

# *Summer Day Camp 2024*



## Huron East Summer Day Camp Parent Handbook

Welcome to our annual summer day camp at Brussels, Morris & Grey Community Centre (BMGCC) and the Vanastra Recreation Centre (VRC)! We are excited to have you aboard for a few days, weeks, or even the whole summer! We have been working very hard to make this summer camp safe and enjoyable for all. Our day camps will be filled with fun games, crafts, swimming, and special day trips that all campers get to engage in. This summer will be a blast with new themes with a focus on keeping it local! Participation is mandatory because we want all campers to be involved and enjoy activities to the fullest. As parents/guardians, we want you to take the role of encouraging your child(ren) to make the most of their time here at day camp for themselves and those around them. Be supportive and positively encourage your child(ren) while redirecting negativity.

### What should My Child(ren) Bring to Camp?

We will be spending much of our days enjoying the summer sun, so please ensure that your child(ren)'s **backpack has sunscreen, hat, and a reusable water bottle every single day!** Please make it a daily habit to apply sunscreen before arrival, this would be a huge help and would be greatly appreciated by camp leaders. Your child will need to bring snacks and a lunch to camp every single day as our camp does **not** provide these. Sharing food at camp is discouraged due to health regulation and unknown dietary and allergies. Campers are to eat what is provided in their lunch and not eat their friends' lunches or leaders' lunches. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, we go swimming and on hot days we play water games, so **please ensure that your child(ren) have a bathing suit, towel, and footwear that can get wet every day.** We also make use of the ball diamond, so please ensure that your child(ren) have shoes packed that they can run in. You are more than welcome to pack an extra pair of shoes for this purpose, for your child(ren)'s safety, being barefoot inside or out will not be permitted.

### Supporting our Campers for Success

Our partnership with the Huron Perth Centre for staff training and mentoring will continue and new developments will continue to be strategized. This will improve our services to better support day-to-day children's mental health wellness. All staff will be taking part in training sessions to learn to recognize how children become involved in-group settings and how they respond to social interaction amongst their peers and leaders. In addition, training on how to program daily activities that do not bring on stress to children. Throughout the summer, both partners will work together on scene and behind the scenes to make our program delivery enjoyable for all children participating. It is our hope that we will all have a great summer, and all our campers will enjoy every minute of it! However, there may be situations that children have trouble managing. In this case, we will complete a summary indicating what happened and the actions that were taken by our Day Camp Staff to resolve the issue in a supportive manner. This form will be given to the child's parent/guardian to be signed

and returned in recognition of the situation. We encourage parents/guardians to be supportive of the situation. If your child continues to struggle, we may need to ask you to join us to work together to find alternative solutions or arrangements for your child. Our camp staff want to ensure that this is a safe, enjoyable, and fun summer for all campers.

### **Lost & Found**

We recommend that your child(ren) not bring expensive or valuable things to camp. Please ensure that your child(ren) understand that he/she is responsible for his/her belongings. We cannot take responsibility for money and/or other valuables that are brought to camp. Day camp programming is based on play that avoids the use of screen/technology time. Electronic devices (games, iPad/Pod, phones, tablets) are to be left at home. If your child(ren) need to bring an electronic device, they will be asked to leave them in their backpacks. Please remember to label all your child(ren)'s items including water bottles, backpacks, lunch containers etc. **Once again, we are not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.**

### **Day Camp Fees**

Day Camp fees are due in full at time of registration. Registration is available online only at [www.huroneast.com](http://www.huroneast.com) by credit card only. If your child(ren) is unable to attend any of the dates they are registered for, there will be no refunds or credit for unattended days. Bus trips are an extra cost, in addition to the day camp weekly fees. Everyone goes, if you choose to not to participate on bus trip days, there will not be child care service on site, refunds for that day will not be provided.

### **Day Camp Dates and Hours**

Day camp will begin on Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and run through until Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Day camp hours are from 8:00am – 5:00pm. Programs will start at 9:00am and run through till 4:00pm. Extended care hours are available from 8:00am-9:00am and from 4:00pm – 5:00pm. Every ten minutes after 5:00pm there will be an extra one-dollar charge added, if the child(ren) is still not picked up the emergency contact will be contact to come pick up the child(ren). **There will be no camp Monday, July 1, 2024 and Monday, August 5, 2024, due to it being a holiday.**

### **Special Day Events Information**

We have two bus trips planned for this summer plus a special guest visiting our centres during the 'Around the World' themed week. Due to cost of bussing, admission and service fees, there will be an extra charge on these special event days. If you have any questions regarding our special events days, please do not hesitate to ask one of our Day Camp Staff. On days of special events, all campers and leaders go on the trip, therefore, no campers can stay at camp. Attendance is not mandatory for these days, however, as mentioned earlier if your child(ren) do not attend these special days, no refunds will be permitted. If your child(ren) have shown poor behaviour consistently,

he/or she may not be allowed on the trip as these are special and rewarding days to campers and bad behaviour will not be tolerated.

### **Climbing Wall**

At the VRC Day Camp we have a transverse rock-climbing cube that is installed and remains in the gymnasium. The goal of our climbing wall is to innovate activity that captivates all learners and to build physical, cognitive, and social/emotional skills. Climbing develops cardiovascular fitness, strength, flexibility, and coordination. Climbing activities are integrated with emotional and intellectual characteristics such as problem solving, patience, perseverance, and courage. Campers will be supervised by leaders while always using the climbing wall. However, as with all climbing walls, there is an element of risk involved. A permission form will be emailed and is required to be completed for your child(ren) to participate in the climbing wall activities. This permission form is **mandatory** for your child(ren) to participate in our activities on the climbing wall.

### **Allergy Information**

Please make staff aware of any allergies your child(ren) may have (food, medication, other). If you require staff to administer medication to your child, you will be required to fill out an information and permission form. A Medication Administration and Allergies form is available via email and/or staff.

### **Photos**

We will be taking pictures throughout the summer of the crafts, games, activities, and day trips that your child(ren) will participate in. With your permission, we would like to use a handful of these pictures next year when promoting our summer programs via our Huron East social media, website or printed materials. Please check the photo consent box, below, so that your child(ren) may be photographed.

By clicking this box, I provide consent for my child(ren) to be photographed.

### **Miscellaneous**

We strongly encourage all parents to visit our Huron East Website(<https://www.huroneast.com/en/my-huron-east/summer-day-camp.aspx>) for further information about Day Camp such as bus trips, theme weeks and a swimming lesson special for participants. If you have further comments or questions, please feel free to reach out to a camp staff member. We are looking forward to a great summer with your child(ren)! Day Camp Staff are looking forward to seeing our campers this summer and all the fun we will have planned!!

### **2024 Camp Dates:**

- July 2 – July 5 (shorter week)
- July 8 – July 12

- July 15 – July 19
- July 22 – July 26
- July 29 – August 2
- August 6 – August 9 (shorter week)
- August 12 – August 16
- August 19 – August 23

**By signing below, I understand that...**

There will be risks of injury and illness throughout the summer and the Municipality of Huron East will not be held responsible.

Your child(ren) are responsible for their personal items (such as, jewelry, toys, electronic devices etc.) and the Municipality of Huron East will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged possessions.

**Printed signature:**

**Signature:**

The Huron East Summer Day Camp Staff are looking forward to seeing you for a fun filled and safe summer!

Let the fun begin!