Welcome to the Hopewell Experience!

2025 Resident Camp Information Packet

Contact us:

info@camphopewell.com

662-234-2254 ext. 7

24 CR 231, Oxford, MS 38655

@camphopewell



WELCOME



We are so excited that you have chosen Camp Hopewell for your camper's Camp experience! **This handout will help you prepare yourself and your camper for their time here at camp.** We hope you will read all of the information carefully. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

One of the most beneficial parts of the camp experience is **community building**. Your camper will be in a group with camp counselors and other children their age. Each person will contribute to the community by keeping track of personal belongings, hanging wet towels and bathing suits, and helping with cabin and mealtime clean up. **Prepare your camper to expect to compromise & make group decisions with other campers.**



Setting your Camper up for Success

Forms *(due two weeks prior to arrival)*

1. Your Camper Health Form is one of the most important tools we gather. I**t is imperative for the health & safety of your camper that this form is completed & up-to-date.** If you are unsure if it is completed or not, feel free to reach out to our registrar.
2. Also required for each resident camper is the Information for Counselors Form. This is your opportunity to share with us your bed time routine, fears or misgivings, and just general info about your home life. **The whole goal of this form is to allow us to better support and meet the needs of your camper.**
3. **For our Adventures X3 Campers -** we will also need a signed waiver, which will be sent to you via email prior to the trip. Please be on the lookout for this.

If you are having trouble updating your forms online, we invite you to visit **this playlist** for detailed instructions on how to submit & update your forms.

Fees *(due two weeks prior to arrival)*

All Camp fees will be due **two weeks prior to your camper's first day of Camp.** If this will be a problem, contact our registrar to set up a payment plan.

Visit the Camp

Coming to visit Camp before your camper's time at Hopewell can be beneficial for both the camper and the adult. We hope you'll plan to join us for an annual Open House on **March 2 and April 13!** Come and go from 1:30-3:30 PM for an opportunity to tour the campsite with our directors and potential camp counselors. You can ask any questions you may have, or just enjoy seeing the facilities and hearing about what your camper might do while at Hopewell! If you can not attend the Open House, we are happy to set up a tour for you with a member of our staff prior to May 28. Feel free to reach out to our registrar.

More on Camper Health...

Camp Hopewell values the health and safety of our campers, staff, and camper families. Because of this, we ask that you monitor your camper for symptoms of illness and let us know if your camper or anyone in their household gets ill. **If you must cancel your camper's session due to illness, you will be given the option to donate or credit any money paid toward the camp session to 2026 or switch to a later session with availability.**

For health and safety, we must have an up-to-date health history, date of your camper's last tetanus shot, and a signed release for emergency treatment of every camper. If your camper is generally healthy, a signed physical exam is not required. If your camper is of fragile health and/or under the continuing care of medical professionals for a condition requiring medications, special technology, treatment, or management, please reach out to us directly, so we can work together to best accommodate the needs of your camper. We might ask that you send us a health exam from a physician with health care recommendations and instructions.

What to Pack

- Pillow
- Twin size sheets
- Blanket, Quilt, or Comforter
- 3-4 towels (for shower time & pool time)
- Washcloth or Loufa
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Soap
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Comb/Brush
- Deodorant
- Bug Spray or other Insect Repellant
- Sunscreen
- Long Pants (1 pair)
- Medications (to be given to the Camp Nurse at Check-in)
- Bathing Suits (2)
- Short Sleeved Shirts (1 per day)
- Shorts (1 pair per day)
- Rain Jacket
- Pajamas
- Underwear (1 set per day)
- Socks (1 pair per day plus 1)
- Shoes (2 old pair, 1 being sneakers)
- Water shoes (No backless shoes)
- Labeled Laundry Bag
- Bible & (optional) journal
- Flashlight
- Paper and pre-addressed, stamped envelopes (for if your camper might want to write letters)

For Adventures X 3 Campers: In addition to the above items, they will also need: a small extra bag for them to bring on the trip (which can carry about 4 outfits, tennis shoes, water shoes, and any pajamas & toiletries they'll need). Be sure to also pack a sleeping bag! Campers might stop at a gas station or gift shop while on the trip, so feel free to send a bit of cash for them to spend if you'd like.

What NOT to Pack

- New or valuable items
- Electronics - including, but not limited to MP3 players, video games, cell phones, smart watches with cellular connectivity, etc.
    - We DO allow digital cameras, as long as they do not have internet connectivity
- Weapons of any sort, including pocket knives
- Pets
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Tobacco
- Vapes
- Cash - make a store deposit instead!

Camp Hopewell cannot be responsible for loss or damage to any personal items brought to camp. If 16 year old campers drive their cars to camp, they will be required to give Hopewell staff their keys, which will be returned to the camper at the end of the week.

Pro-Tips for Packing

- Packing in a rubbermaid tub can help your camper keep everything together.
- Label everything! Often kids are tired at check out & forget what their laundry bag looks like & leave it at camp. Label it, so we can help you get it home!
- Rain Gear is often forgotten & is extremely important for a comfortable camp experience. Especially for younger campers, label Ziplocs for each day's outfits to take the guess work out of getting dressed each day!
- Involve your camper in packing, so they are familiar with what they are bringing.
- Pack clothes & items that will help your camper feel comfortable at camp. Lots of campers come with a stuffed animal, pictures, etc.
- We do not recommend sending your camper with new shoes. Instead, send good, comfortable shoes. For your camper's safety, we require ALL shoes to have backs.

If you find that you have forgotten to pack something, please reach out to our registrar. Often if your camper has brought it to our attention, we are able to substitute with something that we already have here. We are committed to working as a team to help your camper be happy and feel cared for!

Lost & Found

Items found at Camp will be kept for **three days.** At check-out and on the Saturday and Sunday morning following your camper's session, we will have a lost and found table at the pavilion. Feel free to take a look at it to see if any of those items belong to your camper. If you find that your camper has left something after the last day of camp, reach out to our registrar to arrange pick up or mailing. Items requested to be mailed will be done at the expense of the person making the request. Unclaimed items are donated to charity after **3 days**.

Departure

Check-out will begin at 4:00 PM on the last day of camp. Those picking up campers will park their cars on the playing field and come to the pavilion to pick up your camper. You will sign out your camper, receive a camp photo and any medication that needs to be returned to you. You then will pick up your camper's luggage and load it into your vehicle. You are welcome to chat with your camper's counselors & their cabin mates during this time; however, we ask that all adults arrive for pick up before 4:30 PM on the last day of camp. If someone other than the person who registered and brought your child to camp will pick up your camper, we must have written instructions identifying the person to whom we may release your camper. Proper ID is required to pick up all campers. If an emergency arises that requires a camper to be picked up early, please notify the camp office at 662-234-2254.

Following signing out your camper on the last day of camp & loading their luggage, parents will be permitted to walk around camp for a bit to see the campus. We ask that during this time, you do not go into any buildings, as our staff will be cleaning up and prepping for the week ahead.





The Check-in Process

Check-in will be a drive-thru process. Since beginning drive-thru drop-off in 2020, we have seen great success in decreasing instances of missing home on the first night!

Last Names A - L Check-in from 3:30 - 3:45. M - Z Check-in from 3:45 - 4:00.

01

Forms Check

Upon arrival, you will be greeted at the gate to be sure we are not missing anything for your account. Here, our registrar will ask you any questions she may need to.

02

Camper Covenant

All Explorer & Adventure campers will complete a Camper Covenant, which just says they will follow the rules of camp & have not brought anything they are not supposed to to Camp.

03

T-shirt + Name Tag

At the next stop, you will receive your camper's t-shirt & name tag (except for Night Owl+, whose name tags will be made at the pavilion upon drop off)

04

Health Check

Here, you will either visit our Health Care Manager or our Camp Nurse, depending on if your camper has medications to be given at Camp or not. They will do a temperature check & a basic health screening, and collect all medications here.

06

Drop-Off

Finally, you will unload at the pavilion! One of your camper's counselors will come to greet them & help them unload. This can be hard & emotional, but we hope you'll trust that our staff are well trained in welcoming campers to camp & your camper CAN do this!

If a camper has not arrived to camp by 4:00 PM, a call will be made to the primary contact on their account to verify their absence.



What to Expect During Camp

Day-to-Day Camper Life

Campers will participate in Bible Study each morning and worship each evening. They may enjoy strenuous active games, indoor and outdoor activities such as swimming, challenge course, archery, canoeing, and more! Please let us know of any restrictions that your camper may have in any activities typical for camp.

If inclement weather should arise while your camper is at Hopewell, staff will follow the safety procedures established and taught during staff training.

Food at Camp

Our food service director and her team work hard to prepare meals for your campers each day. We are happy to accommodate dietary restrictions and allergies. We also often see that campers will try more foods while at camp than parents may expect; however, if you have an especially picky child that you are worried about, please reach out to our Registrar. We want to have the tools to help your camper succeed at camp, and our food service director is happy to try to come up with a plan to help your camper have a great camp experience!

View our Photo Gallery

We post pictures each day after all of the afternoon activities are through on Bunk1. You will receive a code prior to your child's session, which allows you access to these photos. **You do not have to pay to view photos on Bunk1.** If you scroll to the bottom of the subscription page, there's an option to do "gallery only access", which is free!

Our top priority is caring for your camper during their time at camp and ensuring they have fun! Because of this, we often do not upload photos until late in the evening after the campers have gone to sleep & all activities have wrapped up. We recommend you check each morning for photos of the previous day rather than waiting up for photos to be posted. **We appreciate your patience and hope you enjoy the photos!**

Camper Health during Camp

I**f your camper will require daily medication while at Camp**, these will be turned into the Health Care Manager at check-in. All prescriptions must be in their original container with clear instructions for dispensing them. The resident Health Care Manager will dispense medications according to doctor's orders. All campers will see the Health Care Manager or Camp Nurse during check-in with an adult for Health Screening.

Non-prescription drugs that may be administered in our Health Center by the Health Care Manager or the Camp Nurse include: Acetaminophen (Tylenol); Ibuprofen (Advil); Antacids (Tums, Pepto Bismal); Imodium AD; Allergy/Sinus medication (Benadryl, Sudafed, Tylenol Cold); Cough Syrup (Tussin); Antibiotic Ointments; Hydrocortisone Cream; Cleansers (Alcohol, Hydrogen Peroxide); Eye Drops; and Ear Drops (Isopropyl Alcohol). If there are any restrictions for your camper, please list these on the health form.

If your camper develops a condition while at camp that needs the attention of a doctor, we will notify their emergency contact.

Camper Mail

Hearing from you while at camp can be extremely meaningful for your Camper! We hope you will write some letters and pack them with your camper to be read during downtime. You also may send letters via fax to 662-733-4197, or for a fee, you may also wish to use Bunk1.com's one-way email service. You may access this service via our website by clicking on "Summer Camp" and then either "New Camper Parent" or "Returning Camper Parent". Bunknotes and faxes must be sent prior to 7 AM on the desired delivery day otherwise they will be delivered the following day. **Bunknotes or faxes sent from parents after 7 AM on the last full day of the camp session will not be delivered to the camper.**

Tips & Things to Avoid Encourage your Camper through Mail

- Encourage your child to have fun!
- Inquire about new friends and new things being learned
- Encourage your camper to write about their experience, so they remember things they want to tell you when they get home.
- Share fun stories of camp experiences you may have had
- Ask questions about things you may have seen on Bunk1
- Tell your child how proud you are of him/her and how much you love them, while avoiding references to how much they are being missed - while these are lovely & likely very true sentiments, they can encourage or worsen missing home.
- Send a care package of fun things they can share with their cabin mates! (These can be dropped off at our business office, which is half a mile up the road from camp, towards Highway 30) **Do not send snacks. We will provide all snacks.**

Early Pick-up and Late Drop-off

Ideally, every camper would be able to be at Hopewell for the entire duration of their camp session; however, we recognize that this is not always possible. We are happy to arrange early pick-up and late drop-off with you, but prefer that you contact us prior to the week of camp, so we can adequately plan. Please contact our registrar to confirm early pick-up or late drop-off arrangements.

Early pick-up is least disruptive to the camper and their cabin group when it takes place during or immediately after a meal. Typical mealtimes are 8:30 AM, 12:30 PM, and 5:30 PM (Night Owl+'s meal times are exactly 1 hour later).

If you have an emergency, please contact camp and we will work out an arrangement for you.



Frequently Asked Questions

How is the health of my camper cared for? The most important thing you can do to equip us to care for your camper is completing the Health Form in a timely manner. A temperature screening will be done on the first day during check-in. All medications brought to camp are kept safely in the Health Center and dispersed by the Health Care Manager. Our Health Care Manager works under the direction of our Camp Physician who is on call. Baptist Memorial Hospital is only 15 minutes away. Basic accident and illness insurance is carried on all campers. All camp staff is certified in first aid and CPR. Parents or guardians will be called in the event of any illness or injury that warrants the attention of the doctor.

How are staff selected and supervised? All counselors are 18 years old or older. Most have completed one or more years of college. All prospects complete a written application, are interviewed by a director, and undergo a background check. For some positions, like lifeguards, we require proof of certification and require a skills test performed at Hopewell. For other positions, such as Challenge Course Lead, we require special training and review skills on our course. All staff is required to attend two weeks of counselor's training.

What are the staff to camper ratios? Our ratios for staff supervision of campers are as follows: Ages 6-9 is 1:6 (staff to camper) and ages 10-16 is 1:8. A director is at camp during all camp sessions. Staff is observed daily. The directors conduct formal performance reviews.

Are scholarships available? YES! We are committed to making camp accessible to all! Hopewell has a scholarship fund to give additional support when needed. We also partner with the Angel Tree to provide a camp experience for campers within their network. Many churches support the camp experience by paying some or all of the fee for their members. You can learn more at camphopewell.com/financialsupport

Can my child take swimming lessons? Swimming instruction is not a part of our camp program. Campers will be taught safety procedures for the swimming areas. They will also be orientated on swimming procedures, but will not be given formal lessons. A "Swim Check" is performed for each camper at the beginning of their first swim time to assess their abilities to insure a most safe and enjoyable experience for them.

May siblings or friends come together? YES! Even though camp programs are separated by age and special interests, there is something for all ages almost every week. Cabin mate requests can be made with campers who are in the same camp session. We try to honor requests for a cabin mate. We ask that you only request ONE cabin mate. It may be impossible to put multiple requests all together. **For Night Owl +, please request a cabin mate that is in the same grade as your camper.**

May I visit? Experience has shown that visits during a 6-day camp can detract from the child's experience and often will trigger missing home in other campers. We ask that parents and friends do not visit during camp. If you need to drop something off or pick up your camper, please make arrangements through the office before arriving at camp. Upon arrival, please remain in your vehicle until greeted and directed by a staff person. No visitors are allowed on camp property after 10:00pm, except in case of an emergency.

When will I be contacted in a situation pertaining to my child? Counselors and Camp Directors are trained extensively on handling personal and medical situations with your children. However, in extreme cases of missing home, medical illness or injury, or other situations where a Director deems it necessary to contact a parent, you will be phoned by a Director. If you would like to call and check on your child, you may call the camp office during the hours of 9AM - 1PM at 662-234-2254 (ext. 7) or email info@camphopewell.com for an update. If there is an after-hours emergency, please call Lindsay at 662-580-4422.

Camper applications are accepted without regard to ethnicity, race, church denomination or religion, on a space available basis in the order they are received with deposit. We will discuss with parents the best way to serve a child with disabilities.



Any Questions?

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