



## Summer Camp Planning 2023 - Guelph/Wellington

The following is a summary of important dates and resources to help you get started with your summer planning.

1. Summer Camp Planning Workshop
2. Summer Camp Fairs
3. Support for summer camp planning from KidsAbility
4. Funding Options
5. Supporting Kids In Camp (SKIC)
6. Registration dates for local inclusive camps

### 1. Summer Camp Planning Workshop - Guelph/Wellington

This workshop is designed to give parents and service providers the information they need to plan a successful summer camp experience for children with special needs.

- Finding inclusive and specialized camps in your community
- The different types of inclusion support available and how to access them
- Funding options for camp fees and specialized supports
- Sharing information about your child
- Preparing your child for camp

This workshop was held on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Find the recording [here](#).

### 2. Summer Camp Fairs – (virtual)

Are you looking for the right summer camp program for your loved one? This year KidsAbility, the Waterloo Region Family Network and Supporting Kids In Camp (SKIC) are partnering to host a series of virtual camp fairs. Join us via Teams to learn about camp options and have your questions answered by the camp directors themselves! Registrants will receive a Teams link via email the morning of the event.

**Focus:** Day Camps - Guelph Wellington for campers ages 4-12  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 – 9 pm  
**Registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/camp-opportunities-for-children-with-special-needs-guelphwellington-tickets-525716350757?aff=erelexpmlt>

**Focus:** Day Camp programs for teens and young adults - Waterloo Region and Guelph Wellington  
**Date:** Monday, February 13, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm  
**Registration:** <https://camps-for-teens-adults.eventbrite.ca>





**Cost:** Free  
**Who:** Everyone is welcome

**Registration Deadline:** 9 am morning of the workshop. Registrants will receive a Teams link the morning of the event.

**Questions:** Contact Meg Shirley at 519-886-8886 x1302 or [mshirley@kidsability.ca](mailto:mshirley@kidsability.ca) or Sheryl Dedman 1-888-372-2259 x3260 or [sdedman@kidsability.ca](mailto:sdedman@kidsability.ca)

You can also register through Event Calendar on KidsAbility's website: <https://www.kidsability.ca/calendar>

## Past Camp Fairs in 2023"

### Overnight Camps in Waterloo Region, Guelph Wellington, and Beyond

This camp fair focused on overnight camps that specialize in programming for individuals with special needs as well as overnight camps that have inclusion programs that provide additional supports for campers with special needs to participate in mainstream programs.

This event was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Find the recording [here](#).

### Day Camps for Children, Aged 4-12 (Waterloo Region)

This camp fair focused on day camps in Waterloo Region that specialize in programming for children with special needs as well as those that have inclusion programs to provide additional supports for campers with special needs to participate in mainstream programs.

This event took place on Monday, January 16, 2023. Find the recording [here](#).

## 3. How to receive additional support for summer camp planning

### Email Information from KidsAbility

Receive emails to assist with camp registration, funding, and support. Not currently receiving camp information emails, contact Sheryl at [sdedman@kidsability.ca](mailto:sdedman@kidsability.ca) to be added to the email list (Cambridge Sites).

### Camp Resources on KidsAbility's Website

- Camp Directory: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory-summer>
- Camp Information: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-info> (workshop and camp fair videos are located here)





## Camp Consult Clinic

Need more help? Book a camp consult clinic appointment with a Recreation Therapist from KidsAbility. Support can be provided on one or more of the following:

- Camp options and registration processes
- Identifying funding options and support with applications
- Camper support options and how to access these supports
- Accessing adapted equipment and resources to facilitate access and participation at camp

Contact Sheryl Dedman [sdedman@kidsability.ca](mailto:sdedman@kidsability.ca) or 1-888-372-2259 x3260 (Guelph/Wellington)

Not a current KidsAbility Client? Contact intake: 519-886-8886 or 1-888-372-2259 ext. 1214

## 4. Funding Options for Summer Camps: Disability Specific

**Children's Flexible Respite Funding:** <https://www.kerrysplace.org/event/flexiblefunding/>

**Eligibility:** Wellington County residents with a diagnosis of Autism ages 0-17

**Details:** Will provide up to \$ to pay for summer camp, respite support worker or recreation program occurring between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024. Applications will be accepted from January 1 to February 13, 2023. Applications will be selected by a lottery system.

**Deadline:** February 13, 2023

**Summer Camp Reimbursement Funds - Autism Ontario:** [www.autismontario.com/camp](http://www.autismontario.com/camp)

**Eligibility:** Diagnosis of Autism

**Details:** Will cover up to \$600 per child to pay for either the cost of camp or a 1:1 support worker to attend camp with your child. You do not have to be a member of Autism Ontario to apply for funding. Selection to receive funds is random.

**Application:** Usually available in April, check the website frequently for updates

**Life Enriching Activity Fund - Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy:** [www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding/leaf](http://www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding/leaf)

**Eligibility:** Diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy and member of Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy (OFCP)

**Details:** Will cover up to \$400 which can be used towards the cost of summer camps or Physical Support workers.

**Application:** Usually available mid January, check the website frequently for updates

**Community Services Fund - Muscular Dystrophy Canada:** <http://muscle.ca/access-help/personal-support-program/community-services-fund/>

**Eligibility:** Diagnosis of Muscular Dystrophy and member of Muscular Dystrophy Canada

**Details:** Will cover up to \$1000 which can be used towards attendant services and fees for formal adapted recreational programs including summer camp.

**Application:** Available now



## **Camp Bursary Application - Waterloo Wellington Down Syndrome Society (WWDSS):**

<https://www.wwdss.ca/programs/camp-bursary/>

**Eligibility:** Diagnosis of Down syndrome ages 4 - 21 and a member of WWDSS

**Details:** Camp Bursaries are available to assist when the cost of sending a member to camp will be above and beyond the costs for a typical week of camp. For example, the bursary program will pay 50% of the cost of a specialized camp designed for children with special needs or will cover the cost of a support worker to attend camp with the participant. To be eligible to receive this bursary (1) Families must be a member of WWDSS for a minimum of one calendar year. (2) Families are required to complete 10 hours of volunteer work for WWDSS during the current calendar year.

**Deadline:** February 20, 2023

### **Other Options:**

- **Special Services At Home (SSAH)**
- **Autism Childhood Budget**

## **Funding Options for Summer Camps: Income based**

**Free To Grow:** <https://www.childrensfoundation.org/what-we-do/free-to-grow>

**Eligibility:** Residents of Guelph Wellington with low income

**Details:** Maximum subsidy per child, per calendar year is \$400 - on a first come, first-serve basis and provided funds are available.

**Jumpstart:** <https://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/pages/individual-child-grants>

**Eligibility:** You must be between the ages of 4 - 18 with financial need

**Details:** Will cover up to \$300 per activity, \$600 per year for sports or physically active camps. You must apply for funding prior to registering for camp.

**The County of Wellington, Children's Early Years Division:** <https://www.wellington.ca/en/social-services/cey-feesubsidy.aspx>

**Eligibility:** Residents of County of Wellington who qualify based on family income and need for child care

**Details:** Childcare fee subsidy can help to pay for licensed child care and approved camps and recreation programs for children up to age 13. It is only available at programs that are subsidy approved by the County of Wellington.

**Guelph Community Health Center (Parent Outreach Worker Program):** <https://guelphchc.ca/families-and-children/parent-outreach-worker-program/>

**Eligibility:** parents of children between the ages of birth to 18 living in the Brant, Two Rivers & Grange Hill East neighbourhoods in Guelph

**Details:** Provides support to access community programs and assistance with subsidies for recreational programs. Additional supports are available for families who may be experiencing challenges at home.





**Fee Assistance in Recreation (FAIR), City of Guelph:** <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/support-services/#fee-assistance-in-recreation-fair>

**Eligibility:** Individuals 18 years and older in financial need

**Details:** Apply for a discount up to 80% of the cost of City of Guelph Recreation Programs to a yearly maximum of \$250

**Fee Assist - YMCA of Three Rivers Camps:** <https://feeassist.ca/>

**Eligibility:** Financial need

**Details:** Will help cover registration cost of YMCA summer camps. More information and step by step instructions are available here: [https://www.ycathreerivers.ca/camp-registration?\\_mid\\_=31861#WaterlooRegion](https://www.ycathreerivers.ca/camp-registration?_mid_=31861#WaterlooRegion)

## 5. Supporting Kids in Camp (SKIC)

**Supporting Kids in Camp (SKIC) -** [www.cmhaww.ca/skic](http://www.cmhaww.ca/skic)

Provides a 1:1 worker for one week of the summer to attend a day camp of the campers choice in Guelph Wellington, at no cost for families.

**Eligibility:**

- Camper lives in the Guelph-Wellington region
- Camper is under the age of 18
- Camper has two of the following: physical, cognitive, or behavioural challenges
- Campers wants to attend a day camp and needs support for successful inclusion
- Camper is camp ready, and does not pose a risk of injury to self or others
- Camp is a day camp in the Guelph-Wellington region.
- Camp has an inclusive philosophy

**Questions?** Contact Laura McDonald, (519) 821-8089 ext: 7055 or [skic@cmhaww.ca](mailto:skic@cmhaww.ca)

Join SKIC's [email distribution list](#) for notifications regarding SKIC registration dates and events.

**Registration Opens April 1<sup>st</sup> at noon**

## 6. Registration Information for Local Inclusive Day Camps

**Camps with formal Inclusion Support programs:**

**Rainbow Day Camp (Guelph) -** [www.rainbowdaycamp.com](http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com)

**Ages:** 4-10

**Inclusion Support:** 1:1; Support provided for personal care

**Inclusion Questions?** Email [Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com) or call 519-837-0387

**Registration opens March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon**





**City of Guelph** – <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/camps/>

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Intake form

(<https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/one2one/>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Inclusion Coordinator [one2one@guelph.ca](mailto:one2one@guelph.ca) or call 519-822-1260 extension 2701

**Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>**

## Other close by day camps with formal Inclusion Support programs you can attend:

**C.Y.O. Camp Brebeuf (Rockwood)** – <https://campbrebeuf.ca/>

Ages: 4-12 (Day Camp) & 7 – 14 (Overnight Camp)

Inclusion Support: Available for both overnight and day camps for campers born between 2013 and 2004; Support provided for personal care <https://campbrebeuf.ca/inclusion-program>

Inclusion Questions? Contact

**Registration is open**

**Hidden Acres** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 5-12 (Day camp) 8-15 (Overnight camp)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support not provided for personal care

Inclusion Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

**Registration is open**

**City of Cambridge** – <https://www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/Camps.aspx>

Ages: 4 – 12 (camp information will be available January 25<sup>th</sup> on the website)

Inclusion Support: 1:1, 2:1 or 3:1; All spaces for campers who need support for personal care are full.

Inclusion Questions? Contact Recreation Coordinator, Child & Youth at [camps@cambridge.ca](mailto:camps@cambridge.ca)

**Registration is open**

**Camp K** (Waterloo) - [www.campk.on.ca](http://www.campk.on.ca)

Ages: 5-16 (Inclusion Program)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Email [campdirector@campk.on](mailto:campdirector@campk.on) to register for Inclusion Program prior to registering for camp

**Registration is open**

**City of Waterloo** - [www.waterloo.ca/en/things-to-do/camps-and-pre-school.aspx](http://www.waterloo.ca/en/things-to-do/camps-and-pre-school.aspx)

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Membership before you can apply for 1:1 support (<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229

**Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup> 1st @ 8:30 am**



**City of Kitchener** - <https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/summer-programs.aspx>

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Membership before you can apply for 1:1 support (<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229

**Registration opens March 21<sup>st</sup>**

**More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website:**

<https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory-summer>

## Specialized day camps with lower camper to staff ratios:

**Independent Teen camp for teens, Rainbow Day Camp** - <http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com/teen-camp>

Ages: 13-18 – 3:1 ratio

Questions? Email [Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com) or call 519-837-0387

**Registration opens March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon**

**Kids On The Move & Youth on the Move** (City of Guelph) – <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/camps/>

Ages: 4-12 & 14-21

Questions? Contact Inclusion Coordinator [one2one@guelph.ca](mailto:one2one@guelph.ca) or call 519-822-1260 extension 2701. Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Intake form (<https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/one2one/>)

**Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Specialized camp for children with Autism** (Kerry's Place) - <https://www.kerrysplace.org/respice-and-recreational-services/>

Questions? Call 1-833-775-3779 or email [intake@kerrysplace.org](mailto:intake@kerrysplace.org)

Email Inquiry: <https://www.kerrysplace.org/camp-options/>

**Registration opens March**

## Other close by specialized day camps with lower camper to staff ratios you can attend:

**Adults In Motion** (Cambridge) - <https://adultsinmotion.org/>

Ages: Ages 16+ and adults with developmental disabilities

Questions? Email or [cambridge@adultsinmotion.org](mailto:cambridge@adultsinmotion.org) or call 519-277-3723

**Registration is open**

**Camp Pride Teen Camp** – [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com)

Ages: 13+

Questions? Call 519-653-4686

**Registration is open**



**Camp Awakening** - <https://campawakening.com/>

Ages: Ages 8-29 with physical disabilities (Overnight)

Questions? Email [info@campawakening.com](mailto:info@campawakening.com) or call 416-487-8400

Registration is open

**Easter Seals Camps** – <https://www.eastersealscamps.org/programs/summer-camp-information>

Ages: 8 – 18 & 18 -26 (Overnight)

Questions? Email [camp@easterseals.org](mailto:camp@easterseals.org) or call 416-510-5094 or 1.800.668.6252 ext. 325

Registration is open

**Hidden Acres** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 5-12 (Day camp) 8-15 (Overnight camp)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support not provided for personal care

Inclusion Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

Registration is open

**Hidden Acres SEAC Camp** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 16-35 (Overnight camp)

Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

Registration is open

**SunBlast and Imagination Station** (City of Cambridge) - <https://www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/Camps.aspx>

Ages: 4-12

Questions? Contact Recreation Coordinator, Child & Youth at [camps@cambridge.ca](mailto:camps@cambridge.ca)

Registration is open

**KW Gymnastics Adapted Camp** – <https://www.kwgymnastics.ca/pd-day-camp>

Questions? Contact [adaptive@kwgymnastics.ca](mailto:adaptive@kwgymnastics.ca)

Registration opens Feb 21st

**Beechwood Brainery Summer Camp** (Cambridge & – registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup> <https://bbrainery.ca/shape-your-future/summer-programs/>)

Ages: 4-14

Questions? Email [info@bbrainery.ca](mailto:info@bbrainery.ca) or call (519) 624-8728

Registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup>

**FUNdayz Camp** (Community Living Cambridge) - [www.communitylivingcambridge.ca](http://www.communitylivingcambridge.ca)

Ages: Teens and Adults with developmental disabilities

Registration for 2023 is scheduled to open in April





**Extend-A-Family Summer Program** (Waterloo Region) - <https://www.eafwr.on.ca/programs/summer-program/>

Ages: 13+ (day camp); 15+ (overnight camp)

Questions? Contact Ben Sauder 519-741-0190 ext. 290 or [ben.sauder@eafwr.on.ca](mailto:ben.sauder@eafwr.on.ca)

Registration begins on My Community Hub on March 1<sup>st</sup>

**Sunbeam Centre MFTD Camp** (Sunbeam Community and Developmental Services) - [www.sdrc.ca/](http://www.sdrc.ca/)

Ages: 4-18 who are medically fragile or technologically depended, and aged 18+

Sunbeam Summer fun Days (Sunbeam Community and Developmental Services) - [www.sdrc.ca/](http://www.sdrc.ca/)

Ages: 18+

Question? Nicole Tailby at 519-893-6200 x 1234 or Email [programbookings@sunbeamcommunity.ca](mailto:programbookings@sunbeamcommunity.ca)

registration opens March 1 [www.mycommunityhub.ca](http://www.mycommunityhub.ca)

Registration opens March 1<sup>st</sup>, via [www.mycommunityhub.ca](http://www.mycommunityhub.ca)

**About Youth and Youth Sense** (City of Kitchener) - <https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/summer-programs.aspx>

Ages: 11-14, 13-17

Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229. Inclusion Membership required before you register

(<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Registration opens March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Youth Exploring Possibilities** (Kitchener) - <https://www.kwhab.ca/services/youth-exploring-possibilities-yep/>

Ages: Ages 13-21 who meet eligibility for Developmental Services

Questions? Email [jdelhorbe@kwhab.ca](mailto:jdelhorbe@kwhab.ca) or call 519-744-6307

Registration typically opens in late April/May

**More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website:** <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory-summer>

## Camps with an Inclusive Philosophy

**YMCA of Three Rivers** – <https://www.ymcathreerivers.ca/camp-and-outdoor-centre>

Ages: 4 – 12

Questions? Email [camp@ytr.ymca.ca](mailto:camp@ytr.ymca.ca) or call 519-699-5100

Registration is open

**Bulldog For Kids** (Guelph) – <https://www.guelphbulldog.com/summer>

Ages: 3 – 13

Questions? Call 519-836-3838

Registration is open

**Guelph Outdoor School** - <https://www.theguelphoutdoorschool.com/summer-2023>

Ages: 4-14

Questions? Email [outreach@theguelphoutdoorschool.com](mailto:outreach@theguelphoutdoorschool.com) or call 519-400-9507

Registration is open





**Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre (Puslinch)** – <https://sunrise-therapeutic.ca/portfolio/summer-camp/>

Ages: 4 – 16; campers with a diagnosis/special need can attend from 13 – 21 years of age

Questions? Email [info@sunrise-therapeutic.ca](mailto:info@sunrise-therapeutic.ca) or call (519) 837-0558

Registration is open

**Focus on Nature, Guelph Arboretum** - <https://focusonnature.ca/>

Ages: 8-12 at the time of camp

Questions? Email [workshops@focusonnature.ca](mailto:workshops@focusonnature.ca)

Registration is open

**Guelph Grotto Climbing Co** - <https://www.guelphgrotto.com/indoor-youth-activities>

Ages: HALF DAY (Ages 5-7); FULL DAY (AGES 8-12)

Questions? Email [info@guelphgrotto.com](mailto:info@guelphgrotto.com) or call (519) 767 0838

Registration is open

**Elora Centre for the Arts** - <https://eloracentreforthearts.ca/classes/youth-classes/>

Ages: 4 - 12

Questions? Email [programming@ecfta.ca](mailto:programming@ecfta.ca) or call (519) 846-9698

Registration is open

**Creative Encounters in Science, University of Guelph** - <http://creativeencounters.info/summer-camps/>

Ages: Campers going into Grade 2 - Grade 10

Questions? Email [cse@uoguelph.ca](mailto:cse@uoguelph.ca)

Registration opens February 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am

**Centre Wellington (Fergus & Elora)** - <https://www.centrewellington.ca/en/living-here/indoor-recreation.aspx>

Ages: 5 - 12

Questions? Call 519-846-9691 ext. 903

Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am

**Wellington North (Arthur & Mount Forest)** - <https://www.wellington-north.com/community/programs-activities/day-camp-programs>

Ages: 5-11

Questions? Email [recreation@wellington-north.com](mailto:recreation@wellington-north.com) or call 519-848-3620 Ext. 4335

Registration opens April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 8 am

**North Riverside Neighbourhood Group** - <https://www.facebook.com/northriversideng/>

Camp information is not posted yet

**Brant Neighbourhood Group** - <https://sites.google.com/view/brant-avenue-ng>

Camp information is not posted yet



**Mapleton** - <https://mapleton.ca/explore-play/recreation/camp-program>

Ages: 4-10, Children aged 11-12 are welcomed as well, though programs are geared to a younger age.

Questions? Email [agrose@mapleton.ca](mailto:agrose@mapleton.ca) or call 519-638-3313

Registration date unknown

## Other close by Camps with an Inclusive Philosophy

**Camp Pride** (Kitchener) – [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com)

Ages: 6-12

Questions? Call 519-653-4686

Registration is open

**YWCA Summer Camps at Shade's Mills** (Cambridge) – <https://www.ywcacambridge.ca/summer-camps/>

Ages: 4 – 14

Questions? Email [camp@ywcacambridge.ca](mailto:camp@ywcacambridge.ca) or call 226.220.6285

Registration is open

**Engineering Science Quest (ESQ)** (Waterloo) - <https://uwaterloo.ca/engineering-science-quest/parents/summer-camps>

Ages: Grades 2 - 9

Questions? Email [esqinfo@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:esqinfo@uwaterloo.ca) or call 519-888-4856

Registration opens February 15<sup>th</sup> @ 12 pm

**Cambridge Neighbourhood Associations** (Alison, Fiddlesticks, Greenway-Chaplin, Kinbridge, Silverheights, Langs, Preston and Hespeler Village) - <https://cambridgeneighbourhoods.ca/>

Registration date unknown

More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory-summer>

We will do our best to share the information we do know, as well as any changes or updates as they become available.

