



Parent Handbook



SUMMER 2025



WELCOME TO CAMP BY THE SEA

We believe it is more important than ever to provide your children with a positive and safe place to be with peers. It is our goal to provide a safe and nurturing environment with role models that will care for our campers, support their self-esteem and create a positive atmosphere. Each camp day will include all the Camp By The Sea traditions and meaningful moments that your campers will cherish throughout the year. In keeping with our JCC values, we are committed to creating a warm and nurturing environment, focused on the social well-being of your children.

We are here to support our camp families!

CAMP DATES AND LOCATION

Camp Dates: June 23, 2025 - August 15, 2025

Location:

Marjorie & Lewis Katz JCC

501 N Jerome Avenue, Margate City, NJ 08402

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CAMP OVERVIEW

About Camp

Since 1946 Camp by the Sea has been providing generations with exciting fun filled summers. Camp by the Sea was originally a block away from the beach at the Jewish Community Center of Atlantic County on Virginia Avenue. In 1959 as the JCC and camp grew larger we relocated to Margate and built a new facility where the current JCC now stands. Over thirty years later with the help of the community, a massive renovation of the building took place in 2003. Renamed the Marjorie & Lewis Katz Jewish Community Center the facility includes two pools, an indoor gymnasium, an outdoor playground, multiple rooms for activities and the use of the Margate's sports fields adjacent to the JCC. Camp by the Sea still remains true to our name and has always included beach trips for our campers.

Camp By The Sea days are filled with fun, age-appropriate activities, trips and exciting programs for children ages 2-13 all under the supervision of experienced teachers and counselors. At camp we create an atmosphere where children from all backgrounds can explore and challenge themselves while learning with one another. Our campers are encouraged to try new activities and make new friends, all while learning life skills, confidence and self-esteem.

Mission and Jewish Values

The mission of Camp By The Sea at the Katz JCC is to allow campers the opportunity for mental, emotional, and social growth with a focus on creatively learning valuable lessons, respect, sportsmanship, leadership, and accountability. In the safe and welcoming environment offered at Camp By The Sea, campers interact with peers and counselors of various ages and backgrounds offering a diverse cultural and educational experience.

Camp By The Sea builds confidence, creates memories and long lasting friendships in a fun, safe Jewish environment. We promise to nurture and care for our campers, the space to create bonding relationships, activities, trips, shows, lifelong memories, and of course... the beach!

Rooted in Jewish Values, Camp By The Sea supports the mission of the Marjorie & Lewis Katz JCC, fostering an appreciation of Jewish identity, values, and culture. The camp program works to strengthen Jewish family life, build a sense of community and ensure Jewish continuity for our children, our children's children, and ourselves. We promote active participation in a safe and inclusive environment for all children. We strive to encourage positive attitudes through a high quality camp experience and to strengthen the Jewish family values and beliefs through play.

CAMP STAFF

The Camp By The Sea team is composed of school teachers, college students majoring in childhood development, former campers, and preschool educators. Along with giving campers a fun and exciting summer, our goal is to provide kids with positive role models and self-esteem. Our team knows that the invaluable experiences, friendships and skills from summer camp can last a lifetime.



**Early Childhood,
Camp & Youth
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Camp Director

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Camp Administrator

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**Early Childhood
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Shacar Division Head

Suzanne Abbott
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Aquatics Director

Mike Courter
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609-822-1167 Ext. 133

Administrative Staff Information

Above you will find the names, titles, and email addresses for the Camp Leadership Team and Support Staff. Please note, the best way to contact Camp By The Sea during the summer is via email at camp@jccatlantic.org.

Division Heads

Division Heads are staff members in charge of the oversight of each Camp Division. They are available for questions or concerns in the morning during drop-off or in the afternoon during pick-up.

Camp Office

During the camp day, the staff are working closely with campers and may not be available to meet or talk with parents without a scheduled appointment. To schedule a time to speak with a Staff Member please email camp@jccatlantic.org.

In case of an emergency call 609-822-1167 Ext. 119 for campers in Gesher and up and Ext. 131 for Shacar and Shacar Katan.

CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Shacar Katan “Little Dawn” | Ages 2 - 3

Shacar “Dawn” | Ages 3 - 4

Gesher “Bridge” | Grades K - 1

Chaverim “Friends” | Grades 2 - 3

Noar “Youth” | Grades 4 - 6

Giborim “Heroes” | Grades 7 - 8 Co-ed

LIT: Leaders In Training | Grades 9

CAMP CURRICULUM

Themes

Each week features a fun weekly theme and daily themes for each Camp Division. Please visit campbythesea.org for the most up – to – date Camp Theme calendar.

J in JCC

Judaic programs are an integral part of Camp By The Sea. This summer Camp By the Sea will add Jewish values and incorporate programming that ties into these values. Camp By The Sea will hold Shabbat every Friday. Shabbat begins at sundown on Friday and is observed through sundown on Saturday. Camp By The Sea is excited to bring back Shlichim to enhance our education. Shlichim are Israeli counselors that work with the camper’s daily as activity specialists. It will add Jewish richness, beauty, quality and special meaning to our camps through Jewish experience and education.

Specialists

Camp By The Sea’s curriculum includes various specialty programs led by experienced professionals in the subject. Camp Specialists include Art, Music, Sports, Cooking, Dance and other age – appropriate activities.

Aquatics

Camp By The Sea incorporates open swimming throughout the week in both the JCC’s Indoor and Outdoor pools. During the first week of camp, each camper will take a swim level assessment which will allow those qualified to swim in the deep end of the pool. Open swimming during camp is not instructional, but though open swim and water play, swimmers will learn about water safety and gain experience.

Field Trips

Campers will attend appropriate trips to local water parks, amusement parks, the beach and other exciting destination. A full list of trips can be found at campbythesea.org on the Camp Calendar. Camp shirts should be worn for all field trips.

INCLUSION

Tikvah Program

At Camp By The Sea, children with special needs have the opportunity to develop friendships with peers as they take part in a full range of camp activities and are not limited to participation in segregated camps exclusively for special populations. Each child will be included as a unique and equal member of a camp group. Some campers will have one-on-one counselors directed by our Tikvah Coordinator. All camp staff receive training in how to include a child with different abilities into group activities. *This program receives funding from the Alan L Perskie Special Needs Endowment Fund.*

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent from camp, please email camp@jccatlantic.org. Be sure to include your child's name, Camp Division and reason for absence. You will be contacted by a Camp Staff member if any follow up is needed. If your child will be arriving to camp late or needs to be picked up early, please notify us in advance via email or by calling 609-822-1167 Ext. 119 or Ext. 131 for Shacar & Shacar Katan (Preschool Age Campers).

LOCATIONS & SCHEDULE

Shacar & Shacar Katan (Ages 2 - 4)

Marjorie & Lewis Katz JCC

501 N Jerome Avenue, Margate City, NJ 08402

Fulton Avenue Early Childhood Entrance

Drop-off Time: 8:45 am - 9:15 am

Pick-up Time: 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Gesher - Giborim (Grades K - 8)

Marjorie & Lewis Katz JCC

501 N Jerome Avenue, Margate City, NJ 08402

Jerome Avenue Camp By The Sea Entrance

Drop-off Time: 8:45 - 9:15 am

Pick-up Time: 3:30 - 4:00 pm

Parents will pick up their camper(s) and sign them out from the following designated areas: Gesher and Chavier in the Gymnasium. Noar and Giborim in the Courtyard.

AUTHORIZED PICK-UP

Anyone wishing to pick up a camper at Camp By The Sea is required to show a photo ID; there are no exceptions. The name must match a pre-approved list provided by the camper's legal guardian in order for staff to release the camper. To add a name to the pick-up list or make changes to names already noted, please log in to your CampDoc account, choose "Trusted Contacts" from the menu then select "Add New Contact."

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Please label ALL belongings!

Oliver's Labels are offered in CampDoc under Custom Labels

All Campers

Camp T-Shirt - Each Camper will receive a Camp By The Sea T-shirt during the first week they attend Camp. Campers are required to wear their Camp T-shirt on field trip days. Additional shirts are available for purchase for \$10 each.

Bathing Suit - Campers need to bring a bathing suit every day. When a swim activity is listed on their schedule (e.g. beach and water park trips) campers **MUST** arrive wearing their bathing suit.

Footwear - Sneakers or other rubber soled and closed toe shoes are required in order to participate in camp activities. Crocs, flip flops and open toe sandals will **ONLY** be permitted at the pool.

Sunscreen - Please apply sunscreen before camp each day. We encourage packing sunscreen so it can be reapplied throughout the day.

Reusable Water Bottle - Campers will be able to refill their water bottle as needed.

Towel - A towel must be packed daily.

Backpack - Campers are required to keep all of their belongings in a backpack.

Plastic Bag - Plastic bags should be packed everyday for wet items.

Additional optional items - Hat or cap, sweatshirt/jacket, comb or brush.

Additional Items for Shacar Katan & Shacar (Ages 2-4)

Diapers - Package of diapers (if needed).

Swim Diapers - A package of swim diapers (if needed).

Baby Wipes - Package of wipes with your child's name on it (if needed).

Each child should have a complete change of clothing to keep at the center, including:

- Pants or shorts
- Shirt
- Underpants
- Socks

Label all belongings with your child's name.

If your child naps, please send a small blanket and sheet. A small soft stuffed toy may also be sent for naptime. All items must fit in your child's cubby.

We discourage toys and items from home unless it's a designated sharing day. Camp By The Sea is not responsible for lost or broken personal items.

For safety reasons, jewelry may not be worn to camp for Shacar Katan & Shacar campers.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Camp By The Sea enforces a no technology policy for all campers.

- Cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, gaming consoles, and other personal electronic devices are not permitted during camp hours, including in extended care and overnight stays.
- Aside from the risk of loss or damage, having technology at camp hinders the development of independence and trust in our staff.
- Parents should communicate with the camp office if they have concerns about their child. If a camper is experiencing difficulties, camp staff will contact the parents directly.
- Any camper found using a prohibited device will be asked to put it in their backpack. If continued use happens, the device may be confiscated and returned at the end of the camp session- parents will be notified.
- Camper Agreement: If a camper brings technology to camp, it must remain in their bag at all times and may not be used during camp hours.

LUNCHES

Mondays through Thursdays:

Camp By The Sea at the Katz JCC adheres to a Kosher food policy. Campers are required to bring a kosher dairy lunch Monday through Thursday each week. This means you cannot send meat, including red meat or poultry or non-kosher foods such as pork and shellfish (ie. shrimp or crab). We thank you in advance for respecting this policy.

Suggested Lunch Items:

- Cheese and crackers
- Cheese sticks/string cheese
- Yogurt
- Pasta with vegetable sauce or as a salad with cheese, egg, tuna and/or vegetables
- Peaches or bananas in sour cream or yogurt
- Pizza or pizza bagels
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Hummus and pita
- Bagels with cream cheese
- Fruit salad
- Veggies
- Sandwiches without lunch meat. Options include: cheese; almond, cashew, or peanut butter; jelly; bananas; marshmallows; celery; hummus; tuna; egg salad; cream cheese with cucumber or jelly.

Fridays:

Camp By The Sea will supply a pizza lunch every Friday. Campers will receive up to 2 slices of pizza, a juice box and fruit/snack. White and Gluten Free Pizza available upon request.

HEALTH FORMS

All health forms are to be completed prior to the first day of camp. CampDoc is our electronic Health Information system. All parents are required to complete CampDoc for each of their children attending Camp By the Sea by June 15. All information in the health records is kept confidential, and health details are shared with staff only when necessary, for proper care and safety.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Shacar & Shacar Katan

Shacar & Shacar Katan Shacar's drop off and pick up at the Katz JCC will be located on Fulton Avenue at the Early Childhood Education Center Entrance.

Gesher through Giborim

Gesher, Chaverim, Noar, and Giborim drop off at the Katz JCC will be located on Jerome Avenue at the Camp By The Sea entrance.

Parents will pick up their camper(s) and sign them out from the following designated areas: Gesher and Chaverim in the Gymnasium. Noar and Giborim in the Courtyard.

If rain is predicted, please send your camper with a raincoat. If thunderstorms are imminent, campers will move inside for all activities.

Campers are outdoors in shaded areas unless weather conditions are severe including, but not limited to heat advisories and thunderstorms.

Parents/guardians are not allowed in the bunk rooms.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

If your camper's birthday falls during camp, you may arrange with the Camp Leadership to provide a kosher dairy, store-bought snack for all the campers in your child's bunk. You will be made aware of any allergies when scheduling this with Camp Leadership. Baked goods from home are not permitted.

EXTENDED CARE

Extended Care is available for children in Gesher through Giborim.

Drop off and pick up for extended care is located in the Katz JCC Main Lobby.

Before Care: 7:30 - 9:00 am

After Care: 4:00 - 5:30 pm

At 9:00 am campers attending Before Care will be taken to their bunks.

At 4:00 pm campers attending After Care will be gathered and taken to the extended care program.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Camp Behavior Policy 2025

At Camp By The Sea we strive to teach children how to be good community members. Occasionally, however, children will act inappropriately, sometimes engaging in unsafe or aggressive behaviors.

While we understand that campers sometimes have behavioral issues, at no time

will these issues be permitted to endanger the safety of the camper, of other campers or camp staff.

Behavior Consequences

The following behaviors will result in the consequences enforced:

Behavior: Abusive language, disrespect to others, willful disobedience, fighting, biting, physical aggression, kicking, hitting, spitting, bullying, stealing, destruction of property and vandalism

- 1st Occurrence: Conference with child and a phone call home to parents. Parents will be responsible for all property damage.
- 2nd Occurrence: Conference with child and a phone call home to parents. Parents will be responsible for all property damage. Parents will be responsible to pick up their child immediately. An additional one-day suspension from Camp by the Sea will occur.
- 3rd Occurrence: Immediate expulsion from Camp by the Sea without refund.

Behavior resulting in immediate expulsion: Smoking, drugs, alcohol and weapons

- Immediate expulsion from Camp By The Sea without refund. Parents will be responsible to pick up their child immediately.

The Director reserves the right to cancel any child’s enrollment or dismiss a child whose conduct, influence, or behavior is deemed unsatisfactory to the best interests of the camp. No refund will be issued.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Illness

For the health and safety of all campers and staff, please keep your child home if they are experiencing any symptoms of illness such as vomiting, fever, diarrhea, or persistent coughing. Children with these symptoms will not be permitted to remain at camp.

Excludable Communicable Diseases

A child who contracts any of the following diseases may not return to camp without a physician’s note stating that the child presents no risk to himself/herself or others:

Respiratory Illnesses

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Chicken Pox** | Mumps* |
| German Measles | Strep Throat |
| Hemophilus Influenzae* | Tuberculosis* |
| Measles* | Whooping Cough* |
| Meningococcus* | COVID-19 |

Gastrointestinal Illnesses

Giardia Lamblia*
Hepatitis A*
Salmonella*
Shigella*

Contact Illnesses

Impetigo
Lice
Scabies
Coxsackievirus*
(Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease)

*Reportable diseases that will be reported to the Health Department by the Katz JCC.

**Note: If your child has chicken pox, a doctor's note is required upon re-admitting the child to Camp. All sores must be dried up and crusted before returning to camp.

***For COVID-19 exposures or symptoms, please follow the current CDC guidelines or contact the Camp EMT for return-to-camp protocols.

If your child is exposed to any excludable disease at the Center, you will be notified in writing.

Illness at Camp

If a camper becomes ill while at camp, they will be evaluated by the Camp EMT. If the camper is deemed unable to remain, a parent or guardian will be contacted IMMEDIATELY for pickup. Emergency contacts must be up-to-date in CampDoc.

Camp EMT

The Camp EMT is available Monday through Friday during normal camp hours. The EMT can be reached by phone at 609-822-1167 Ext. 157 or by email at firstaid@jccatlantic.org

Injuries

The Camp EMT will evaluate and treat all minor injuries or illnesses that do not require outside medical care. Parents/guardians will receive a written notification explaining the incident.

If emergency medical treatment is needed while your child is at camp, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately.
2. If they are unavailable, emergency contacts or the camper's physician will be called.
3. If necessary, 911 will be called and the camper will be transported to the hospital.

Allergies

Our goal is to provide a safe and healthy environment for every camper. An increasing number of campers have food allergies and we will gladly work with families to provide alternatives. In CampDoc please list any known allergies and provide emergency medications to the Camp EMT.

Abuse

We are mandated to report any suspected injuries related to physical, sexual, or mental abuse to the Department of Human Services.

Medications

Medications will be administered only on the written, dated and signed request of a licensed physician. The complete original label from the pharmacy must be on the container with the physician's name, camper's name, medication name and strength plus the correct dosage. All prescription and OTC medications must have a completed Medication Authorization Form in CampDoc labeled with the camper's name and a dated request with specific instructions on how to dispense the medication.

Medication must be given to the Camp EMT, who is in charge of storing and dispensing all medications during the day. In some cases, campers may keep and administer their own medications (ex: inhalers/Epi-pens). These cases must be discussed in advance with the Camp EMT and information must be provided to us in writing. Medication will be dispensed at lunch each day, unless otherwise noted.

Immunizations

Updated immunization records are required yearly for all campers on our CampDoc system.

Emergencies

In the event of an emergency (fire, severe weather, etc.) staff will follow written instructions provided by the Katz JCC. These instructions describe emergency evacuation routes and the procedures to follow. Should we need to evacuate the location for any reason, parents and guardians will be contacted as soon as possible. In the event of a life threatening injury or illness, emergency medical services will be contacted, parent/guardian will be notified and the Camp Director will accompany the camper to the hospital with all available health records. Staff may not transport campers in their vehicles. Only parents/guardians or EMS are permitted to transport campers in an emergency. A serious incident/injury report will be completed.

Security

The Marjorie & Lewis Katz JCC and Camp By The Sea work closely with local and state law enforcement to establish safety and security guidelines.

WATER SAFETY DEEP WATER TEST

All campers must complete the deep-water test in order to swim in the deep end of the pool during camp. Campers must complete one lap from the shallow end to the deep end and then tread water for two minutes without stopping. Campers who are able to complete this successfully will be given a wristband showing they can access the deep end for the remainder of the summer.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter will be emailed to all camp families every Friday. Weekly newsletters will include photos and a recap of the week as well as the schedule for the following week and other important information.

STAFF TIPPING

Over the years, many of our parents ask how they can show their appreciation to various staff members. While tipping is not required, it is certainly an appropriate way to reward those staff members who have contributed toward the success of your child's experience. Acknowledgments of appreciation are encouraged and welcomed by the staff. There are no designated tipping requirements, however below is a suggested tipping scale for senior and junior counselors. Parents are encouraged to use their own judgment.

Senior Counselor - \$50 to \$75

Junior Counselor - \$25 to \$50

SOCIAL MEDIA



@CampByTheSea



@CBTS_margate



501 N. Jerome Avenue | Margate, NJ 08402 | 609.822.1167
campbythesea.org