



# Camp Kadima Code of Conduct

All standards of behavior at Camp Kadima are grounded in Jewish values. They are designed to create an "envelope of safety" within which children and teens can grow and have fun in a relaxed, non-threatening environment. Our goal is to create a *kehilla chasadim*, a "community of kindness." We want campers to be part of a *chevra*, a group of friends, who live in a vibrant community that operates according to Jewish values.

## Tselem Elokim

We are all created in "*tselem Elokim*," the image of G-d. We therefore deserve to be cared for as a precious and holy being. We are all fundamentally equal in value and rights. We each have a responsibility to conduct our lives in a manner that reflects well on our Creator. Therefore at camp:

- we take care of ourselves. This includes practicing good personal hygiene.
- before acting, we check to make sure that we are respecting the feelings, safety and personal integrity of ourselves and others.
- we dress and behave with modesty and decorum, avoiding clothing that is provocative or that exhibits slogans promoting drug use or other inappropriate behavior.

## Tikkun Olam

"Repair the world" is central to Jewish teaching. We are in this world as partners with G-d. Our responsibility in the partnership is to take care of the world and to fix those things that we find in disrepair. Therefore at camp:

- we recognize our obligation to do *tzedakah*, to do the righteous thing.
- we protect and enhance the environment by being *shomrei adamah*, guardians of the earth, and observing the principle of *bal tashchit*, a prohibition against waste or destruction. We recognize that everyone is responsible for taking care of the physical facilities and the natural environment at camp.

## Derech Eretz

At Camp Kadima we recognize that we should make an effort to demonstrate *derech eretz* every day. We should show our parents respect and do right by them. We should show respect toward all people, starting with ourselves. If we do not respect ourselves, we do not understand the true meaning of respect and can therefore not show it to others. Respecting ourselves means always choosing to do or say the right things. Therefore at camp:

- we respect other people's feelings and thoughts that are different from ours. One camper may like basketball, while another may not. One may be a Marlins fan, while another may be a Mets fan. One camper may be a great swimmer, while another may be afraid of the water. We will learn that regardless of the differences in opinion, we must always show respect to each other. If we do not respect others, we do not respect ourselves.
- we avoid "pranks" which might be harmful to any individual's feelings or property.
- we observe the Jewish value of *lashon hara*, the principle that says we are not to gossip or spread malicious slander about each other.

## Eretz Yisrael

We have a special relationship with *Eretz Yisrael*, the land of Israel, and with *Am Yisrael*, the people of Israel. Jewish law, tradition, lore and behavior throughout the ages and across the continents have emphasized the centrality of the land of Israel and the covenant between G-d and the people of Israel. Therefore at camp:

- we participate in Israeli-themed activities.
- we sing Hebrew/Jewish songs.
- we identify our groups by Hebrew names.
- we observe the laws of kashrut (no food may be brought in from the outside).
- we participate in the celebration of Shabbat.
- we let Jewish laws and values guide our actions.

**Our theme again this summer is *Kol Yisrael Aravim Zeh B'zeh*. The House of Israel is responsible for each other's welfare. In being responsible, one for another, no one should be excluded or uncomfortable. Therefore in camp:**

- we include every camper regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity.
- we try to help those campers less fortunate than ourselves.
- we help all campers fit in and make friends.
- we open and hold doors for other people.
- we include others and try to make them a part of our group.
- we assist people who seem confused or lost.
- we recognize that everyone is important.

**I agree to follow the rules of Camp Kadima and to live according to the Jewish values upon which they are based. I understand that I may be sent home for violent or aggressive behavior, or for acting in a way which undermines the camp community. If any inappropriate behavior occurs at camp, the camp director will telephone parents.**

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Camper's Name (print)

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Parent's Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Camper's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Daytime Phone Number