



VOLUNTEER GUIDE

July 23-26, 2021

Tulakogee Conference Center
34168 E. 713 Way, Wagoner, OK 74467



GREETINGS

First of all, thank you for volunteering your time to serve at NEO Kids Camp this year. We are so grateful for you! We know you are sacrificing part of your summer, and we can't thank you enough for donating your time, energy, and talents to do so. We are praying for you, along with the children and the other volunteers who will be attending camp this year. We know that God has an amazing week in store for us as we grow in our love for Him and one another.

The role of camp volunteer should not be taken lightly. We assume that as a volunteer you *like* kids and you *love* Jesus! If that's true, you have the opportunity to be one of the most important influences on a child's experience at camp. When making this commitment, please realize the importance of this role. We want to partner with you to provide the best experience for our campers.

This guide will give you insight into how our camp works, our policies, and our expectations. While at camp, we will provide activities and instruction to help you along the way. Please don't hesitate to ask questions before and during camp! Remember we are all in this together for the glory of God!

NEO KidMin Team

Beckie Richburg, Linda Holland, Anthony Beville, Lauren Edwards, Kathy Cott, Stefanie Harris, Ang Droese, D'Anne Means, Evan Offutt



GOALS

We believe that a weekend at camp can serve as one of the most powerful and life-changing experiences in a child's life. Our mission is to create a Christ-centered environment where relationships are built and lives are impacted for the kingdom.

Our goals are:

- To build relationships and impact lives for Jesus Christ.
- To help lead kids into a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To ensure that every camper understands they are loved.
- To teach campers to treat others as children of God.
- To have fun through safe and exciting activities.



JOB DESCRIPTION

- Be an example of Christ through your words and actions in every aspect of camp life.
- Keep track of the campers assigned to you at all times.
- Be aware of time and get your campers to and from activities on time.
- Attend counselor meetings with a good attitude.
- Report any accidents to the camp nurse.
- Report any damage to the leadership team.
- Make sure no camper is left alone at any time.
- Maintain the privacy of others by not undressing in front of your campers and by asking campers to dress in private as well.
- Ensure the safety of campers by not allowing kids to share the same bed. No exceptions!
- Make the campers your number 1 priority through the weekend.
- Watch your phone for updates.
- Attend the volunteer meeting one week before camp. The date and location will be announced soon.



VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

Understand that camp is for the CAMPER!

Be an active member of the local church sending you!

Be spiritually mature ...

Counselors are responsible for leading small group discussions, prayers, and devotions with their campers. We don't expect you to have all the answers (we certainly don't!) but you should be spiritually grounded with a close relationship with Christ.

Be flexible!

Supply a copy of your church background check ...

Or complete the Background Check Request Form online and order one from the district. The background check must be to the registrar by July 10 to be eligible to be a volunteer at Kids Camp.

Be in good health ...

You will walk a lot! You are required to keep up with your campers and arrive on time to all activities. Please be prepared.

Be in good spirit ...

You are expected to play games with your campers during recreation and free time. Campers rely heavily on their counselors for emotional support and guidance and will feed off of your energy. If you are a grump—they will be grumpy! If you have a negative attitude—they will have a negative attitude. If you are happy and having a good time—they will do the same!

Follow rules ...

With fun comes rules. You will be expected to follow all rules communicated to you through the camp leadership. We want everyone to have a fun, memorable experience at camp but we must all respect certain rules to ensure the safety of our campers. You are required to adhere to these rules no matter how small they may seem. You are also setting a huge example for your campers on respecting authority. If you don't understand why a policy or rule is in place, please do not hesitate to ask.

Cell phones ...

Volunteers may use their cell phone Bible app or camera in site of the campers, but must not call or text during the day or when around the campers! Volunteers must not allow campers to use their personal cell phone. If a child is homesick or ill, please notify the camp nurse or camp director.

Volunteer Guide ...

All volunteers will receive and must read a copy of this guide.



VOLUNTEER COST

As a district, we are obligated to pay the campground the full price for everyone who attends camp, kids and adults alike. Our district leadership is very generous in supplementing the cost for our volunteers so it will not be a financial burden for them to serve at camp.

We try to maintain a 1:5 ratio between volunteers and campers. The cost for volunteers is \$100 according to the following schedule:

- 1-5 campers—1 volunteer at \$100
- 6-10 camper—2 volunteers at \$100 each
- 11-15 campers—3 volunteers at \$100 each

Any volunteer over the above schedule will pay the full price of \$195, if registered by July 10.

Any volunteer registered after July 10 will pay \$195, no matter how many campers are attending from their church.

HEALTH SAFETY

We are implementing additional safety precautions in light of the present health situation.

- **Smaller groups:** The campers will be divided into 2 groups so there will be smaller groups of kids in each activity.
- **Sleeping:** Campers will sleep “head-to-toe” in their cabins. That means one camper will sleep with their head at one end of the bed and the next camper will sleep with their head at the opposite end of the bed.
- **One-Day Camp:** We are offering a one-day option for parents that are not comfortable with their kids staying over night. Check with your CCC (Church Camp Coordinator) for more info.



REGISTRATION

Step 1

Register online at neokdisrict.org. Find camp registration by placing your cursor over **EVENTS**, then select **Kids Camp 2021**.

Step 2

Complete the **Nazarene Safe Training** and give a copy of your completion certificate to your Church Camp Coordinator so that he/she can get it to the registrar by July 10.

NAZ SAFE

All camp volunteers must complete the Nazarene Safe Training. If you have completed the training through your church, get a copy of your certificate to your CCC (Church Camp Coordinator).

PAPERWORK

Following is a checklist of the requirements for all volunteers.

- Online Registration:** Please ensure that the registration form is filled out completely, including the personal testimony.
- Background Check:** The NEO district requires that background checks be done every 3 years. If your church does not have a current background check, please check the Nazarene Safe page on the district website for background check ordering instructions.
- Copy of Photo ID**
- Nazarene Safe Training completion certificate**

WHAT TO BRING

Counselors and staff are expected to follow the same dress guidelines as campers.

Clothes

- Dress modestly
- No spaghetti straps (tank tops must have wide strap)
- No short shorts
- No halter tops
- No sagging pants
- No bare midriffs
- No net shirts
- Tennis shoes
- Water shoes
- Swimsuit (a shirt and shorts [or swim trunks for guys] must be worn over swim suits to and from the pool)
 - Girls: must be a one piece swimsuit or tankini only
 - Guys: swim trunks, no speedos
- Hoodie (it's crazy but sometimes it gets chilly in the evenings, yes even in July)

Other

- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Water bottle
- Bible
- Twin sheets/Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Blanket
- Small flashlight
- Paper towels/hand towels
- Night light
- Positive Attitude
- Enthusiasm

If you can, consider bringing extra toiletries for campers who might forget theirs: travel sized toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, spray sunscreen, etc.

REMEMBER

Kids often forget to take the things that are important for their health. Remind them to grab these things as you leave the cabin. Remind them to drink their water throughout the day. It gets really hot at camp and we want to make sure our campers are hydrated and protected from burns and insects.

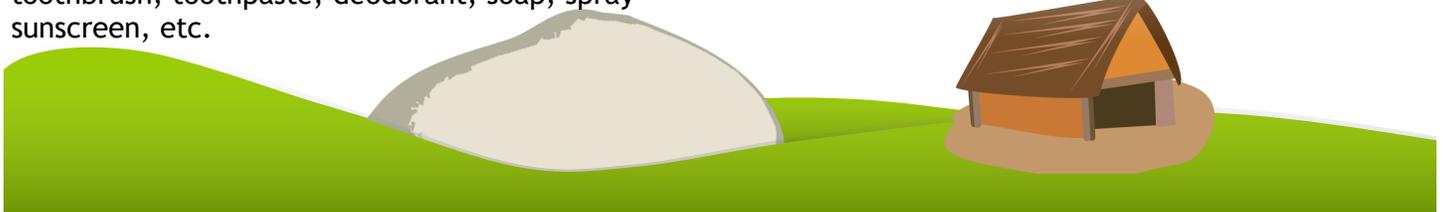
EMERGENCIES

We will keep in contact with you by your cell phone. Please keep your phone with you and check it for updates.

If there is a safety or weather emergency, keep campers calm and remain in place until instructed to move.

MANDATORY REPORTING

The state of Oklahoma is a mandatory reporting state. If you learn, during camp, that a camper is being abused, please get in contact with the camp director immediately.



DISCIPLINE

Discipline at camp never includes physical touch or harm. Please encourage your campers to be an example of politeness and thankfulness throughout the weekend. Treat others as you want to be treated. If there are other issues, please ask camp leadership for help. We encourage all children to attend camp so please be aware that there will be kids at camp who do not come from a church background. Please be understanding and loving to these kids.

PHOTOS/ SOCIAL MEDIA

- For the safety of our campers, do not post camper photos to your personal social media pages. We have a closed Facebook group for all camp pics. Find “NEO District Nazarene Kids” and ask to join the group.
- Encourage parents from your church to join this group as well.
- Please be mindful of what you are posting about camp on social media. We want this to be a positive outlet for parents, pastors, church members, and friends to experience camp from home.

ILLNESS/INJURY/ MEDICATIONS

When in doubt, call the nurse. All illnesses and injuries should be reported to the nurse and he/she will decide on further steps to take.

All medications will be given by the nurse according to physician directions. Be sensitive to the children’s privacy with any personal information given to you.

SAFETY

- Safety is a priority. Please help us to ensure our campers are as safe as possible at all times.
- You are the first line of safety for the children. Please be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not be alone with a child. If you need to take a camper somewhere without the group, please take another camper as well.
- Do not give information to anyone you don’t know on campus.
- Parents should not just show up and if they do they need to check in with the camp director before they see their child.
 - Please lock your cabin doors at night.
 - Do not leave your campers alone.
- Do not remove any camper from campus.
- Do not transport campers in vehicles.
- Please wear your name tag at all times while on campus so we know that you are one of our amazing volunteers.



OTHER REMINDERS

Chapel Time

Chapel time is a time for children to learn more about God or hear the gospel message. It should be treated as a time of worship. This requires some planning from you. Here are some general guidelines that will help you to make this a great time of worship for all the campers and volunteers:

- Sit with your campers at all times.
- Send campers to the restroom before service starts and NOT in the middle of the service. Kids going to the restroom in the middle of service are a distraction to everyone.
- No phones during chapel time.
- Keep campers quiet during the message.
- Encourage them to stand and sing.
- Do the motions with them. They love it!
- Try to sit within the group, not just on the edge, so you can help without becoming a distraction yourself.

Prayer Time

Please encourage all children to be quiet and respectful during prayer. When kids go to the altar to pray, ask them if you can pray for them and what they would like you to pray for. Pray as you are comfortable. Ask for help if needed.

Cabin Time

- Please make sure all campers take at least 1 shower while at camp. (The pool doesn't count!)
- Bring cards, games, coloring books, or other activities to help keep kids occupied if we are confined to the cabins because of weather.
- You will be provided with devotions or discussion starters for nightly devotions to do with your campers.



2021 THEME

Trey and Candice Brooks are our camp speakers again this year. They love EVERY part of camp ... food, fun, friends, and especially the time to connect with Jesus. They are very excited to be at camp with us!



Our theme is EXPLORE. At camp this year, we will help kids EXPLORE who Jesus is.

Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. Isaiah 40:28



JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

Join our CLOSED Facebook group, NEO District Nazarene Kids, for updated news and pictures throughout the week!

This is a closed group so please request to join before camp so you don't miss anything!

All parents will be asked on the registration form for permission to post pictures of their child to social media (our closed Facebook group). If one of your camper's parents did not agree, leadership will let you know.

QUESTIONS

Please contact the camp director at neokidscamp@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

