

Camp Info and Policies

Electronics

Camp is screen-free! That means no social media, phones, tablets, smart watches, or anything that can connect to WIFI or wireless data. Old fashioned books and basic cameras and watches are best, as there are not a lot of charging options and nice things tend to break at camp! Campers who travel without their parents will turn in their devices when they arrive at camp so that we can store those valuables securely for the session.

Communication

Snail mail and emails through Campminder are highly encouraged! Emails that arrive before 9 AM will be printed and delivered to your child's bunk the same day. Campers love reading mail and we give them a postcard to your summer address every Sunday (we will scan it if you live overseas or are travelling). Remember that no news is good news, and we will always call you if we have a concern.

Camp Kieve Camper Name/Session/Cabin PO Box 169 (mail) 42 Kieve Road (shipping) Nobleboro, ME 04555 Wavus Camp Camper Name/Session/Cabin PO Box 350 (mail) 88 Wavus Point Road (shipping) Jefferson, ME 04348

CampMinder Emails

- Log-in to your account to send emails to your camper
- Add a Guest Account for family and friends to send emails

Campers cannot make phone calls, and, unless it is an emergency, we will strongly discourage any request to speak to your child. Camp can be hard at times, so if you ever receive a difficult letter or are just dying for an update, please email or call. We want to partner with you to ensure your camper has the best experience possible, and their perseverance through any tough times while being truly independent is what makes camp such a transformative place.

Packages

Packages are not permitted at camp except for Bank/Penobscot, Allagash, Long Voyage, and Maine Trails resupplies. Regardless of how well intentioned, packages cause cabin division that we have seen hurt group dynamics over and over again. Food allergies are another reason that we cannot have packages. Please communicate this to your extended family so there is no confusion and so money is not wasted on postage! If your camper forgot something important at home, then please communicate with us so that we can plan accordingly. We will reach out to the sender of any unanticipated package to confirm its contents and will hold anything unnecessary with your child's valuables to be returned the last morning of camp.



Camp Store

Your camper can purchase items from the Camp Store by charging to your account. If you would like to place a limit on what or how much they can purchase, please communicate this to us. Here is the link to our <u>store online</u>.

Photos

With the rise of social media and the pervasiveness of smartphone cameras, we are making a concerted effort to limit photographs of campers to sibling visits on Sundays, their wilderness trips, and of fun activities at camp. These photos can be accessed through your Campminder account (we cannot upload photos during wilderness trips!) and some will be posted to social media. Campminder is updated Monday through Friday, and with the exception of trips, you may not see photos of your camper. Similar to our communication policy, you can always email or call us for an update, but it is essential that our staff are focused on caring for your children and not on documenting their experience.

Bullying

It is a point of emphasis in our staff training to identify and prevent bullying. To be clear, bullying <u>is</u> defined as a person with more power, whether because of physical size or social clout, targeting a person with less power repeatedly and intentionally. Bully <u>is not</u> kids being mean to their peers. While neither behavior is tolerated at camp, our staff are trained to identify the differences and to intervene appropriately.

If your child has experienced bullying or mistreatment before please let us know before camp and encourage them to use their daily 'Medical Minute' check-in with their counselor on duty to share what is happening. Our staff are trained to ask the right questions and they will know how to pursue a solution that does not put the victim in a worse position. After consulting with a director, we will help your child navigate the situation, empowering them while also holding the bully accountable. We don't throw the term 'bully' around lightly, and we will always communicate with parents if we believe your child is bullying or being bullied.

<u>Homesickness</u>

Every camper at one point or another will experience homesickness. Leaving home, disconnecting from daily comforts, living in a shared space, and having so much independence can be hard. If we can give you one take-away, please remember that *homesickness is normal*! Whether it presents as a camper confiding in a trusted counselor that they miss home or with tears and urgent letters begging to be picked up- we have truly seen it all.

If you ever receive the *S.O.S.* letter it is important that you contact us so that we can partner with you to help your child turn the corner. At some point we may set-up a conversation on the phone, but know that that is rarely, if ever, going to be our first solution. Persevering through homesickness without parental intervention is arguably one of the most transformative experiences a child can have at camp, and we have *a lot* of experience to know when to intervene and how. We hope that you can trust us, and as hard as homesickness can be on the parents, it is just another way that your child will become stronger and more resilient at camp.

Behavior Expectations

Everyone has the right to be treated with kindness and respect is our number one rule and guides all behavior expectations at camp. We have zero tolerance for bullying and substance use or possession of any kind. Any significant disciplinary issues will be addressed by our Directors and can include dismissal from camp or our determining that your camper may not return for future summers.

Laundry

Each camper is provided with a laundry bag and required to get their dirty clothes cleaned through our biweekly laundry service. Laundry is rarely lost, but please make sure you use a permanent marker to label everything sent to camp with their first initial and last name so that we can get those items back to them ASAP.

Daily Schedule

Monday-Saturday

7:30* Wake-up & Tidy Cabins

8:00 Flag

8:05 Breakfast

8:50 Morning Duties

9:15 Morning Meeting

9:30 First Activity Period

10:30 Second Activity Period

11:30 General Swim & Free Time

12:30 Lunch

1:15 Afternoon Activity Sign-ups & Rest Period

2:30 Afternoon Meeting

2:45 First Activity Period

3:45 Second Activity Period

4:45 General Swim & Free Time

6:00 Dinner

6:45 Evening Activity

8:00 Flag

9:15 Ready for bed & Lights out

*30 Minute sleep-in's for Rain Days

Sunday Mornings @ Kieve & Wavus

8:00 Wake-up & Tidy Cabins

8:30 Flag

8:35 Breakfast

9:20 Morning Duties & Cabin Cleaning

10:15 Loudest & Sweetest

10:30 Chapel

11:30 Inspection

12:00 Sibling Visits

12:30 Lunch