

Frequently Asked Questions

Check out the answers to some of our most-asked questions

Where will camp be held?

Heart Kids NZ Camp 2025 will be held at Carey Park Christian Camp, Auckland. Carey Park is 45 minute drive from Auckland Airport.

How long is camp?

Camp runs from Monday, 13 January to Friday, 17 January 2025.

How will my child be cared for at camp?

Campers will be placed in cabins with other campers of a similar age and will have an adult helper and young adult helper staying in their cabin with them for the week. During the day, campers will be in mixed groups with adult/young adult helpers for all activities.

How much does it cost to attend camp?

Thanks to the generosity of funders, the cost of camp is covered by Heart Kids NZ. There will be a \$100 commitment fee payable if your child is offered a place at camp, this is non-refundable.

What is a commitment fee?

As there are a limited number of places available on camp we require a \$100 fee to ensure campers will attend. In the event that your child is unable to attend and a camper on the waitlist can take their place, you will be refunded your \$100 fee.

What if the commitment fee is a barrier to my child attending camp?

Please contact our camp coordinator if this fee prevents you from applying.

When is the commitment fee due?

By October 31, 2024

When do applications close?

Applications must be submitted by 5 pm, Friday, 30 August 2024

When will I hear if my child has been accepted?

Campers will be notified during September if they have been offered a place on camp.

Does my child need medical clearance to attend camp?

Yes. All campers will need to obtain a medical certificate from their GP or specialist to say they are able to attend camp.

When are medical certificates due?

Medical certificates must be submitted to the camp coordinator no later than 31 October 2024.

How will HKNZ ensure my child's safety at camp?

All camp volunteers (adult helpers, young adult helpers and staff) are police-checked prior to being accepted to attend camp. HKNZ has Health and Safety plans for all activities your child will participate in during camp. All specialist activities at camp are run by specialist instructors from Carey Park Camp. Carey Park has approved Risk Assessment (RAMS) documentation for their specialist activities.

What medical care is available at camp?

Heart Kids NZ camp has a dedicated medical team in attendance at all times. The medical team includes doctors, paediatric nurses and paramedics who will be responsible for your child's medical care.

How do campers get to camp?

Flights will be arranged for campers from the South Island and in areas further than 2.5 hours from Auckland. We book campers from the same region on the same Air NZ flights.

Where possible we will have an adult flight leader on the same flight. In some instances, we may need to book your child on a flight as an unaccompanied minor, please consider this if you would like to proceed with your child's camp application.

Can I volunteer at, or visit my child on camp?

Parents are welcome to apply to be adult helpers at camp. Due to the limited number of spaces available, unfortunately, we cannot accommodate all requests to help.

Having your child or teen at camp enables parents and caregivers to have a well-deserved break with the reassurance that your child is being well looked after. Sometimes, visits from family may trigger homesickness in the campers, but please discuss any wishes to visit with our camp coordinator prior to camp.

How do I talk to someone about my child attending camp?

Please contact our camp coordinator Bec Coburn: camp@heartkids.org.nz

What is the age range for children attending camp?

8 - 17 years of age

My child may wet the bed, can they still attend camp?

Absolutely! We have processes in place to deal with this in a discreet manner to ensure your child is not embarrassed if they happen to have an accident.

What if my child is homesick?

We are very used to dealing with homesick campers and have lots of tools in place to help them cope with this. The first night can often be the most difficult and after this they usually settle in very well. In the event that a child is desperately homesick, we will of course contact you to let you know.

Can my child bring their phone to camp?

Brave Hearts are not permitted to bring phones to camp. If your teen does bring their phone s/he will be required to hand them in during certain activities and at night. It is important that all campers get a good night sleep so they can enjoy activities each day.

What happens in the event of an emergency while my child is at camp?

In the event of an emergency, all campers will be well cared for, and Health and Safety protocols will be followed. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible by Heart Kids NZ staff.

What gear does my child need for camp?

All campers will be sent an information pack closer to camp which will include a list of required gear.

My child has special dietary needs, does the camp cater for these?

Yes. Please ensure you fill out all the relevant information in the application form so that any dietary needs can be catered for.

Can we see the camp menu?

The menu will be confirmed closer to camp and will vary depending on dietary requirements. All meals are planned and prepared by the Carey Park cooks.

Can I contact my child while they are at camp?

In the event that you need to speak with your child, please phone our camp coordinator. Contact details will be provided in your camp information pack.