

# CAMPER SUPPORTS & ACCOMMODATIONS

We celebrate our campers for who God created them to be! Your camper will be a known and valued member of our community, where their individual gifts have a place to shine. Working alongside families, we hope to prepare a safe and positive camp experience for all participants. We invite you to review Options and Tools Available for All Campers, Options and Tools Available by Advanced Request, and Supports Beyond What We Can Accommodate.

## **Options and Tools Available for All Campers:**

These supports are available to all campers and generally do not require advance notice. You are always welcome to reach out and share more about how we can encourage the best camp experience for your child(ren).

- Noise-canceling headphones are available in many of our loudest indoor spaces and at our health center.
- All campers have access to various sensory tools (including fidgets, weighted stuffed animals, a gross motor sensory track, and noise machines).
- If, for any reason, a camper does not feel comfortable sharing a concern or request with
  their cabin leader, campers are encouraged to reach out to any of the multiple staff
  accessible to them. (Meals, specialty activities, or large group gatherings are often a good
  time to connect with an additional staff member).
- Campers can also connect with a Camp Director to share any needs, concerns, or additional support that may be helpful to them. Camp Directors are ready to provide a genuine listening ear to campers and will provide action, resources, or tools when reasonable/available.
- In addition to the main dish, meals are served with sides, salad bars, and access to an
  alternative simple meal, like sun butter and jelly. For campers who may require more than
  one or two alternative meals, advance notice and conversation with the Camp Director are
  requested.
- We continually build our library of visual schedules, social stories, and cue cards. We
  currently have a visual schedule for a day at camp, a simple story about going to camp,
  and several cue cards set that break down routines at camp.

# Options and Tools Available by Advanced Request:

These supports are available by request in advance of our camp program. For families new to this resource, we invite you to arrange a phone or online consultation with a Camp Director or leadership staff to explore supports together. This advance notice, at least two weeks before the program starts, ensures we have the optimal energy, time, staff resources, and preparation to provide them with care and compassion.

- A modified schedule may be available if you anticipate your child(ren) may need a break from a full program schedule or from large group activities.
- A reduced camper ratio can benefit campers who are used to having more one-on-one support at school. This is dependent on availability of staff, and may require flexibility on program timing by the families. Advanced notice is our best tool!

- If you believe your child may require three or more alternative meals, please reach out so we
  can coordinate a conversation with the Camp Director and Kitchen Staff to ensure your
  child's dietary needs are met. Our Kitchen Staff can work with families to provide a basic
  menu in advance.
- We welcome families to participate in a tour of our site prior to your child's camp experience.
   We'd be happy to show you our facilities while talking through the flow of a program day to help ease the transition.
- We are happy to help coordinate potential supplies (clothing, toiletries, sleeping bags, etc) needed for coming to camp.
- For campers who may find maintaining a connection with home or family helpful while away; staff can work with the camper to develop a reasonable communication/check-in plan.
- Campers may benefit from creating and sharing a self-regulation (understanding/managing feelings and behaviors) plan before our program. Our staff can help develop a plan suitable for the camp setting.

# **Supports Beyond What We Can Accommodate:**

Our staff ratios, capacities, and training level leave some support out of our scope of practice. At this time, we are not able to provide the following accommodations.

- Individuals who may be likely to run away, elope, or leave site without permission.
- Individuals who may require an overnight awake shift.
- Individuals who may actively self-harm (when a person hurts their own body on purpose) while at camp.
- Individuals who may be likely to participate in and/or have a history of harm to others while at camp.

### **Contact Us:**

We are your partner in a safe, positive, camp experience. Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Robyn Koehler

Co-Director Pine Lake Camp Crossways Chair of Operations robyn@crosswayscamps.org (920) 882-0023 Ben Koehler Co-Director Pine Lake Camp ben@crosswayscamps.org (715) 258-3813