

Policy for Parents Regarding Out-of-Camp Contact between Campers and Staff

Falcon Camp Off-Season Camper-Staff Contact

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At Falcon Camp, our pledge is to put your children in the company of the most trustworthy and appropriate young adults we can hire—counselors who are well suited to the task of caring for campers. The effort we put into screening and selecting our staff is part of that pledge.

By hiring the staff that we do, however, we do not recommend them as baby-sitters, Nannies or child companions outside of camp. Our staff works with your child in the context of a visible, well scrutinized community that has many built-in checks and balances. Counselors are supervised by senior staff and are guided by clear, firm policies regarding behavior. Their actions are also visible to a community full of co-workers and campers. In general we discourage our staff from having contact with your children after camp *since we cannot supervise it*. We hire our staff *for the camp season*. *We do not take responsibility for their behavior off-season.*

We also recognize that campers and counselors develop close, trusting relationships with one another at camp and that these relationships are healthy, wholesome and beneficial to campers and staff alike. We are aware that many campers will naturally want to keep in touch with their favorite counselors after camp.

Therefore, *our official policy is to forbid the exchange of contact information of any kind between campers and our staff, whether paid or volunteer*. With the Internet as it is, however, we know campers can “find” their counselors if they persist. Our recommendation is simply for you as parents to be aware of your child’s online activities and supervise them as you would any other aspect of their life in your home. Likewise, if you as a parent or legal guardian wish your child to exchange such information with a camp staff member, that is, of course, your right. However, by doing so, you understand *you accept full responsibility for overseeing whatever contact occurs as a result.*