



CITY DAY CAMPS

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the daily program for camp?

Campers will arrive between 8:30 and 9:00 every morning. We will start the day with fun team games and activities at the City CYC site. During the morning, we will also have Morning Tea at 10:00 am, as well as a session to hear from our Camp Speaker and do a Bible-based activity. Lunch will be served at 12:30, following which we will go on an excursion in the Melbourne CBD. Following the excursion, we will return to City CYC for a quiet activity before pickup between 5:00 and 5:30.

What time do I drop off/pick up?

Drop off is every morning between 8:30 and 9:00 AM, and pick up is every afternoon between 5:00 and 5:30 PM.

Is early drop off/pick up available?

Early drop off will be available by request from Tuesday onwards, starting each morning at 8:15 am. If you require early drop off, please speak to the Camp Director **prior** to camp. Please note that, although we are able to provide supervision from 8:15 am, only a limited number of activities will be available prior to 8:30 am.

Campers will be back from the afternoon excursion and available for early pickup from 4:30 pm onwards.



What if I am late for drop off/pickup?

As we start our exciting activities right at 9:00 am, it is essential that all campers be on time each morning, to make the most out of their camp experience. Also, as many of our activities are team based, an absent camper will most definitely be missed by their teammates! We greatly appreciate the effort of all campers to be on time, and ask that, if a camper will be dropped off past 9:00 AM for any reason, that you contact the Camp Director.

Our leaders are very busy each evening, tidying up, and preparing for the next awesome day at camp. Please make every effort to collect campers by 5:30 pm at the latest.

If you have a significant concern about drop off or pick up times, please speak to the Camp Director to see about making alternative arrangements.

Where do I go on arrival?

Camp will be at City CYC, 538 Collins Street. Our registration table will be set up in the foyer of City CYC for sign-in. Once your camper is registered, one of our friendly leaders will be on hand to escort you down to the basement level, where all of our on-site activities are held.

What does my child need to take on camp?

Please bring to camp sunscreen, rain jacket, closed-toe, comfortable shoes, **and a water bottle**. Please remember that Melbourne can have “four seasons in one day”, and so It would be good for campers to bring extra layers to wear. Children are also welcome to bring a Bible and notebook.



As camp is most enjoyed when fully present, campers will not be permitted to use personal tech devices (phones, tablets, iPods, laptops, cameras, etc.) while on camp. We also encourage campers to leave all other personal belongings and valuables at home. We accept no responsibility for personal property that your child brings to camp.

What about hats?

Every camper will receive a free camp hat to wear for the duration of City Day Camps, and to take home at the end of camp. It is essential that campers wear their camp hat on all excursions, so that they are being sun smart, and are easily identifiable as part of the City Day Camps group at all times.

Can my child bring spending money?

We kindly ask that you not send any money with your child to camp. Our days and excursions will be so jam packed, there will not be opportunities for shopping.

What is the Christian component of the camp?

Although campers of all backgrounds are welcome and encouraged to come to camp, CYC City Day Camps are at the core a Christian camp, run by CYC Ministries (an initiative of the Christian Community Churches in Victoria). Every day, campers will participate in an age appropriate, Bible-based session, which will include the singing of Christian songs, a short message from our camp speaker (a local children's pastor), a game or activity relating to the message, and time to ask questions and reflect on the



session in teams. In addition, all leaders on camp are Christian, and are excited to share their faith with their teams.

How much does it cost and when do I pay?

Camp costs \$285 for the week. This will include morning tea, lunch, snacks (fruit) throughout the day, and entry fees on all excursions.

What are the staff qualifications and ratios?

All campers will be put into teams of maximum 5 campers to 1 leader.

All leaders will have Working With Children's Checks, and will undergo leadership training prior to camp, and while on camp. The majority of leaders will have led on camps before, and all have a passion for working with children.

Lesley, the Camp Director, is a certified primary school teacher with the Victorian Institute of Teaching, and has 4 years of formal teaching experience, in main stream and special development schools. She has also volunteered at camps in Canada and Australia, and as a Church youth leader in England.

What age does my child have to be to attend?

City Day Camps are a Primary camp for children in school grades 3 to 6.

Will the activities be suited to my child's age?

Yes! Our program is created carefully and specifically for children from grades 3 to 6, with an understanding that there is a range of maturity levels



even within this age group. Campers will also be split into teams based on their age.

Are the camp activities safe?

Yes! All activities are carefully planned, and risk-assessed, to ensure that all campers stay safe throughout the week. We will also have a fully trained and certified first-aider on site to handle any situation that might arise.

What meals are provided on camp?

Morning Tea and lunch are provided on camp. There will also be healthy snacks available to campers throughout the day.

Can I take my child out for lunch while on camp?

Mealtimes are a key part of the camp experience. They are integral to building fellowship and culture while on camp, and a great time for campers to have conversations with their friends and leaders. Additional sign-in and sign-out during the day can also have a negative impact on the camp program, especially when we have to make a designated entry time on one of our afternoon excursions. Where at all possible, it would be recommended and preferred that campers remain on camp for lunch.

Can I book my child in for only some days of camp?

As one of the best parts of camp is the opportunity to make new friends and build relationships, we encourage all campers to come for the full week. Although we understand that campers might need to miss the odd day for a prior commitment, there will be no price discounts given for days missed. If



a camper will be absent for any reason, it is important that you notify the Camp Director prior to 9:00 am.

Can I claim Child Care Benefit/Rebate?

Unfortunately we are not registered with Centre Link for Child Care Benefits at this time. We do, however, have a \$50 “no questions asked” sponsorship option, and there are opportunities for higher levels of sponsorship for those in financial need. Please contact the Camp Director with any questions regarding sponsorship.

Is there a multi-child discount?

As our camps are already heavily subsidized, we do not offer discounts of this variety. We do, however, have a \$50 “no questions asked” sponsorship option, and there are opportunities for higher levels of sponsorship for those in financial need. Please contact the Camp Director with any questions regarding sponsorship.

What happens on wet weather days?

Camp will go on, rain or shine! If there is significantly inclement weather, the camp director will alter the program to be appropriate for wet weather, to ensure that all campers remain dry and comfortable. Please send campers with a raincoat, even on days that start off sunny; Melbourne can have four seasons in one day!

What happens with Food Allergies on camp?

As part of your camp application, you will have the opportunity to list any dietary needs or allergies that your child might have. It is vital for us to



have this information available **prior** to camp, to ensure that all dietary needs can be met appropriately. There will also be an opportunity to reconfirm allergies and other medical needs with the First Aid Officer at camp registration on Monday morning.

What happens with Asthma on camp?

If your child has an inhaler for asthma, please send it with them to camp, and turn it into the First Aid Officer during registration on Monday morning. We will also have an asthma kit on site as a back up measure in case of an emergency.

What if my child has additional needs?

City Day Camps aim to be welcoming and inclusive for all campers. If your child has additional needs, please inform the camp director when applying for camp; we would love to have a conversation with you to determine if City Day Camps would be the best fit for your child. We can be reached by e-mail at daycamps@cycministries.org.au or by phone at 03 9801 4588.

What if my child has additional behavioural needs?

All campers at CYC Ministries Camps are expected to follow our Camper Code of Conduct. If you anticipate your child might find this challenging, please inform the camp director when applying for camp; We would love to have a conversation with you, to determine how we could best support your child's needs, while maintaining the safety and enjoyment of all campers and leaders. We can be reached by e-mail at daycamps@cycministries.org.au or by phone at 03 9801 4588.



What if my child doesn't know anyone else on camp?

One of the best parts of camp is meeting new friends! One of the main focuses of our program is to build relationships amongst campers. Campers will be placed on a team of five, which will allow them to develop bonds from day one, and our leaders are trained to help foster these new friendships. Our goal is to make sure that camp is a welcoming place for all!

What happens if I need to cancel/change my booking?

We require a minimum \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure your place on camp. For cancellations prior to the starting day of camp, the balance between the full fees and deposit will be refunded. Please contact the Camp Director for any changes to your booking. We can be reached by e-mail at daycamps@cycministries.org.au or by phone at 03 9801 4588.

What if my child is sick and can't attend?

If your child is ill prior to the start of camp, and will not be attending at all, you will receive back the total amount of camp fees already paid, minus the \$50 deposit. Unfortunately, there will be no refunds if your child falls ill during the week of camp. If your child will miss a day of camp due to illness, please inform the camp director before 9:00 AM.