

CONTACT INFORMATION: camps@pickering.ca; 905.420.4660 ext. 3246

Welcome to Summer Camps 2026!

We're thrilled to welcome your child to an exciting, active, and engaging camp experience! Whether this is their first time at camp or they're returning for another adventure, our team is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and memorable environment for every camper. Please take a moment to review the attached information, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

What to Bring to Camp Daily

- Water bottle, snacks and nut-free lunch
- Dress campers according to weather
- Running shoes are strongly recommended
- Hat and sunscreen
- Bug repellent for outdoor camps
- Change of clothes
- Bathing suit/towel (for swimming and water days)
- Label all articles worn or brought to camp with your child's name
- Please DO NOT send valuables to camp

Your Camp Director will contact you prior to the start of your camp week with additional information, including camp-specific details and important reminders.

Lunch & Snacks

Campers must bring their own NUT-FREE lunch each day, packed in non-breakable containers (no glass). Each day includes two snack times and a lunch break. Please send your child with a reusable water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the day. If staff are unsure about a snack's safety, it will not be allowed at camp. Fruits and vegetables are always a healthy, allergy-safe choice, and sending extra snacks is recommended.

Allergy Notice

Please be mindful of food allergies, including life-threatening ones such as **tree nut** allergies. For everyone's safety, do not pack **tree nuts**, tree nut products, or any items containing traces of nuts in your child's lunch.

Camper Pick-Up/Drop-Off

Camp Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

- Walk your child to and from the designated Pick-Up/Drop-Off location and ensure they are checked in and out daily with camp staff.
- If someone else is picking up your child, please inform us in advance. Alternate pick-up individuals must present photo ID before your child is released.

Extend-A Camp

Camp Hours: 7:00 am – 9:00 am / 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Location:

- Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex – East Salon
- Pine Ridge Secondary School – Gymnasium

Illness & Absenteeism

If your child is sick on a day of camp, please keep them home to avoid the spread of the illness.

Please email us at camps@pickering.ca or the Camp Director with your child's name and the date(s) they will be absent. If you would rather leave a voicemail, please call 905.420.4660 ext. 3246. If a camper is absent without prior notification, we will attempt to contact the parents/guardians.

Late Pick Up Fee

A fee of \$20 per 15 minutes will be charged to the parent/guardian account for all participants who are picked up late from camp.

Weather Alert: In case of severe weather, visit <https://www.pickering.ca/news/> or call 905.831.1711 for updates.

Tick Awareness

As part of our outdoor programming, campers may spend time in parks, trails, and natural areas where ticks may be present. Camp staff receive seasonal training on tick awareness and prevention and promote safe outdoor practices throughout the summer. Families can help reduce the risk of tick bites by dressing campers in appropriate outdoor clothing, applying insect repellent as directed, and performing a thorough tick check after camp each day. Camp staff will encourage campers to complete regular tick checks on themselves. Please note that camp staff do not conduct tick checks or remove attached ticks. If an attached tick is discovered during camp hours, a parent/guardian will be contacted promptly. For more information on tick prevention, identification, removal, and additional public health resources, please visit the Tick Awareness section of our Camp Website at www.pickering.ca/camps.

Respectful Conduct Policy

The City of Pickering is committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment for both employees and customers. The Respectful Conduct policy addresses disrespectful behaviours from all patrons. Safety of our campers and staff are our number one priority. Failure to abide by the camp policies may lead to removal from the program. Please discuss the importance of safety with your child prior to the first day of camp.

Lost and Found

Each camp will have their own specific Lost and Found bin stored at their camp location until the end of the week. Any unclaimed items will be stored at the Lost and Found room at Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex. Parents who wish to inquire about any lost items can email the Camp Director or camps@pickering.ca.

Swimming

The following camps will be swimming daily at CHDRC:

- Sports Camp CHDRC – **Daily**
- Arts Camp CHDRC – **Daily**
- YEC – **Daily**
- Skateboard Camp – **Daily**
- Specialty Arts Camp – **Thursdays Only**

Pool Guidelines

Turtle Pool: Campers aged 7 and under have priority. If the pool is full, they will wear a life jacket and swim in the shallow end of the large pool. A 2:1 counsellor-to-camper ratio applies.

- Older Campers (8-12 years): A 4:1 counsellor-to-camper ratio applies.

Deep End Swim Test:

Campers aged 8-9 may take a swim test to access the deep end without a life jacket. To pass, they must swim 10 meters and tread water for 30 seconds. Campers who do not pass must wear a life jacket for the remainder of the week.

All decisions made by the lifeguard are final. Adherence to safety ratios means your child may not always be able to swim in the deep end.

For details about each specific camp, please visit our website at www.pickering.ca/camps.

We look forward to safe, fun and memorable Summer!

Your 2026 Summer Camp Staff