

Camp Kingfisher Frequently Asked Questions – Summer

1. What are the hours?

- a. Full-day camp runs from **9 am – 3:45 pm**. We offer free extended care from 8 am- 8:45 am.
- b. Owlet camp (4-yr-olds) runs from **8:30 am - 12:30 pm**. Due to Camp Kingfisher exemption from the State of Georgia 4-year old's are only allowed to be at camp for a maximum of 4 hours.

2. How does drop off and pick up work?

- a. For both drop off and pick up Camp Kingfisher uses a carpool style line. More information about pick up will come closer to summer via email.
- b. In the morning camp staff will be stationed outside to greet campers and help them find their groups.
- c. In the afternoons your child's camp counselor will walk them out and you will get a short chance to chat with them. The pickup window is from 3:45- 4:45pm.

3. What if my camper needs to come late or leave early?

- a. If your camper arrives late, please bring them up to the camp office so we can get them checked in for the day. We may ask grownups to help the camper find their group.
- b. If you need to arrange for an early pick-up, there are a few ways you can let us know. When you arrive to pick up your campers, please come up to the camp office with your pickup pass or photo id. We do our best to have campers in the office ready to go in time for their early pickup time. Please make sure to give us at least 2 hours advance notice for early pickups.
 - i. Tell us when you drop your camper off for the day
 - ii. Email us at kingfisher@chattnaturecenter.org & camp@chattnaturecenter.org
 - iii. Call the camp cell phone- number can be found on your pickup pass.
- c. **Pickups after 3:30 are not feasible.**

4. What do campers do in a typical day?

- a. Counselors and staff plan activities based on the weekly theme. Typical activities include nature hikes, swimming, animal encounters, canoeing (not available for 4-year-olds), Science Exploration Activities, arts & crafts, and games.
- b. You will get a email with your camper's group schedule prior to camp starting.

5. What about swimming?

- a. Swimming occurs only at the pool, located next to the parking lot in a "Staff Only" area. During swim time, camp counselors as well as two Red Cross certified lifeguards are on the pool deck, and at least one counselor per group is in the water with campers.
- b. The shallow end of the pool is 3.5 feet with two sets of wide stairs; the deep end is 12 feet. 2nd graders and up may swim in the deep end once they have passed a swim test. Campers must swim the width of the pool and back without stopping or touching the bottom, as well as tread water for 60 seconds. If they do not pass they may retest later that week. Campers only need to take the swim test once per summer. We have pool noodles available, but if your child requires floatation devices to swim, they must be provided from home.
- c. Campers who choose not to swim will have limited self-directed activities in the shade.

6. What about canoeing?

- a. Canoeing takes place on CNC's three ponds according to age group: Screech Owls on Kingfisher Pond; Barn Owls on Beaver Pond; Barred and Great Horned Owls on Heron Pond. Everyone wears Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) during canoeing and around the ponds.
- b. **Screech Owls** (rising K & 1st) and **Barn Owls** (rising 2nd & 3rd) canoe twice a week with other campers and a staff or teen supervisor in the boat. **Barred Owls** (rising 4th & 5th) canoe 4 times a week, with staff supervising from boats. **Great Horned Owls** (rising 6th & 7th) canoe 3-4 times a week and take a trip on the Chattahoochee River during the second week of their session. Staff supervise from boats on the pond and during the river trip.

7. What is the staff to camper ratio?

- a. Campers are grouped by the grade they are entering in the fall, with varying ratios.
- b. The **Owlet** (4 year olds) ratio is 1:5, with groups of 10 campers and 2 counselors.
- c. The **Screech Owl** (rising K & 1st) ratio is 1:6, with groups generally consisting of 12 campers and 2 counselors. In rare cases, we will increase the ratio to 1:7.
- d. The **Barn Owl** (rising 2nd & 3rd) and **Barred Owl** (rising 4th & 5th) ratios are 1:9, with groups generally consisting of 18 campers and 2 counselors. In rare cases, we will increase the ratio to 1:10.
- e. The **Great Horned Owl** (rising 6th & 7th) ratio is 1:10, with groups generally consisting of 10 campers and 1 counselor. In rare cases, we will increase the ratio to 1:11.
- f. The **Travel Program** (rising 8th & 9th) ratio is 1:5, with groups of 10 campers and 2 counselors. Due to the nature of this program, we cannot increase this ratio.
- g. We also have 4 administrators and up to 12 specialists on site each day.

8. What should my child bring to camp?

- a. The basics are: lunch, 2 snacks, reusable water bottle, swimsuit, towel, extra change of clothes, backpack, and sneakers (no flip flops).
- b. Please leave all money, phones, toys, stuffed animals, and smart watches at home. If campers bring any of the above items, Camp Kingfisher reserves the right to remove the item from the camper and return at pickup.

9. Is food provided?

- a. No. Your child needs to bring a lunch, 2 snacks, and water; we will provide a juice drink during lunch time and a popsicle as a treat on Friday. Lunches are stored inside but not refrigerated, so you will need to put a cold pack inside your child's lunch box. If your child's lunch requires utensils please make sure to pack them.

10. My child will be 5 in July. Can they still attend camp?

- a. Any camper who is not 5 by the start of their camp session will be in the Owlet program. Owlets are 4 years old and participate in a half-day program from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Owlets do many of the same activities as full day campers, with the exception of canoeing.
- b. If your child turns 5 during the week of their session you may choose to send them for half days until they are officially 5. Please contact the camp office to discuss this further. Per our exemption from the State of GA all campers MUST be 5 years in order to attend a full day of camp.

11. My child must be with his/her friend. Can you guarantee this?

- a. Your child may request up to 2 buddies during registration. We do our best to honor requests, but there are no guarantees. Requests must be received via online registration, phone, or email at least two weeks before your session starts to process.
- b. **Please make sure your camper and their friend are registered for the same session.** 1-week campers are paired with 1-week campers; 2-week campers are paired with 2-week campers. We cannot make exceptions. Campers in different age groups cannot be paired together.
- c. If you have a **“Do Not Pair With”** request please email the Camp Registrar so that we can make a notation of that request.

12. My membership expires in March/April/etc. Do I still qualify for the member rate?

- a. All memberships must be active at the time of registration and throughout the camp sessions in order to receive the member rate. Your membership must be at the Family level or higher. All memberships are active for a full year of purchase not the calendar year.
- b. To receive any type of membership discount families must have a membership at the family level or higher. Learn more about memberships [Buy a Membership For The Chattahoochee Nature Center \(chattnaturecenter.org\)](https://www.chattahoochee.org/Buy-a-Membership-For-The-Chattahoochee-Nature-Center)

13. What if I need to switch to another session after registering?

- a. If space is available in the session you would like to switch to, we are happy to work with you to swap sessions. In order to do this, you must contact the camp office.

14. What if I need to cancel?

- a. We understand changes happen. Camp Kingfisher’s cancellation policy can be found on our website [2022 updated cancellation policy final 1-12-22.pdf \(chattahoochee.org\)](https://www.chattahoochee.org/2022-updated-cancellation-policy-final-1-12-22.pdf)

15. How do I sign up for the waitlist on a session that is at capacity?

- a. If a session is full, you will see a yellow circle on the registration page notating that session is at capacity. You will still be able to add that session to your cart and assign your camper to the waitlist.
- b. You will see 2 different popup windows letting you know your child has been added.

16. I signed up for the waitlist. Will I receive an email confirmation?

- a. No. The only confirmation received is through the pop-up window on the registration portal. You may contact the camp office to check on your camper’s status on the waitlist.

17. I’ve signed up for the waitlist, how will I be notified if my camper becomes eligible to attend?

- a. You will receive an email automatically from our website developer asking you to complete registration for the session. Please make sure that you add noreply@accesso.com to your safe sender list in your email.