregation sings).

Camp Time



During the summer, on the first night of Machzor Aleph and Bet (First and Section Session), Camp Ramah Darom sets its clocks to Eastern Standard Time. For example, when it is 12:00 noon in Atlanta (which is Eastern Daylight Savings Time–EDT), it is only 11:00am at Camp. On the last evening of each session, the clocks are changed back to EDT. “Camp Time” allows younger campers an opportunity for programming on Saturday nights after Shabbat. In addition, the sun has an extra hour each morning to warm the pool and lake for swimming and dry dew off of the playing fields.

Graffiti, Gratuity, Piercing & Privacy

 ramahdarom.org/graffiti-privacy-gratuity/

Make sure to review the following policies as some have been updated.

Graffiti & Property Damage Policy

The buildings at Ramah Darom are beautifully maintained and represent the work and dedication of supporters throughout the country. **In fact, our maintenance team spent much of last year removing graffiti from our bunk beds.** Ramah Darom does not permit writing on walls, tables, benches, bunk beds or any other piece of Camp property. Campers are expected to respect the campus and the buildings properly.

Absolutely no graffiti is permitted. A fine of \$300 per incident plus any maintenance costs for repairs will be assessed for any defacing of, or damage to, Camp property. Re-enrollment of a camper will not be permitted until the fine is paid in full.

Gratuity Policy

Staff members at Ramah Darom are engaged in an important educational enterprise. As professional educators, they may not accept gratuities under any circumstances. If you feel that a staff member has performed exceptionally well during the summer, please bring this to the attention of the Camp Director. If you would like, you can show your appreciation for a staff member by making a contribution in that staff member's name to the Staff Appreciation Fund. A card will be sent to the staff member in whose name the gift is made. Contributions may be made by calling Sharon Rosenfeld at 404.503.2129 and will be used to enhance staff life at Camp.

Privacy vs. Protection

While respect for the privacy of individuals at Camp is a value we teach and encourage, the needs of the community sometimes supersede the needs of the individual. If the health or safety of other campers or staff is at risk, campers may be asked to have their belongings searched and inventoried in the presence of two designated members of the senior staff.

Piercing Policy

At the foundation of Judaism is the idea that each human being is created *B'tzelem Elokim* (in the Image of God). At Camp, this value is expressed in the way that we dress, in our appearance and personal hygiene and in the way that we speak and act towards one another. Certain norms in secular society challenge the notion that our actions should reflect the idea of being created *B'tzelem Elokim*.

Contemporary social trends like body piercings negate the underlying Jewish value that our bodies are to be viewed as gifts on loan from God, entrusted in our care. While earrings and small nose rings (for both men and women) are acceptable, other body piercings are not acceptable at Camp.

Ramah Darom Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization

The Federal Tax ID number (EIN) 58-2146741

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Parent/Guardian Logistics

 ramahdarom.org/parent-guardian-logistics/

Family Emergencies During Camp

If there is a family emergency, please inform the Camp office by calling 706.782.9300.

Please communicate to whoever answers that you are calling regarding an emergency so your call can be directed properly.

Decisions regarding how to handle the specific situation will be made in partnership with our Camp Director, Camper Care Team and the parent(s)/guardian(s). Only after Camp is notified are arrangements made for parents and children to talk. This approach prepares Camp to support your children through the difficult situation.

Change of Address

It is important that parents notify the Camp office of any change in their permanent or summer address, telephone number or email addresses by updating your profile on your family dashboard. You may also contact Andrea Cohen to update your contact information.

Parent/Guardian Summer Vacations

If you will be away from home when your child is at Camp, or if your summer address is different from your address during the rest of the year, please email this information to Andrea Cohen so we can make sure the MARP and Camp Director know how to reach you should the need arise.

If you are traveling out of the country while your camper is at Camp, we ask that you designate someone local who can be available to meet or pick up your camper in the event of a medical or another emergency. Please be sure to share their name and contact information with Andrea Cohen.

Communications - Ramah Darom

 ramahdarom.org/communications/

Communications

A major goal of the summer camping experience is to build independence and self-reliance. Your child will be strongly encouraged to write home at least once a week. Parents/Guardians may also communicate with their camper(s) through letters and a special email system (see below for more information). In order to assist parents in communicating with Camp and check on the status of their camper(s), Camp maintains a staff of *Yoetzim* (Parent Liaisons). These skilled senior staff members have extensive experience in working with children and will answer any questions you may have about your camper's summer.

Snail Mail



Prior to Camp, you will receive an email with the guideline for communicating with Camp as well as a list of the names of the *Yoetzim* (Parent Liaisons) assigned to each *aidah* (division) for each session.

Campers are required to write home twice a week.

Letters sent through the USPS may take some time to arrive home. If this happens, don't worry as "no news is good news"! If you receive a homesick letter from your child, or are just concerned, please call Camp and ask for the *Yoetz/et*. Your child's *Yoetz/et* will check out the situation and get back to you within 24 hours.

Please write your child often!

You should send your first letters to Camp one to two weeks prior to the start of the Camp session, as mail service to Clayton can be slow. Please allow at least a week for mail delivery, as there is no mail pickup at Camp between Friday and Monday.

Address all mail to your camper(s) as follows:

Camper's Name

Bunk #_____

Camp Ramah Darom

70 Darom Lane

Clayton, GA 30525

Flat Package Policy

Camp Ramah Darom will only accept flat envelopes up to 12"x15" for magazines, photos, or books. Small items such as stickers, pens, and rubber bracelets are permitted as long as they fit inside the flat envelope.

DO NOT SEND FOOD, CANDY or GUM. Any food sent to Camp will be disposed of. Packages that are not flat and or larger than 12"x15" may be returned to the sender at the senders' expense.*

Books

*For the avid readers among our Camp community, we will accept boxes mailed from Amazon containing BOOKS ONLY.

Necessary Items

*Should your child forget an item (e.g., sunscreen, water bottle or sandals) please be in touch with your child's *Yoetz/et*. Often, they are able to obtain these items for your camper avoiding the wait and hassle of shipping something to Camp. If an item still needs to be sent, after obtaining permission, please address the package to **Camper's Name, Aidah Name, c/o Yoetz/et Name**.

Email at Camp



Campers can receive emails from parents and guardians. *There is a small fee that covers the cost of technology, supplies and staffing so that we can offer this service.* Each morning (except Wednesdays and Saturdays), emails will be printed out and distributed to campers around lunchtime. Emails sent after the batch is printed or sent on Wednesdays or Saturdays will be distributed to campers the next day.

Parents can also send a request for a handwritten response with their email, which will provide the camper with one page to write back to parents. These forms, once filled out by your child and returned to our Camp post office box will be sent electronically via Bunk1 back to the parents. **Even if you have sent an email,**

please do not expect an immediate reply! It can sometimes take a few days for your child's reply as they may be out of Camp on a trip, involved in a day-long camp activity or just busy having fun!

Phone Calls at Camp



Unless it is an emergency, campers do not speak to parents on the phone. Please note that cell phones are not permitted at Camp. If a camper brings a cell phone, it will be collected and held in the Camp office safe until the end of the session.

If you are concerned about your child's well-being, or if you want to find out how your camper is doing, please leave a message for the *Yoetz/et*. Contact information for *Yoetzim* will be emailed to you before Camp begins. The *Yoetz/et* will research the situation and get back to you within 24 hours. Please note that messages left for the *Yoetzim* on Friday afternoons are not generally returned until Sunday morning. In addition, most of the *Yoetzim* are off on Wednesdays. Messages left on Wednesday will be returned on Thursday morning.

If the situation is an emergency, please follow the emergency contact procedure as outlined under "Parent Logistics."

News & Updates from Camp



In addition to the letters parents will be receiving from their child(ren), our online photo galleries, regular videos, aishah updates and pre-Shabbat news updates (*Drishat Shalom*) will help parents stay connected with all the fun happening at Camp.

Drishat Shalom/Pre-Shabbat News

During the summer, *Drishat Shalom* will be emailed every Friday before Shabbat. This weekly news update will summarize the week and touch on intangible aspects of the Ramah Experience – the magical parts of Camp that photos and videos cannot capture.

Photos & Videos



Each day, our Camp photography staff takes a myriad of photos of campers in action, and we will upload those photos a few times a week. We will share a combination of posed and candid photos at a diversity of Camp locations and activities. You can easily download photos as well as share them on social media. You will receive details on how to access photos before Camp begins.

We will share videos with you, giving a glimpse of the activity, excitement and programmatic highlights.

Yoetzim - Ramah Darom

 ramahdarom.org/yoetzim/

Yoetzim

***Yoetzim* are Camp Ramah Darom senior advisors and parent liaisons.**



Each *aidah* (age group) has a *Yoetz/et* at Camp. As part of the summer Community Care Team, *Yoetzim* support counselors and campers and will be available to answer questions or inquiries about your child's Camp experience. They will also be an integral part of arrival day to offer support and answer questions. **We will email you more information about your camper's *Yoetz/et* and how to contact them before the session begins.**

If you have concerns about your camper, please reach out to their *Yoetz/et*, which will be listed below by *aidah* before the start of each session. Messages left for your child's *Yoetz/et* will be returned within 24 hours. Messages left on Friday or on Shabbat will be returned Sunday.

Please note: *Yoetzim* are off on Wednesdays.

Camp Brit (Agreement)

 ramahdarom.org/camp-brit/

The Brit (Agreement)

קהילה קדושה/Kehillah K'doshah (Holy Community)

At Ramah Darom we exemplify the qualities of כבוד (respect) and טוב לב (kindness) in interactions with כלם (everyone) both during the summer and during the school year.

We respect the feelings and emotions of others when in Camp and when at home. We talk with kind words, invite others to join us in play, take care not to exclude, humiliate or show meanness to others and respect others' bodies. We pay attention to Camp rules which are meant to keep us safe and treat all property on Camp with respect.

- We respect the property of others and Camp by not taking, defacing, destroying or altering property that does not belong to us. We have a responsibility to make sure others in Camp feel safe and that our campus maintains its beauty.
- We follow the rules of Camp, which include NOT bringing cigarettes, Juul equipment, e-cigarettes, drugs, dangerous objects or illegal or dangerous items to Camp.
- We follow Camp rules and behavior expectations on campus, field trips and Camp transportation. We never leave the boundaries designated for us on campus or on trips.
- We respect the requests and directions of staff members whose role is to keep us all safe and ensure an enjoyable time for all.
- We continue to treat members of our community with respect and kindness, including respectful interactions while texting and using social media, all year long.

בצלם אלוהים/B'tzelem Elohim (In the Image of God)

At Ramah Darom, we view each person as a reflection of God. Our diverse community is an essential part of who we are because every member of the Ramah community is of equal and supreme worth.

- We respect that each of us is a unique individual, offering compassion and help without teasing or bullying.
- We each strive to be the best version of ourselves, focusing on our own growth and learning.
- We accept that we each may make mistakes, but we can all learn from these experiences and attempt to give each other the benefit of the doubt when there is a disagreement.

- We are part of an inclusive environment, and we do not exclude others or make fun of another's challenges.
- We come to Camp with a positive attitude and bring our curiosity for exploring our Judaism.
- We commit to be a דגמה א'שית (role model), expressing our profound Jewish joy and love for our קהלה (community).

Noncompliance Policy for Behavior/Breaking Camp Rules

While we do not expect perfection, we do expect all members of our community to strive for growth and to behave in a manner consistent with our *Brit*. Our goal is to help campers learn how to be members of our community through interventions when necessary. **Some behaviors may necessitate immediate dismissal* and others will generally follow the procedure below. Please note that campers must understand that being a bystander or being present when rules are broken may be cause for disciplinary action and/or presumption in participation in the breaking of the Camp rule.** Campers should leave situations that are in violation of Camp policy immediately and get help. In all cases, the discretion of Camp leadership will be utilized.

1st Intervention: Counselors will be the first line of intervention with camper behaviors. They will utilize collaborative problem solving to address camper misbehavior and notify the *Rosh Aidah* (Unit Head) and *Yoetz/et* (Parent Liaison) as soon as possible of any incident.

2nd Intervention: *Rosh Aidah* will meet with the camper and counselor to decide on appropriate logical consequences, such as cleaning an area of Camp, writing an apology letter or missing an evening activity.

3rd Intervention: *Yoetz/et* (advisor) will work with the *Rosh Aidah* to decide on appropriate consequences and may also meet with the camper to create a behavior plan for camper success. Parents will be called and informed of the misbehavior, consequence and behavior plan, if applicable.

4th Intervention: Camper and *Rosh Aidah* will meet with the Camper Care Manager, Assistant Director or Camp Director. Parents will be called and included in the consequence plan. Dismissal from Camp may occur at the discretion of the Camp Director.

Immediate Dismissal

While Camp is a place for growth, certain behaviors put your child or others at risk of immediate dismissal* from Camp, such as:

- Possession or consumption of alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco products
- Possession or consumption of non-prescribed legal drugs
- Leaving the boundaries of Camp property without proper authorization
- Purposefully harming others at Camp, emotionally or physically, or engaging in self-harm
- Purposefully harming or destroying Camp property
- Possession or use of e-cigarettes, vape pens or similar devices with or without tobacco or marijuana products

- Possession of or use of guns, knives or weapons of any kind

****Campers who are dismissed from Camp due to behaviors or breaking of Camp rules, will receive no refund of tuition or fees. Travel costs incurred due to dismissal will be the parents'/guardians' responsibility.***

The following items will be confiscated and may be returned at the end of Camp

(This doesn't NOT include pre-loaded Kindles, which are allowed at Camp or MP3 players that do not connect to WIFI.)

- Cell phones or any electronic devices that can connect to the Internet, including computers, iPads and other tablets, eReaders, portable game systems or other similar equipment
- Other electronics, including DVD players, televisions, video cameras, walkie-talkies, etc.
- Flammable materials such as matches, fireworks, lighters, butane, incense, candles and hot pots
- Money, apart from money provided for *yitziot* (trips)

If a camper is dismissed for behavioral concerns, there will be a re-interview process to determine whether they can return in a subsequent summer. The re-interview process may include conversations with parent(s)/guardian(s), teachers and/or therapists, and the camper. The Community Care and Inclusion Manager will make a recommendation to the Camp Director, and together, they will inform the family whether a camper is invited to return.

In order to best understand expectations and acknowledge commitment to the Ramah Darom community, all campers and Parents/Guardians are required to read, discuss and agree to this Brit and complete the Brit Acknowledgment document on your family dashboard before arriving at Camp.

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