

STAR Camp Dorm and Overnight Stay Policy 2024

STAR Camp is designed as sleep-away camp. All camp policies are driven by the goal of creating a safe, inclusive, comfortable environment for all campers, staff, and the parents who trust us with their children each week. Please reach out to the camp director with any questions about camp policies.

STAR Camp participants should remember that while we invite and encourage you to stay overnight, this aspect of camp is optional. A camper will not miss out on any activities if they choose to go home at night. The decision to stay overnight or be picked up at the end of each day is reversible at any time, through clear communication between parents and the STAR Camp directors.

Overnight Supervision and Security

- STAR Camp employs designated night staff to monitor the dorm hall each night. This staff member oversees bedtime and wake up calls, enforces lights out, and gives medication reminders as requested. Campers can bring all nighttime questions to the night staff at any time between flag ceremony and breakfast.
- Night staff is over the age of 18 and has passed a criminal background check.
- Night staff goes to sleep after all campers have settled for the night, and wakes up before the first wake up calls. They sleep in the hall between the dorms and the restrooms, and can be woken at any time as camper needs arise.
- All dorm doors stay open so that night staff can hear any commotions throughout the night.
- The STAR Camp director stays on-site each night and is available to assist the night staff, as needed.
- All camp counselors sleep on-site, in staff dorms separate from the campers.
- Night staff conduct a nightly security check. The building is secured each night with locks and alarms. The STAR Camp director works closely with DaVinci administration to establish appropriate security protocols.

Dorm Expectations

- Campers will not enter a dorm they have not been assigned to.
- Dorms will be locked during the day. If campers need to access their personal items during the day (medications, forgotten water bottle, unexpected wardrobe change after a chocolate milk spill), they must talk to a team leader and be accompanied to the dorm hall by a staff member.
- All cots must remain on the floor at all times.
- No changing clothes in the dorms. All campers are expected to change clothes in the restrooms or showers.
- Pajamas are required for all campers and staff.
- Dorm doors will remain open at all times when occupied.
- No staff member will enter a dorm room alone with a camper at any time.
- Campers should not disturb teacher/school items that remain in the dorms. The off-limits areas will be marked with tape.

- When lights out is called, all campers will silence and darken electronic devices, end conversations, and remain still and quiet so that they and those around them have the opportunity to sleep.

Dorm Selection

- During registration, each camper should select a dorm. If selecting a gender-specific dorm, we kindly request you select the dorm of your child's gender assigned at birth.
 - Girls Dorm
 - Boys Dorm
 - Mixed Gender Dorm
- You must choose your dorm preference during registration. Any dorm change requests must be received at least two weeks before the first day of your camp. Email camps@douglassciencecenter.org with all dorm questions or change requests.
- Each dorm will accommodate 4-12 campers. Families may submit roommate requests when camp packets are sent out in May.

Restrooms and Showers

- STAR Camp will use the restrooms on the second and third floors of the school, as well as the restrooms by the cafeteria.
- Restrooms are labeled as women/men. Campers should use the restroom they are most comfortable with. If a camper is not comfortable with either of these restrooms, they should ask a staff member for access to the single-room staff restroom.
- DaVinci has two individual showers, located on the first floor. Campers will have an opportunity before bed or before breakfast to shower. We ask that campers be courteous of their fellow campers and limit their shower time to no more than five minutes.
- The shower hall will be monitored by a staff member during designated shower times.