

## **Bunkhouse Parents – “Give Me More Specifics”**

All Bunkhouse Parents are expected to be on duty in the bunkhouse or dining room any time that the campers are there. During these times and when campers are in your area, **please do not use your cell phone**. The times you are on duty are:

- 6:25 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. staff inspirational, camper wake up and cleaning the cabin
- 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. during lesson study and flag raising
- 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. during breakfast and until programs have all departed
- 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. campers are returning from program areas and having lunch
- 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on days there is quiet time
- 5:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. when the campers are returning from program areas, cleaning up and having dinner;
- 8:30 p.m. through the night – bedtime and on.

Listed below are some of the specific duties of Bunkhouse Counselors. Bunkhouse Parents can be very helpful in assisting them.

- Make a visual check of your campers before they leave in the morning. Make sure that they have showered and brushed their teeth. Check to see that they are dressed appropriately for the weather and scheduled activity. Please be alert to notice if campers need chapstick, lotion or sunscreen. These items will be supplied to each cabin.
- There are two church days and BHPs often help teaching Sunday School. Please come with your books marked.
- Bunkhouse Parents are of invaluable in helping campers mark the new lesson after each of the two church days.
- Laundry gets done once a session and BHPs are very helpful in making sure campers get their laundry into bags and into the vans. Sometimes they might even be asked to drive the laundry into town where it is done.
- Bunkhouses are inspected each day. The children need supervision and assistance in learning to share work responsibilities, to keep their cabin clean, their beds made and personal belongings picked up and neatly put away. We also need BHPs to be cabin inspectors either at Sky Valley or at Round Up (the high school camp). (This is a voluntary job.)
- Encourage campers to use proper table manners, i.e., putting their napkins in their laps, taking hats and coats off before coming to the table, saying "please" and "thank you" when asking for food, using a quiet tone of voice, etc. Meals are served family style. Watch that the first serving allows everyone at the table to have some on their plate before going for seconds. Encourage a well-balanced meal!!

- During quiet time in the afternoon, help make sure that the bunkhouses are quiet and that campers are resting. In Horseshoe (3-5<sup>th</sup> graders), campers are to be on their own bunks, resting, reading or writing. In the middle school cabins, campers may have individuals in the cabin or on the porch quietly talking or playing cards. Please maintain a quiet atmosphere for those who wish to rest, read or study.
- Bedtime is another important time for a Bunkhouse Parent. Many campers become lonely at night, and begin to feel homesick or sad because of something that happened during the day. Tuck your campers into bed, and lend a listening ear. Be alert to attitude problems that develop and that come out at the end of a long day. Loneliness could be a problem even when there are many campers around of the same age. Does the camper have a friend who includes them in activities? If not, you may need to help this along. Ask your campers how their day went, or what their plans are for tomorrow.
- Make sure younger campers use the bathroom one last time before getting into bed. If a camper does wet his/her bed, change the linens during a time when other campers are not in the cabin, and limit the amount of liquids the camper drinks before bedtime. If the problem persists, you may want to wake them up during the night and take them to the bathroom. Please make sure all campers are in bed at the required time. Finally, you might want to close the day with a hymn, prayer, or quiet song or poem to maintain the proper atmosphere for peaceful sleep. Make sure to not overstep Bunkhouse Counselors who may enjoy doing these activities and already have them planned for their cabins.
- Please note that girls are not allowed on the porch or in the boys' bunkhouses, and vice versa. Campers should always have a Counselor or Bunkhouse Parent while in the bunkhouse.
- If a camper needs to go to Highview (our care facility) always contact a Camp Director first if possible, then the Practitioner, and then they may be taken to Highview. In an emergency such as bleeding, where immediate physical care may be needed, they could be taken to Highview directly and then the Camp Director and Practitioner should be contacted as soon as possible.
- Bunkhouse Parents help with dishes 3-4 times during the camp session. These will be times when CITs have special meetings or Trips Out day when we want to get them in program as quick as possible. Occasionally help may also be asked at Round Up.
- Free Choice activities occur about four times during camp. If you have a specialty and would like to lead an activity (with another counselor) we invite you to bring your instrument, materials or whatever you would need to do so. We have had BHPs lead all kinds of activities. Check with your Camp Director.

## **Time Off**

Bunkhouse Parents get approximately two days off while the campers are out on their 3-day trips. This occurs about the 10<sup>th</sup> full day of camp. You are on duty through dishes in the morning

on Trips Out day and have the rest of that day, the next full day, and must be back to cabin by 3:00 pm on the following day. You may stay at camp and sleep and participate in meals at Round Up during this time or you may leave camp for excursions of your own such as going to Denver or Aspen. We try to schedule one white water rafting trip for all the interested BHPs while trips are out. The cost of this is \$10/person to cover basic rafting costs.

### **You Are An Integral Part**

Even though your title is Bunkhouse Parent and you are on staff for a shorter time, you are an integral part of the bunkhouse team *supplementing and supporting* the work the counselors are doing in your cabin. You report to the Bunkhouse Head Counselor and Camp Director and take part in bunkhouse activities like any other Counselor but they have gone through weeks of training and know how we do things at camp. If you have challenges at camp, we ask you to address them prayerfully and using the Matthew Code. This is the same expectation for the staff. During activity periods (when campers are in major programs), we ask that you get in your metaphysical time, rest, or help out in one of the following areas - office, ranch maintenance, or a program area. All staff members are expected to be examples of practicing Christian Scientists in everything they do at camp.

## **Simple Schedule**

(Some days will vary)

**6:25 AM** - Staff inspirational at the Bell Tower. (Please cover your cabin while staff in gone)

**7:05 AM** - Assist with camper wake-up

**7:05 AM-7:45 AM** - Encourage and assist with cabin clean-up and camper prep for the day (includes sunscreen and chapstick)

**7:50 AM-8:20 AM** - Help lead lesson study. Guide, listen, ask questions, elucidate, offer insights - help make it fun.

**8:20 AM – 8:30 AM** – Flag raising. Support a quiet and thoughtful atmosphere. Share ideas.

**8:30 AM-9:30** - Eat breakfast with your cabin. Help maintain order, encourage campers to eat and support dining room etiquette.

**9:30 AM-10 AM** – Help campers get to their program areas with everything they need. Cover cabins so campers can run back for forgotten items.

**MAJOR DAYS** – Campers are in program 10 am to 5 pm.

**Free Choice Days**

**10 AM-Noon** - Campers in their programs – ½ day major or free choice. Free for bunkhouse parents to rest, rejuvenate, study or help in some other areas. (Ask camp directors)

**Noon-12:30 PM** - Bunkhouse time. Greet campers from programs. Be a good listener. Prepare for lunch.

**12:30 PM-1:15 PM** - Eat lunch with the campers - any table. The same duties as breakfast. A good time to get to know other campers.

**1:15 PM-2:15 PM** - Quiet time. Supervise campers so counselors can rest or prepare for their programs or activities. (Campers on bed quietly reading or snoozing)

**2:30 PM - 5:00 PM** - Free choice activities. Bunkhouse Parents can rest, rejuvenate, study, run errands or help in needed areas. (i.e. Free choice activities, kitchen, office, ranch services, High View, etc.)

**5:00 PM - 5:40 PM** -Bunkhouse time. Greet campers. Listen. Prepare for dinner. (Good time for showers, help prepare for flag retreat)

**5:40 PM** - Flag retreat/sharing. Make sure campers arrive on time and are quiet.

**5:50 PM** - Counselors will have a short staff meeting at the fire ring while campers have free time. Please supervise campers.

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM** - Eat dinner with the campers. Any table, same duties.

**7:15 PM-8:30 or 9:00 PM** Evening program with the campers. Assist where needed.

**8:30 or 9:00 PM** Prepare for bed and settle campers in bed until asleep.

**All Night** On duty as need arises to let counselors meet with other counselors and sleep. (Counselor curfew is 10:30 PM) If a counselor is in the cabin you may leave if there is a need.