

# FAQ

# Camp Clayton Holiday Camps

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF CAMP?

Holiday camps are a unique experience where your child will have the opportunity to learn how to socialize with a range of children and make great new friends that may last a lifetime! Many children develop confidence in their abilities and are able to step out of their comfort zone in a safe and supportive environment, like trying the flying fox! Campers also engage in many activities that give them the opportunity to have adventure and fun!

## I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH MY CHILD SLEEPING OVER.

As parents ourselves, we understand the very real fear of allowing your child to sleep and stay somewhere else.

We find that the benefits for the child outweigh the fear. When children stay overnight they develop a confidence in themselves and their abilities. Many learn resilience and are having so much fun that they don't get the chance to worry about being somewhere new.

We feel that it's an important step in a child's development for them to learn to cope in new situations and discover that they are strong and capable.

In certain situations, we can arrange for you to pick up your child after the evening program has finished and for you to drop them back off in the morning, as we would prefer your child to attend our camps this way, than not at all. Day Camps which are run twice a year are also a great alternative, as they run from 7am - 6:30pm.

## WHAT ARE THE SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS?

At Camp Clayton all campers sleep on bunk beds, in rooms with en-suites and heating, not tents.

Children need to bring their own bedding and pillow case (pillows and mattresses are provided). A full packing list is provided when you receive your confirmation letter.

Most cabins have 7-8 other campers of your child's age and gender and 2 Cabin Leaders.

## WHO LOOKS AFTER MY CHILD AT NIGHT?

Cabin Leaders sleep in the room with the campers and are available for help at anytime.

They assist your child to get ready in the morning and help them prepare for bed, as well as hang out with them during the day participating in the activities and games.

## WHAT SUPERVISION IS THERE?

Our camps have many support staff that help ensure our camps are safe and enjoyable and help your child to feel safe and welcomed.

We have three Youth Work Coordinators (employed by Camp Clayton) to facilitate holiday camps, two Supervisors who run the program and arrange the games and activities, Camp Mum and Dad who assist with medication/first aid and Camp Aunts and Uncles who help with the program and provide extra attention to children who may need it, as well as their two cabin leaders who are with them at all times.

## HOW DO YOU SELECT YOUR LEADERS & SUPPORT STAFF?

All our Cabin Leaders and Support Staff are chosen through a rigorous selection process. They must:

- Fill in an application form, listing all previous experience with children, how they would deal with certain situations and why they want to be involved.
- Have a WWVP (Working with Vulnerable People Check), which is required by law to work with children.
- Have 2 References from either a Pastor, previous employer, mentor or adult who they have known for over 2 years (Detailing how they work with children, in teams and their maturity level) All referees are asked whether they would trust their children with this person.
- Be a committed Christian and a regular church attendee.

All our leaders and support staff undergo full training by Camp Clayton. We work hard to ensure that every person at your child's camp is here for the right reasons and to keep your child safe.

## WHAT IF MY CHILD WETS THE BED?

It's not an unusual occurrence for children to wet the bed away from home, whether this is a common habit or not. If you suspect this may happen, please let Camp Mum know at booking in. Each of our Cabin Leaders is trained to discreetly check the beds each morning and will notify Camp Mum if they find a wet bed. She will clean the bedding and pyjamas and have them back to the room before anyone notices.

## MORE QUESTIONS OVERLEAF....

## WHAT FACILITIES ARE THERE?

We have many excellent facilities that your child will have the opportunity to enjoy while they stay with us: Games Room, Flying Fox, Mini Golf, built in Trampolines, a large Stadium for indoor games, a Maze, Giant Swing, Bouldering Wall, Rockwall, BMX bikes, Campfires and a Craftroom. We also have open grass ovals and a large dining hall.

## WHAT WILL THEY DO AT CAMP?

Each program is custom designed and themed to ensure that your child's experience is new every time. Our programs are based in adventure and encourage children to play, discover, learn and try something new.

They will enjoy: crafts, Bible studies, singing, camp fires, free time, wide games and many of our onsite activities. Some camps include trips offsite to areas like the pool or playground.

## WHAT WILL MY CHILD EAT ?

All our food is made in our restaurant quality kitchen by experienced chefs and cooks. We make excellent home style cooked meals, great for lunch and dinner. Breakfast is always a large selection of cereals and toast.

We always provide two meal options (eg. lasagna or chicken snitzel) with salads or vegetables. We also provide morning tea, afternoon tea and supper, with fruit always available in the dining room. Water or cordial is always accessible, with juice and milo available with breakfast.

## MY CHILD HAS SPECIAL NEEDS

If your child has health or developmental/physical issues that may impact their time at camp, please feel free to call or provide extra written notification. We will do our best to accommodate you and your child.

## WHY DO THEY NEED CANTEEN MONEY?

Once a day we open up our canteen for the campers to buy from if they choose. There is a daily spend limit of \$3.00. Our canteen is stocked with mixed lollies, chocolate bars and cans of soft drink. If you choose not to give your child canteen money, there is still plenty of food and drinks available for them to enjoy at camp.

## DO YOU CATER FOR SPECIAL DIETS?

Most special or critical diets are not a problem for our excellent Kitchen Crew. Simply fill in the necessary information on your child's application form and if we have any queries we will contact you to discuss them further.

We have a lot of experience in catering to special and critical diets and we work hard to ensure that your child is safe and is provided with excellent food during their stay with us.

## MY CHILD IS ON MEDICATION, CAN THEY KEEP IT IN THEIR CABIN?

We don't allow any medication to be kept in the cabins or on your child unless it's an epi-pen or asthma inhaler.

All medication needs to be given to Camp Mum at book in and she will ensure that your child is given their medication as required. This includes panadol.

## WE CAN'T AFFORD TO SEND OUR CHILD

Camp Clayton is aware that that some families may be unable to afford the costs of a holiday camp. It's important to us that your child has the opportunity to attend.

Our Children's Support Fund has been created by many generous donors who believe in the positive outcomes that happen for children who attend camps. If you require assistance with the camp fee, you can apply to our Children's Support Fund. Applications for fee assistance close four weeks prior to camp.

There is an expectation that partial assistance will be provided and subsidies are not generally given for the full fee. Please call us for more information or go to

<http://campclayton.org.au/children-s-support-fund.html>

## WHAT IF MY CHILD GETS HOMESICK?

We understand that attending a camp and staying over night can be a daunting experience to both camper and parents.

If your child becomes homesick, we do our best to redirect their attention or distract them. If it persists, we will get them to call you and then we will talk to you about how best to proceed.

Some children do better after talking to parents, while others may prefer to go home for the night and rejoin the camp in the morning. We are happy to do whatever you and your child feel is best.

## CAN I VISIT MY CHILD?

If you feel the need to visit your child during camp, please call us so that we can check the program for a good time for you to visit.

## CAN MY CHILD BE IN THE SAME CABIN AS THEIR FRIEND?

Absolutely! We love when kids invite their friends. Camp Clayton is all about making friends, spending time with them and doing new activities together! We always do our best to room friends together.

When you fill in the application form, put their friends name down and we will do our best to put them in the same cabin.

## I'M/MY CHILD IS STILL NERVOUS, COULD WE COME AND VISIT BEFORE CAMP?

Yes! If you or your child still feel nervous about coming, please call us to arrange a time for you to come and see the activities, meet the Youth Work Coordinator's and see where they will eat and sleep. It's a great way to make everyone more comfortable before camp.

Phone: 03 6425 1893

Email: [youthwork@campclayton.org.au](mailto:youthwork@campclayton.org.au)

Website: [www.campclayton.org.au](http://www.campclayton.org.au)

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!**