

21st Century Kids -- Summer Adventure at Chicago Academy

3400 N Austin Ave, Chicago, IL 60634

We have prepared this document for your convenience and to answer many questions related to our camp operations. However, this document does not change or replace the general terms and conditions of registration as agreed to while registering your child.

We will accept campers starting at 8:00am daily.

Please use the school's Main Entrance (Door 8 - see image below).



Camp dropoff and pickup is very flexible within the hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm daily:

We start accepting campers at 8:00am daily. The elementary school's Main Entrance (Door 8) will be our only access point; please do not use any other entrance. Convenient dropoff and pickup parking is accessible off Meade Avenue and Roscoe Street. Campers may be dropped off and picked up by parents and/or authorized adults at any time between 8:00am - 4:00pm, and for campers with offsite appointments, parents and/or authorized adults may pick up and drop off campers as needed throughout the day. With the exception of campers who have paid aftercare registrations providing aftercare from 4pm to 6pm, camp ends promptly at 4:00pm, and children must be picked up by that time. Children staying for prepaid aftercare must be picked up prior to 6:00pm daily.

All campers must be picked up by a parent, guardian, or other authorized adult:

During the registration process, parents were provided the opportunity to designate authorized adults who may pick up their child from our camp. If you need to add someone as an authorized adult, please log in to your online account with us and update your child's profile. You can also contact us by phone at 773-761-5437 or via our website. However, we will require that any authorized adult must be added to your child's profile.

Camp days this week:

Monday, July 6 Tuesday, July 7 Wednesday, July 8 Thursday, July 9 Friday, July 10

Camp Schedule*:

8:00 - 8:40 : **Arrival / outdoor time**
8:40 - 9:10 : **Grade level meetings**
9:10 - 9:40 : **Breakfast**
9:40 - 10:30 : **Camper's Choice 1**
10:30 - 10:40 : **Snack**
10:40 - 11:00 : **Outdoor break**
11:00 - 12:00 : **Camper's Choice 2**
12:00 - 12:40 : **Lunch**

Mon Tue Thu

12:40 - 1:00 : **Outdoor break**
1:00 - 2:00 : **Camper's Choice 3**
2:00 - 2:15 : **Snack**
2:15 - 3:15 : **Camper's Choice 4**
3:15 - 4:00 : **Outdoor time / dismissal**

Wed Fri

1:00 - 1:45 : **Water Day (Bears)**
1:45 - 2:30 : **Water Day (Hawks)**
2:30 - 3:15 : **Water Day (Wolves)**
3:15 - 4:00 : **Dismissal**

* Tentative / subject to change without notice.

Breakfast and lunch:

Depending on the time of their arrival, all campers will have a healthy breakfast and lunch available at no cost. These are the same meals provided by CPS during the school year.

Breakfast -- 8:40 to 9:10am

Lunch -- 12:00 to 12:40pm

Children are welcome to bring bag lunches and snacks, but we do not have the ability to reheat or refrigerate food items, so please plan accordingly. When sending food items, please be aware that many children are allergic to nuts, so avoid sending anything that may contain tree nut or peanuts. Also, we prefer that no soda pop be sent to camp.

Snacks:

At 10:30am and 2:00pm daily, we offer a variety of free snack items for our campers to choose from. Items are limited, subject to availability, and times may vary slightly.

Campers may choose 1 item from Categories A and B daily. They may take 1 item from Category D in both the morning and afternoon, and 1 of each item in Category C daily:

Category A (*)

Oscar Mayer Beef hot dogs on a bun (with condiments)
Grilled cheese sandwich (Kraft Deli American Cheese, white bread)
Tossed salad (lettuce, cherry tomato, cucumber, cheddar on side)

Category B (Afternoons)

Bag of Frito Lay brand chips (variety)
Package of Welch's Fruit Snacks

Category C (Mornings and Afternoons)

Mornings: Bottled water Afternoons: Capri Sun Roarin' Waters

Category D (Mornings and Afternoons)

Red apple, green apple, or banana

(*) SNACK PREFERENCES FOR CATEGORY A ITEMS (more info in your child's profile):

Campers may now preselect and schedule "Category A" snack items of interest. When your child provides this information, their preferences will be listed in your child's profile on our website. You may override or update your child's snack preferences at any time, and you may have already started the process during camp registration. If you selected "No snacks for my child" or "My child may not change preferences", our staff will not be able to update your child's preferences. However, you can make changes at any time.

Camper's Choice:

Our new Camper's Choice program allows us to add more structure to the camp day. Scheduled for half of the camp day as four 1-hour sessions, we typically provide an indoor option and an outdoor option to our campers. In most instances the same option will not be available more than twice on any given day, and Camper's Choice options will change daily and/or weekly depending on the theme of the week.

This week's Camper's Choice theme: **WEEK 5 -- SCIENCE KIDS**

Our staff snapped a few pictures of last week's activities (Week 4 -- America's Big Birthday. We've included them at the end of this FAQ.

Get to know the online Day Planner, the efficient way to contact us during camp:

We ask that parents utilize the online Day Planner, a free service on our website that helps us manage all the camper scheduling and support requests we receive daily.

You can use Day Planner to notify us about scheduling concerns for your child, such as appointments, non-attendance days, and early dismissals, to name a few. After you submit a Day Planner item, our staff receives automated notifications about the event.

You can schedule and make changes to your child's Day Planner calendar when needed. Just log in to your parent account and your child's Day Planner link should be visible.

Children who begin to show signs of illness during camp:

We understand that there may be instances when a child starts to display signs of illness (fever, cough, runny nose, etc.). We typically dedicate a quiet space for kids who might benefit from it for a variety of reasons, including when not feeling well. If your child starts to display signs of illness, we will attempt to contact you using information provided as part of your online account during camp registration. Please keep information updated.

Backpack Check-In:

Inside of the school, we are assigning space for every child to store a backpack with their personal items daily. Campers who need access to their backpacks may do so throughout the day. Please note that every camper will be able to check one backpack, and no other items may be stored. Items must either be in or attached to the backpack.

Grade level meetings, scheduling, and encouraging participation in multiple activities:

Our camp focus is to provide a meaningful summer enrichment experience encompassing a variety of indoor and outdoor activities daily. Activities are planned so that campers have engaging options both indoors and out. Grade level meetings are usually held daily. Grade level meetings allow us to update campers on the day's available activities so that they may make informed choices and benefit from all that our summer camp has to offer.

Please note that throughout the camp day there are many activities open to all campers, but there may be space limitations in a given activity area, so from time-to-time children may have to wait their turn to participate in activities of their choice. There are also grade level activities planned, at which time campers may be redirected to other activities.

Campers in grades 4 and up often require specialized and/or advanced activities to keep them engaged, and we have found they are also 'influencers' in the sense that if they frequent a particular area, younger campers often follow. As such, our grade 4 and up campers may receive special privileges (additional exclusive activity) or incentives (LEGO sets or robots, as examples). While our younger campers typically don't receive the same privileges or incentives, we note that all campers have access to all of our activity areas daily and take home a variety of free items (LEGO sets, arts and crafts projects, etc.).

Social interaction and social skills:

In our grade level meetings, social interaction is discussed in some detail (using various scenarios), highlighting camp expectations (keep our hands to ourselves, be respectful of others and materials, take turns with items that are limited, etc.). Despite this, we see some children struggling with using words to resolve stressful situations; they simply don't know what to say or do, which can lead to unacceptable behaviors, although there is no need for that given the circumstances. We ask that parents discuss with their kids that camp is a great place to make new friends and just have fun being kids. In social situations that are stressful or awkward, campers should take a deep breath, think about ways to use their words to resolve or better understand situations before prejudging (ask questions, express their feelings), and if they would like, relax in our 'Free to Be Me' social space as needed.

Water Day on Wednesdays and Fridays:

Weather permitting, Wednesdays and Fridays are Water Days! We have large shallow pools and inflatable water parks to make sure that all our campers have the chance to cool down and have a great time every Friday afternoon. Water Day scheduling keeps groups reasonably sized and allows us to keep grade levels together. Wednesdays are typically a smaller version of our Water Days, and are referred to as Mini Water Days.

On Water Days, kids should come to camp wearing a swimsuit under their clothes and bring extra clothing if feasible, but if inconvenient we can make sure they have privacy to change inside the school. A beach towel is always advisable when there's water, and water bottles and sunscreen are highly recommended for every day at camp!

Toys, trading cards, phones, cameras, wearables, and other items from home:

We have an extensive variety of activities for our campers, but a few children bring stuffed animals or toys in their backpacks to either play with or show other campers. While we have staff monitoring all our campers throughout the day, we cannot be held responsible for any items campers bring from home. Kids leave things on tables, chairs, and on floors, and the next camper in that location often thinks the item was provided by us. We also see items get wet, dirty, or otherwise damaged just in the normal course of the day, and we note that some of the stuffed animals and toys campers bring often have sentimental or economic value and may not be replaceable. Do not bring them to camp!

If your child doesn't need a mobile phone, please don't send it to camp. Children show off their phones to others, causing distractions and inviting damage or theft. Campers may only use phones in the presence of staff members to contact parents as necessary.

With advances in technology, wearables (such as cameras and phone watches) are readily available and reasonably priced. We understand that they are valuable to parents to help keep kids safe. However, to help us ensure our campers' privacy, pictures, videos, audio recordings, etc. are not permitted during camp, and therefore wearables are not allowed.

Trading cards (such as Pokémon or magic cards) are especially off-limits at camp. As they are trading cards, kids want to trade them, but trades may be based on kid considerations instead of rarity or value. Campers should never trade or give away any of their property.

A few pictures of themed activities from Week 4 -- America's Big Birthday

