



Summer Day Camp

Parent Handbook

Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp

18500 Cooper Orbit Rd.

Little Rock, AR. 72210

(501) 744-8878

lakenixondaycamp@2bclr.com

Welcome to

Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp

Thank you for choosing to be a part of the Lake Nixon Community! We want to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. This camp season promises to be a summer full of fun and adventure.

At Lake Nixon we like to say, “Camp Can Change Lives.” In this handbook, you will hear more about what we mean by that and how we work to provide ingredients for a transformative experience. Of course, we also need to give you a lot of important practical information about your camper’s time with us this summer, *so please take time to read through it all carefully!*

Camp can be a wonderful and powerful experience, and we hope your campers have an enriching and memorable time with us this summer.

Thank you again for your trust and support,

Mike Simmons

Director
Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp

Andy Black

Executive Director
Lake Nixon Outdoor Center

Please take the time to read through this entire handbook. It contains important information about your camper’s time with us this summer.

What is Lake Nixon, and Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp, all about?

The Lake Nixon Outdoor Center is a ministry of Second Baptist Church, (downtown) Little Rock. Lake Nixon is a “front porch” for the church—i.e., an inclusive gathering space for diverse people from all across our community—and our mission is to care for this special place and to share it with others so that they can experience recreation, education, and sanctuary.

The goal of Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp is to provide classic “camp” experiences that allow children and young people to develop skills, grow in character, and learn to receive, love, and care for the gift of God’s creation (especially that part of it we tend to call “the outdoors”) by enjoying it—and each other.

To summarize what we are about, we have decided to use the acronym “SAFE”:

S is for Skills.

We want to give campers a chance to get outside, get unplugged, and have fun in a caring environment. From canoeing to swimming, hiking, and more . . . Outdoor adventures play a key role. Campers will have opportunities to learn new technical skills—such as paddling a boat, catching fish, shooting an arrow, or identifying poison ivy.

But camp activities are more than just fun pastimes. They also help campers develop life skills, or character traits, that will become part of who they are: friendship and fairness; independence *and* teamwork; making wise/safe choices for the sake of others’ and one’s own health and safety; confidence to take appropriate risks in new situations; and more. These are skills used in all of life, for all of life.

A is for Affirmation.

We want to “see” (recognize, acknowledge, appreciate, respect) each camper in their uniqueness and help campers learn to do the same for each other. Staff members are here to support campers by their words and actions and to serve as role models.

F is for Fun.

We want everyone to enjoy their time here at camp and we strive to offer engaging, diverse, and enriching activities for campers.

E is for Education.

We want to help our campers learn:

- about the natural world and how they can be good stewards of Lake Nixon (and our world in general)
- about each other, as they meet people from all across Central Arkansas (and beyond) who come from different backgrounds and life experiences
- about new activities and about the kinds of habits or character traits that are part of living a good life (see the “skills” section).

By *SAFE* we certainly also mean that no intentional harm will come to our campers or staff. Yes, accidents will happen, and feelings may sometimes get hurt. But when this

happens we will provide the necessary care, whether it is by a band-aid, or by taking time to listen and provide comfort.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

- Comfortable clothing your child can get dirty in!
- Swim suit
- Towel
- Closed-toed shoes (**This is a safety issue to protect your child's feet**)
- Light jacket/rain jacket when needed
- Sunscreen (SPF 30-50)
- Insect repellent (or spray at home before coming)
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- A water bottle (we will provide each camper with a Lake Nixon water bottle)
- Lunch (including a drink), unless you order from Little Bites
- Medications **and** Medication Form, (If your camper takes day time meds)
Please see our Medication policy if your camper takes meds

Label everything with your child's name. Have your child check lost and found daily.

Campers will need to have all of their belongings in a tote bag or backpack. Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp (LNSDC) can not be held responsible for lost or stolen items.

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMP

- Anything of value that could be lost and/or cannot be replaced
- Knives
- Firearms
- Weapons of any kind
- **Electronics (phones, game units, tablets, computers, etc.)**
- Headphones or earbuds
- Money
- Drugs and/or alcohol
- Any tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and Vape
- Pets of any kind. This excludes service animals

Camper Drop-off and Pick-up Schedules

For Bus Riders:

- **Drop-off** Between 7:30am and 8am. The drop off location is at 753 S Shackelford Rd. The bus will leave promptly at 8am.
- **Pick-up:** Between 5pm-5:30pm. The bus will return to camp at 5:30pm. Campers who are not picked up by 5:30 will be brought back to camp and parents will need to come to Lake Nixon to pick-up their campers. Late fees may be assessed.

For Extended Day campers:

- **Drop off** is at 7:30am. **Please note: we will not begin receiving campers until 7:30am.**
- **Pick-up:** Between 4pm-5:30pm. Whatever time works for your schedule between 4pm and 5:30pm. Late fees may be assessed for pick-up after 5:30pm

Standard Day Campers:

- **Drop-off:** Between 8:30 and 9am. **Please note: will not receive campers until 8:30am, unless you have paid for early drop off.**
- **Pick-up:** Starting at 3:30pm and will go to 4:30pm

Early Pick-up:

- If you need to pick-up your camper before 3:30pm, please call ahead to notify our office staff. (501)744-8878. Once you arrive on property, please go to the summer camp office and check-in with our staff. You will be asked to produce a photo ID. If you have someone other than yourself picking up your camper, ensure that person is on your camper's approved adult list. This list can be updated on the Pikmykid app. We will not allow campers to leave with ANYONE who is not on their approved adult list for any reason.

PikMyKid App

Lake Nixon will be using an app called Pikmykid for the logistics of camper transportation. Please download the app and create an account as soon as possible. (Link) We will be using the information you provide on Pikmykid to make all necessary arrangements for your camper's transportation.

Each camper must be physically signed out each day when leaving camp or the bus stop. Campers will only be released to individuals on the Authorized Adult List that you completed when registering your camper and using the Pikmykid app. We can not and will not release campers to any adult who is not on your camper's Authorized Adult List. If you wish to make changes to the Authorized Adult List, please log into the Pikmykid app account to update that list prior to the start of the camp day. An I.D. check will be required to be sure the person is authorized.

For Bus Riders: If you need to make any changes in your bus rider's schedule, please do so using the Pikmykid app.

Late Pick Up Fee: A fee of \$1.00 per minute may be charged for each minute beyond the pick up time. If your child is a bus rider and is not picked up by 5:30 pm, then the child will be brought back to Lake Nixon and the late fee will be charged once returned to camp until picked up. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Director. If a camper is picked up late 2 or more times in a week, we will assess Extended Care fees to your account (\$45/week)

Bus Rules for Campers

A bus monitor will be in charge of bus conduct to and from Lake Nixon. All campers will be made aware of these rules on the first day of each session and

will be held accountable for following these rules. **Not following these rules could result in your camper being removed from bus service for the week, without a refund so please review these rules with your camper!**

1. **Remain seated at all times;** no changing seats. (This does include when the bus is stopped and until your name is called to exit the bus)
2. Keep hands (and all body parts) inside the bus & to yourself at all times.
3. Talk with normal voices - no yelling! (On the bus or at anyone outside the bus)
4. Walk to or from the bus.
5. NEVER walk in front of or behind the bus
6. Please do not disturb the bus driver.
7. No eating or drinking on the bus.
8. No objects of any kind should be thrown on or out of the bus. **If a fine for littering is given as a result of your camper throwing anything off the bus, you will be expected to pay the fine.**
9. Please listen and follow all Bus Monitor instructions at all times.

An incident report requiring a parent's signature will be written for any problems on the bus. **Disobeying bus rules threatens the safety of all bus riders, so campers who cannot follow these rules will lose their bus privileges without a refund.**

Policies Related to Covid-19

Due largely to the benefits provided by a large outdoor space, along with masking in specific circumstances, we had no identified cases of Covid-19 spread during last year's summer day camp, even in the midst of the Delta variant surge.

We are not currently requiring that masks be worn by staff or campers, but this is subject to change. We will follow all current and relevant CDC and Arkansas Department of Health guidelines for the use of masks and other Covid precautions during the summer.

Covid Refund Policy

If camp is canceled due to Covid-19 before the first day of that session, you will receive a full refund for that week. If a portion of camp is canceled due to Covid-19, you will receive a prorated refund for the days your camper did not attend. Refunds will only be given for full days that were not attended. No refund will be given for partial days (e.g. If camp is canceled on a Wednesday at 10am, you would receive a refund for the Thursday and Friday of that week).

Medication Policy

In accordance with state law, we must receive all medications in their original containers. We must have prescription medications in the bottle/container from the issuing pharmacy. Over-the-Counter meds must be in the original store packaging. **Medications not in their original packaging will not be received.** Please put your camper's meds, in their original packaging, into a ziplock bag labeled with your camper's name. Please include any special instructions we may need to properly administer your camper's meds (e.g. "Must take with food", "Must take on an empty stomach"). Please only send the correct number of doses your camper requires for the week. Any meds, such as Epipen or inhalers, that will go home with campers each day need to be sent in a labeled ziplock bag as well.

Illness

In the event your camper is experiencing any of these symptoms, please keep them home. We require campers to be fever free/ symptom free for a full 24 hours prior to returning to camp. If your camper develops any of these symptoms while at camp, we will call you and ask you to please come get your camper. **Suspected Covid-19 cases will require a negative test prior to re-entry to camp.**

- Fever of 100.4 or greater
- Vomiting
- Symptoms of Covid-19
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

Lunch Service

Lake Nixon is offering the services of [Little Bites Catering](#) for your convenience. To order lunch for your campers (\$5/day), please log into their [ordering portal](#). Please direct all questions regarding this service to the Little Bites Catering Company.

Payment Policy

All camper registration fees must be paid by May 23rd, 2022. If payment is not received by the due date, your camper will be placed on the waitlist and may forfeit their place in camp. In the event that your camper is enrolled after May 23rd, 2022, all fees must be paid in full at the time of registration. **Campers will not be allowed to attend camp until all fees for that week are paid in full.** Payments can be made with credit/debit cards, check, e-check, or cash. To make an online payment, please go to lakenixon.com and log into the registration portal.

Refunds

- The \$25 registration fee is non-refundable.
- A full refund, minus the \$25 registration fee, will be given for cancellations made outside of 30 days of the registrant's session(s) starting date(s).
- A 50% refund, minus the \$25 registration fee, will be given for cancellations made between 15 days and 30 days of the registrant's session(s) starting date(s).
- No refunds will be given for cancellations made within 2 weeks of the registrant's session(s) starting date(s).

Code of Conduct

It is our goal to provide a safe, secure, and respectful camp environment. We also strive to create an environment which will help your camper grow in self-control and social skills. Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp (LNSDC) has a zero tolerance policy for bullying and violence. If needed, disciplinary actions will be individualized to your camper's level of understanding and directed at teaching your camper acceptable behavior and self-control.

The Code of Conduct is in place to help your camper understand the expectations of appropriate behavior. We will go over the Code of Conduct with all the campers at the beginning of each session. All campers will be asked to abide by the following rules while at camp. We encourage you to review these rules with your camper to ensure they fully understand what is expected of them while at camp.

Rules

1. I will respect my fellow campers.
2. I will take care of my own things and respect the property of others, including Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp (LNSDC) property and grounds.
3. I will listen to all LNSDC staff and follow their instructions.
4. I will follow all safety rules/guidelines for all activities and make sure my fellow campers are safe.
5. I will do my best to be a positive example for my fellow campers to follow.

Consequences

- 1st Offense - Your camper may be removed for an activity. Your camper and their counselor will discuss the camper's behavior and how to best change their behavior.
- 2nd Offense- The Camp Director and your camper will speak with you, and suitable consequences will be decided.
- 3rd Offense- Your camper will stay home one day.
- 4th Offense- Your Camper will be taken out of that session with no refund.

Bullying Policy

Lake Nixon Summer Day Camp (LNSDC) believes all campers and staff have a right to a safe and healthy camp environment. LNSDC has an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance among campers, staff, volunteers and visitors.

Behaviors that infringe on the safety of any person at LNSDC will not be tolerated. A camper or staff shall not bully or intimidate any person through words or actions. Such behaviors include, but are not limited to: direct physical contact, verbal/nonverbal assaults, profanity or other inappropriate language, the use of electronic methods, social isolation and/or manipulation. Campers who bully will be immediately removed from activities and the 3rd or 4th consequence from the Code of Conduct will be enforced. These actions will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Camp Director and LNSDC administrative staff.

Emergency Action Plan

In the event of an emergency that will require us to evacuate the property, you will be notified by our emergency text messaging system.

Campers will be taken to Second Baptist Church, 222 E. 8th St., Little Rock, AR 72202, telephone number 501-374-9284.

When inclement/hazardous weather conditions occur, campers will shelter in place in a safe area on property.

We ask that you please not call our main number during the emergency. Our staff will contact you, or other emergency contacts identified by you in the event the children and staff are relocated or if there are injuries.

A copy of our emergency operating procedures may be viewed at any time at our facility. It is located near our front office door. This plan is updated on an annual basis, as is required by our licensing agency.

The State of Arkansas requires us to notify you that your child(ren) may be subject to interviews by licensing staff, child maltreatment investigators or law enforcement officials for investigative purposes and/or for determining compliance with licensing requirements.

Theme Days

Theme Days are every Wednesday. Staff are expected to dress in an appropriate manner and fully participate in all theme days.

- June 8th-Camo Day
- June 15th-Favorite sports team Day
- June 22nd-Western Day
- June 29th-Silly socks Day
- July 6th- Red, white and blue Day
- July 13th-Crazy hat Day
- July 20th- Tie-Dye Day
- July 27th-Hawaiian Shirt Day
- August 3rd- School Spirit Day

We will be taking a full-camp group picture each Friday. It would be great if your camper wears their Lake Nixon t-shirt on Friday.