



Summer **CAMP**

parent
guide

Welcome to the CLC family!

We would like to share with you our policies and procedures in order to set appropriate expectations for your child's experience at Lantern Creek. We believe that setting good expectations sets the summer up for a great beginning, so we ask that you review this information with your camper so that they have the knowledge they need to succeed. If after reviewing our policies you have questions please contact us at sunni@camplanterncreek.com @camplanterncreek.com

Together we will create a dynamic atmosphere at Camp Lantern Creek full of creativity, growth and independence for each and every camper.

Sincerely,

Sunni Markowitz
Owner of CLC



Daily Schedule

7:45 Flag ceremony

9:15 Round Robins

10:30 Activity 1

12:30 Lunch

1:15 R & R

2:30 Sugar Shack

3:00 Free Swim

4:30 Activity 2

6:15 Dinner

7:15 Gathering

9:00 Taps

Campers need to register for their activity choices online before arriving at camp. Choices are listed and explained on our website at camplanterncreek.com/activities.html. All activities are filled on a first come, first serve basis. Round Robins are activities that will be chosen daily here at camp. If you have any questions, please email ange@camplanterncreek.com.

“Gatherings” are our evening programs in which the whole camp participates. These programs are different every night. Gatherings provide campers with the opportunity to spend time with their cabin or time with the whole camp community. Some examples of Gatherings include Talent Show, The Fair, Team Draw, and Team Skulk.

Rules to Live By

The greatest advantage to summer camp is the friendships it creates. This is done through campers living, working, and playing together. In order to do this well, on the first night of camp each cabin will write their own “rules to live by” (with guidance from counselors) on a poster that hangs in the cabin for the duration of the session. Once these cabin rules are created and agreed upon by the cabin mates, the campers will sign the cabin flag to show their commitment to the rules. The cabin rules are a product of campers and counselors discussing expectations for that cabin and it’s campers. The signature is the camper’s acknowledgement to abide by these rules. This kind of self-governing system works wonderfully. In the event that someone cannot follow the rules, the staff will involve the directors immediately. We reserve the right to dismiss a camper without refund if severe behavior problems persist, causing an upset in the cabin atmosphere and/or putting other campers or staff at risk in any way.

CLC Social Media Policy: We encourage happy relationships between campers and staff members during and after camp. After camp, campers are welcome to send letters and emails to staff members to the main CLC address and we will make sure that they find their way to that person. We do not allow staff members and campers to become “friends” in social media applications, however. Our staff members sign a contract acknowledging that “friending” or “following” campers or parents in this way is against CLC policy. This is both for the protection of campers and staff members. Please discuss this with your camper and explain that communication with staff members online complicates things for the staff members and can result in the staff members termination.

Electronics

Lantern Creek is a full adventure experience - the whole enchilada, so to speak; therefore campers do not need any electronic entertainment. We will provide all the fun they can imagine in an unplugged atmosphere. No phones, iPods, game players, DVD players, laptops or ANY other electronics are allowed at CLC. If these devices are found, they will be confiscated and held for the parent to check out on the last day of camp. If a camper in the LITE program is in possession of one of these items, it may affect their promotion in the program. We understand that in this day and age it is difficult to not have instant communication with your child. You may find you have the urge to put a cell phone in their trunk “for emergency use only”. Please resist this urge. In our experience, the phones are always found - and almost always used inappropriately. In addition, it puts the camper in a terribly uncomfortable position because they know that they are breaking camp rules by secretly having it. Instead, rest assured that you will have 24/7 access to the directors on the campsite and we will be able to give you updates on your child at a moment’s notice.

Packing List

- 1 pillow
- 1 twin sheet set per week
- 1 blanket or quilt
- 3 bath towels
- 3 pool towels
- 1 laundry bag
- shampoo/conditioner
- soap
- hair brush
- ponytail holders
- toothbrush/paste
- 1 pair of tennis shoes
- 1 pair of water shoes (old tennis shoes are great)
- 1 pair flip flops
- 6-8 pairs of socks (per week if opting out of laundry)
- 6-8 pairs of shorts (per week if opting out of laundry)
- 8 t-shirts (per week, if opting out of laundry)
- 1 plain white t-shirt in a ziplock bag
(this will NOT come home white!)
- 1 pair of jeans
- 6-8 undergarments per week, if no laundry service
- pjs
- 2 swimsuits
- 1 light jacket
- flashlight/batteries
- sunscreen
- bug spray
- water bottle
- 1 dozen clothes pins
- stationary
- books of stamps
- camera - without internet and phone capabilities only!
- rain boots
- camp chair (foldable canvas chair)
- team gear (returning campers)
- hat (optional)
- 2 non-perishable food items (2 week campers only)
*to be used as entrance for camp show and will be
donated to food bank
- costumes:
Picadilly dress up (fake pearls, hats, gloves)
Talent Show (if participating and have one)

what NOT to bring

Please review with your child and be aware of the items they bring to camp. We have a no tolerance policy when it comes to cell phones, tobacco, alcohol, weapons or illegal drugs on our campsite. Any evidence of these could result in immediate dismissal from camp without refund.

Do not bring ANY electronics. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, mp3 players & iPods, e-readers, iTouch, NintendoDS, DVD players, computers. Cameras are allowed, *but only if they do not have phone or internet capabilities*. Electronic items that are brought by mistake will be kept in a safe in the office until check-out day. If you have any questions about this please call the office at 936-597-8225.

Do not bring medicine without its original container. All prescribed medications must be in their original containers with prescription labels intact. All over the counter medication must also be in its original containers. All medication will be checked in with our camp nurse upon arrival.

Do not bring any clothing with inappropriate language or material.

We prefer that you **NOT** bring new clothing to camp. Old clothes are just fine here at CLC where we enjoy making wonderful messes!

Campers may pack in trunks, or duffles. Trunks need to be 17" tall or less to fit under the bunks. There is a link to *Everything Summer Camp's* website on our homepage and if you click that link and order with them you will receive CLC's camp discount. They have just about everything that you could need!

Housekeeping

Laundry

It is hereby written that we encourage participation in hilarious, messy, sometimes paint-filled activities. Clothing suffers from these activities occasionally... so please do not feel the need to buy new clothes for camp!

We do not do camper laundry in a one-week session (unless it is urgent). During a two-week session, camper laundry will be done once, for a small additional fee. For all clothes that you send with your child:

1. Please do not send any clothing that cannot be machine-washed.
2. Label every item with your camper's name.
3. CLC accepts no responsibility for damage done to clothing.

Lost and Found

As stated above, please make sure all your child's belongings are labeled with their name.

Every attempt is made to reunite belongings to their owners, however CLC tries to create independent campers, therefore they are responsible for keeping track of their belongings. All items left at the end of the summer are donated to a charitable organization by September 1st.

Say Cheese!

We love showing parents how much fun CLC Girls are having at camp! Our camp photographer will take pictures everyday in activities and gatherings and post them online, as time allows (every other day or so). We also take a cabin and a whole camp picture, along with daily photos. All pictures will be available for purchase and download through your account on our website.

Bridge Weekends

For those campers that are ready, we would love to have them stay for more than one session.

Campers that stay for more than one session will be at camp for what we call a Bridge Weekend. That is a weekend that occurs BETWEEN two camp sessions. For example, we will have Session 1 connected to Session 2 by a Bridge Weekend. The weekend that falls in the middle of Session 1 and 2 is not considered a Bridge. If your camper is combining sessions you have the option to pick them up at check-out and bring them back for the next check in, or you can sign them up to participate in the Bridge Weekend activities and they will stay with us for the full two sessions. There is a fee to cover food, staffing and fun activities. Please see fee schedule for details. During the Bridge, campers will have activities and be supervised at all times. You must pre-register for the Bridge, as we hire staff according to accurate numbers.

Homesickness

Your campers will be so excited to see you on closing day to show you around camp and tell you about their time at CLC. Other than closing days, **NO VISITORS** are allowed on camp for the safety and security of all the Lantern Creek campers. There are no exceptions to this policy, so please set appropriate expectations with your camper in this regard. Campers who hold on to a false hope that their parent might come for a visit often have trouble transitioning into camp life.

The first night or two of camp is an adjustment. Because of this, we ease the campers into their environment with a night of cabin bonding on the first night with their counselors and cabin mates. In spite of this, there will be a few campers who get a touch of homesickness. Our staff is trained to handle just such a situation. Each counselor will have the tools they need to assist your camper through any rough times. If you get a letter of concern, please let the directors know by phone or email. Chances are by the time you receive the letter their feelings have passed, but we will make sure to check in with the camper and the counselor, and communicate that with you. If you do not receive a call from a director while your child is at camp that is a good thing! We will only contact you if we feel there is a situation in which we need your expertise on your child.

Mail Call

Mail Call is a time of the day that every camper looks forward to. Emails are sent through our on-line system (see website) and will be printed out on a daily basis. Campers are not permitted to email back, but letter writing is encouraged and even “taught” in the cabin.

Care Packages are fun and exciting, but at Lantern Creek we limit the number of care packages each camper may receive **one per week**. Absolutely no food, candy or gum can be included in care packages. Any food in care packages will be confiscated. You will receive CLC labels in the mail or at check-in that must be put on the outside of your package in order for us to verify it is from you. You may choose to bring care packages with you at check-in and leave them for delivery by our staff during lunch. If a package is delivered without the CLC label, it will be given to staff at the very next staff meeting and we will send you a thank you note!

Instead of any food items we encourage you to send your camper books, magazines, game books, activity books, face paint, cards and card games, stationary, stamps, clothes, bandanas, stuffed animals, etc...

There are companies that sell pre-made care packages, but we think the most precious packages are the ones made by you, no matter the contents! These must also have a sticker on the outside of the package. If mailed directly from company to your camper, please call camp and let us know, so that we may place a sticker for you.

The Luminary

Once a week each camper will be given time to come peruse The Luminary, our camp store and purchase items. The money spent will be withdrawn from the camper account you set up during registration. The store will have items such as team and camp t-shirts, and camp keepsakes, as well as some necessities like flashlights, batteries, stamps, personal items, etc. If campers need to purchase necessary personal items outside of their allotted time, we will allow them to do so. Camp souvenirs can only be purchased during allotted time or on opening and closing day. The money that is not spent in the store accounts by your camper is donated to the “campership” fund to assist campers financially.

Wellness

Medical Treatment: If a camper requires medical attention from health care providers outside of camp, the camper's parents will be responsible for all charges and this will be billed directly to them or their insurance company provided on the Medical Form and the Parent Authorization Form. All campers and staff are required to have health insurance coverage (or signed payment authorization) during the time that they are at camp and proof of coverage must be given to Camp Lantern Creek prior to check-in day. If a physician determines that a camper must leave camp for medical reason prior to session's end, it is the parent's responsibility to pick up the camper from camp. Our camp nurse or directors will notify parents if (1) a camper exhibits symptoms that are deemed worthy of off-camp medical treatment or (2) a camper has any illness that prohibits participation in the majority of camp activities for over 24 hours. Please do not send your child to camp if she is running a fever or is in poor health. The chances of making a speedy recovery while in the physically demanding environment of camp are very slim. We try to provide the safest and healthiest environment for all campers. In an effort to keep everyone in good health, we ask that you consult a doctor before bringing your child to camp if she has recently suffered or been exposed to an illness. We reserve the right to turn away a camper who appears ill on check in day for the health of the entire camp. We also ask that you check your child for lice several times in the weeks leading up to camp.

Food Policies: Camp Lantern Creek is committed to providing and encouraging healthy eating. Most meals are served in a group setting. A select alternative is available for meals when the camper has an aversion to the menu item served. Vegetarian options are available at every meal. For campers that have allergies, parents are required to state the allergy on the medical form and all the questions on the form must be answered to the parent's full knowledge. We are not able to accommodate all food aversions and encourage campers to try new things at every meal.

Health Information: A completed Medical Form is required for every camper. The form must be completed through your on line account two weeks prior to your daughter's camp session. The Medical Recommendation Form, which is completed and signed by a physician, is also due in our office two weeks prior to your camper's session. **Please make sure all appointments are made in a timely manner to get all forms turned in on time!** All medication (including vitamins) must be in the **original bottle or container from the pharmacy**. By state law, the nurse will not distribute medications that are not in the original containers. Prescriptions must have the camper's name and dosing instructions on the label. They must be turned into the camp administrator or nurse upon your camper's arrival. The information will be entered in the nurse's ledger to ensure that the meds are given to your camper as required.

Bed Wetting: If your child has a tendency towards bed-wetting, please send a waterproof mattress pad and an extra set of sheets. A staff member will be able to address all needs privately and discreetly. There are several good products now available for kids to wear to bed without calling attention to themselves. Please make sure to mention bed-wetting to the nurse, director or counselor upon arrival.

Refund Policy

As stated at registration, deposits for campers are non-refundable. We staff our camp based on initial registrations. Tuition for sessions is refundable until May 1st. All requests for refund must be in writing. Any money left in the camper's canteen account will be applied to our camperships, which allows campers who could not otherwise attend CLC to have an opportunity to experience all the fun.

Contact Us

Camp Office Phone
936-597-8225

Sunni Markowitz, Owner/Executive Director of Operations
713-828-0475 (direct cell)

Ange Atkinson, Camp Director
512-627-2749 (direct cell)

Check-In & Check Out

Check-in Schedule for Sunday

Our gate will open at 1:30, but please check for your time to drive in.

Check in is from 1:30 - 3pm. You will receive an email with your specific time to show up, based on your child's cabin. If you are running late, please call the office at (936) 597-8225 to let us know. Please park in the parking lot and come to Rally

Hall to check your camper in. Our camp nurse will be there to do a quick health screening and you will turn in any medications to her. Following this, you will take your camper and her gear to her assigned cabin. There are wagons for you to use to pack camp gear into her cabin once she is all checked in. Feel free to stay and help her make her bunk and put her things in place. Once she is settled, it is time to say goodbye to your camper. She will need to change into her bathing suit and join her cabin mates for games, swim check and free swim. The fun begins!!!

Check-out Schedule for Friday

Our front gate will open at 1 pm.

Check out will begin at 1:30. Please park in the parking lot and come to the office to check your camper out. You will need a valid drivers license. If an alternative adult is picking up your camper, the CLC office must be notified ahead of time. All campers and families will meet in Rally Hall for a quick presentation. If you are running late, please call the office at (936) 597-8225 to let us know.

Once the presentation is over, you are welcome to have your camper give you a tour of camp so she can tell you about her experience, or you may head back to the front of camp to pack up her gear. Your camper's belongings will be under the Wings pavillion marked by cabin signs.