

2026



TAMWOOD
CAMPS

WELCOME GUIDE



GET READY FOR A FUN-FILLED SUMMER!
We can't wait for you to join our
camp located in...

VANCOUVER - SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, 8888 UNIVERSITY DR,
BURNABY, BC V5A 1S6

[TAMWOOD.COM/CAMPS](https://tamwood.com/camps)

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE:

Preparing for your trip



It's almost time to pack your bags! In this guide, you will find a list of everything we think you will need to bring with you to Canada. You will also find some fun facts about your camp destination: the wonderful city of Vancouver!

First Day and Life at Camp

Arriving in a new place can feel a little bit scary, but don't worry, we've got you covered! We've included a map of Vancouver Airport to help you find your way. So you know what to expect, you will find a summary of the first day of camp, as well as information about our schedule.



Health and Safety



At Tamwood, the safety of our campers is our Number 1 priority! In this guide, you can read all about our health and safety procedures, including how parents can help us ensure a healthy camp environment.

Tamwood Culture and Camper Agreement

We strive to create a safe space for campers from all countries and backgrounds, ages and gender identities. In order to do this, we need our campers to agree to support us in upholding a positive learning environment.



FAQ's

At the end of this guide, you will find the answers to all the frequently asked questions!

Q

A



TAMWOOD CAMPS

Dear Parents and Campers,

We are thrilled that you'll be joining us at Tamwood's Vancouver SFU Camp this summer! Tamwood has been operating for over 30 years and has continuously provided wonderful camp experiences to thousands of children. Parents, thank you for the trust you have placed in us by registering your child for our program this summer. Campers, I hope you are ready to make lots of fun memories!

Here at Tamwood, we're all about helping each camper grow - boosting confidence, enhancing cross-cultural communication skills, and fostering friendships in our vibrant, diverse community. Our campers not only improve their English but also develop a whole set of new skills through fun and engaging activities. Rest assured, our caring staff are here to guide and inspire, ensuring every camper has an amazing summer experience.

Inside this Welcome Guide, you'll find everything you need to get ready for camp, including a packing list, important forms, and what to expect upon arrival. We encourage all parents and campers to read this package together. If you have any questions or need clarification on anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Tamwood Agent.

Thank you again for selecting Tamwood. We look forward to making the summer truly memorable.

See you this summer!

*Evan Yang
Director of Youth Programs*



All about...

VANCOUVER

WELCOME TO CANADA'S 3RD LARGEST CITY!



Vancouver is one of the world's most spectacular cities! As it was the host city for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympics Winter Games, Vancouver has since become a very popular travel destination for visitors from all around globe.

Vancouver is a bustling city located on the west coast of Canada, surrounded by beautiful mountains, forests, and ocean views. It is known for its friendly locals, diverse culture, and vibrant arts scene.

Vancouver is considered as Hollywood North. It is the second only to Los Angeles in TV production and third in North America for Feature Film production. That means there are frequently high-profile movie stars around town!

During your time at camp, you will get the chance to visit some of the amazing places in Vancouver such as Stanley Park, Science World and Playland. On some weeks, we venture just outside of Vancouver and visit extraordinary places like Whistler and Victoria!

Our Campus...

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Our Camp Accommodation is at the SFU Residences!



Our home! :)

Simon Fraser University, commonly referred to as 'SFU', is now British Columbia's second largest University, with more than 40,000 students studying there annually. Our camp is located at the large Burnaby campus, situated on Burnaby Mountain!

The Burnaby campus of SFU is the main campus and features stunning views of the surrounding mountains and the city of Vancouver. It is a vibrant community that serves as a hub for academic and intellectual activity, and offers a diverse range of programs and courses.

At our residence, our dorm rooms are located across 8 floors. Each camper will get their own bedroom and share a bathroom with other campers on the same floor. There will be multiple counselor rooms on each floor clearly labelled so campers know where to find staff members if needed.



TAMWOOD
CAMPS



TAMWOOD PACKING LIST



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Flight Information (Arrival and Return)
- Passport
- VISA Paperwork (if required)

Adventures await, but first, packing! Get started with this essential packing list.



CLOTHING

- Underwear & Socks
- T-Shirts (8-9)
- Shorts (3-4)
- Long Pants / Jeans
- Long sleeve shirt / Light Jacket
- Swimsuit
- Comfortable, closed-toe shoes
- Pajamas / Appropriate sleepwear
- Flip-flops/sandals



TOILETRIES

- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash / Deodorant
- Sunscreen
- Face Cloth & Towel
- Bug Spray
- Hair brush
- Prescription Medicine (if needed)
- Personal Hygiene Products

Please label all personal belongings and clothing (including socks and undergarments) with your full name to prevent clothing from being lost.

IMPORTANT

Tamwood is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. We provide laundry service once a week, Tamwood is not responsible for items lost in the laundry.



OTHER ITEMS

- Backpack
- Hat or cap
- Credit Card
- \$CAD for spending money
- \$150 CAD for damage deposit
- Umbrella
- Notebook / Pen
- Plug Adapter / Charger
- Water bottle



IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

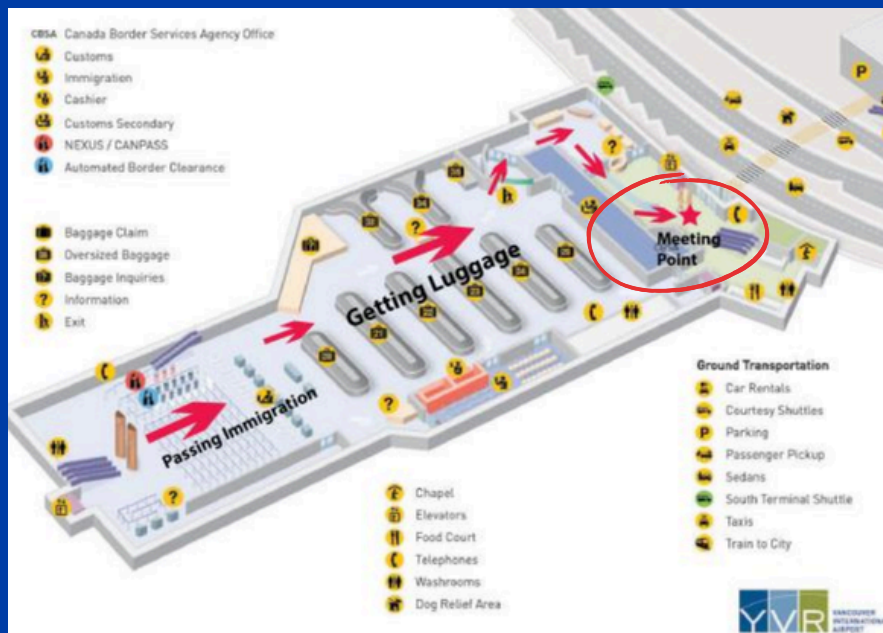
When you arrive at Vancouver International Airport (YVR)....

When you leave baggage claim, look out for our Tamwood staff wearing a **RED Tamwood t-shirt** (as pictured) and holding a Tamwood flag.

Some days it can be very busy at the airport! This can make it difficult to see our staff straight away. If after 20 minutes, you still cannot find a staff member, please call the emergency contact number provided at the end of this welcome guide or ask the staff at the Information Desk to make an announcement for you over the Airport Intercom System. (If you are arriving in a group, please stay with your Group Leader!)



Tamwood Staff!



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

If you plan to register as an Unaccompanied Minor, please contact Tamwood Camps as soon as possible to obtain the name of the designated staff member who will be picking you up from the airport.

All Unaccompanied minors will stay with the airline staff until a designated member of Tamwood staff has come to pick them up. It is important to have the correct person registered to pick up your child or they may have a longer wait than expected.

Unaccompanied minor fees are an additional cost paid by families.

HEADING TO CAMP

TRANSPORTATION



You will travel to the SFU Campus from the airport via school bus, coach, van or car with members of Tamwood staff (unless alternative transport is arranged prior to camp).

ARRIVING ON CAMPUS

When you arrive at camp, our friendly counselors will be waiting for you at the residence! They will take you to the Tamwood Office where you will go through the intake process with the Director and Coordinators!

WELCOME

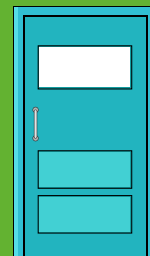
INTAKE (CHECK-IN)



You will receive a Tamwood t-shirt, laundry bag, lanyard and room key from the staff. You must hand in your passport, prescription medications and a damage deposit of \$150 CAD. You can also hand in any excess cash you want to keep safe.

AFTER INTAKE

The counselors will then take you to your dorm room, as well as show you your bathroom. They are there to answer any questions you have about camp too! Once you are settled, they will let you know the plan for the rest of the day!



ACCESSING YOUR MONEY



Typically, we allow campers to access their personal envelopes the day before an excursion, before dinner. Our camp director will be available to assist you during these times and ensure that you can access your belongings safely and securely.

LIFE AT CAMP - SAMPLE SCHEDULE



SFU CAMP VANCOUVER 2026



WEEK 2

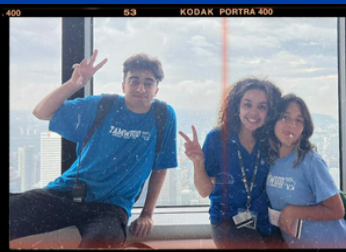
ENGLISH PROGRAM JUNIORS 7-10 YEARS OLD

	SUNDAY** July 05	MONDAY July 06	TUESDAY July 07	WEDNESDAY July 08	THURSDAY July 09	FRIDAY July 10	SATURDAY July 11	
AM	8:00 - 8:45	Breakfast						
	8:45 - 12:45	Camper Arrivals Intake	Language Classes	Language Classes	Language Classes		Language Classes	
PM	12:45 - 1:30	Settle in & unpack	Lunch	Lunch			Lunch	
	1:45 - 3:30		Group Team-building Activity	Amazing Race	Camper Talent Show Prep	Full Day Excursion: PNE Playland Group Dinner and Games	Camp Wide Game	
	3:30 - 5:30		Campus Adventure	Whistler Day Trip	Just Dance Jr.		STEAM Quest	
	5:30 - 7:00	Dorm Time / Dinner		Group Dinner			Dorm Time / Dinner	
	7:00 - 9:00	Weekly Kickoff	Counselors' Got Talent	Film Challenge: Lip Sync Video	Campers' Got Talent		Cowboys & Cowgirls Disco	
	9:00 - 9:30		Conversation Club	Conversation Club			PJ Movie Night	
	9:30 - 10:00	Dorm Time		Dorm Time			Dorm Time	
	10:00	Quiet Time						

*Our goal is to provide the best possible experience. Activities and excursions may be adjusted due to weather, availability, or other unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety and quality.
 ** Sunday is designated as arrival & departure day for weekly campers. Multi-week campers participate in our Sunday Options program, which offers a selection of free on-campus activities or paid off-site excursions.
 ***As a host city for the FIFA World Cup, we want our students to feel the excitement! Some schedules may shift slightly so everyone can safely enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

At Tamwood Camps, we want to make sure that you have all the information you need to make the most of your experience with us. That's why we provide a detailed schedule of activities and events throughout your stay. The schedule includes information about classes, excursions, sports, and other fun activities that you can participate in during your stay.

Scan Here to access our schedules:



HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health and safety of our campers is our top priority at Tamwood Camps. We have strict protocols in place to ensure that all campers are able to participate in our programs safely and comfortably.

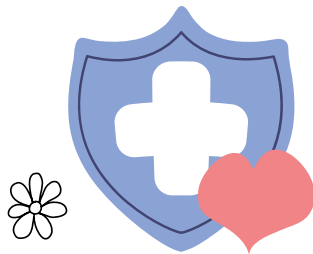
STAFF

All of our staff members are trained in first aid and emergency response procedures, and we have an on-campus health attendant to provide medical assistance as needed.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

If your child takes Prescription medication, it should be turned into the Health Attendant upon arrival. Medication must be in its original container or marked clearly with dosage, frequency, and camper's name. Tamwood team members do not administer insulin shots or other medications requiring similar procedures.

If a camper, counselor, or other member of staff is displaying symptoms of illness, they will be asked to wear a mask and seek medical attention as needed. We also have isolation and quarantine protocols in place to prevent the spread of illness within the camp community.



Staying healthy at camp!
-Carry a water bottle around
-Eat at least 1 fruit & vegetable at each meal
-Apply sunscreen regularly



During your child's time at camp, a parent or guardian will be contacted by the Health attendant within 24 hours if...

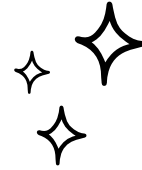
- Your child is ill or has an oral temperature of over 37.8°C
- Your child is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
- Your child requires any off-site medical treatment
- If there are questions regarding medications or healthcare for your child
- Your child is severely homesick and expresses a need for immediate contact

HEALTH AT CAMP: WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP



PREPARING FOR CAMP:

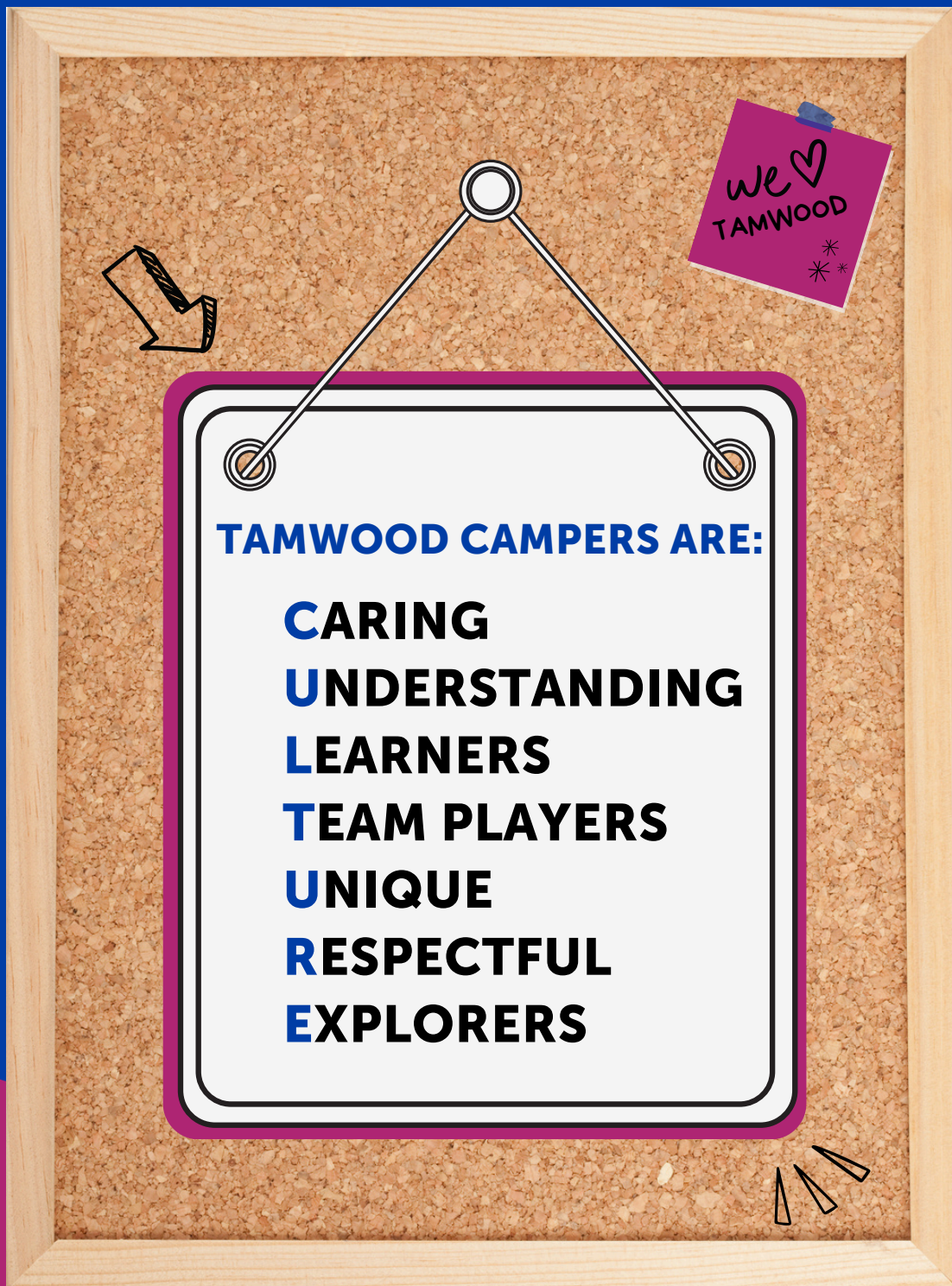
A healthy camp begins at home! Here are some things parents/guardians can do to prepare kids to ensure a great camp experience:



- Remember to pack sunscreen! There are lots of sunny days in Vancouver ahead!
- Encourage your camper to inform their counselor, health attendant or director about any problems they have at camp. We are here to help!
- Pack a reusable water bottle in their luggage, and remind them the importance of staying hydrated during camp. Counselors will also remind the children to fill their water bottle regularly.
- Ensure your child packs enough clothes to dress in layers. Some days mornings can be chilly, but then the afternoon can be hotter. It is important they are prepared for the different temperatures!
- Camp can be a very busy place, with lots of fun activities and excursions for your child to take part in! It is therefore important that they get enough rest. Remind them that going to sleep at bedtime is very important; more important than playing on their phone all night!
- To prevent illness, campers will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently, especially before mealtimes and after outdoor activities. If you are sending a young child, please show them how to wash their hands effectively to help them get into the habit before camp.
- Please inform the Camp Director if your child needs a particular nutrition plan so that they can inform the Dining Hall to work out a plan to address their needs. If your child is not comfortable with the plan whilst at camp, it is possible to arrange a staff member to assist and monitor the process.
- It is important to communicate any mental, emotional or social health challenges that your child has before your child arrives to ensure the camp staff are best prepared to accommodate them.

TAMWOOD CULTURE

Tamwood strives to create a family away from home for all of our campers and staff members! Summer camp culture is important for the development of children as it provides a unique and fun-filled environment for personal growth, character building, and skill development. Like all families, Tamwood Camps has a unique culture. These are the culture values we hope to instil in all our campers this summer!



CAMPER AGREEMENT

The primary focus of Tamwood Camps is to help support our campers on their journey to becoming respectful global citizens with cross-cultural understanding. At Tamwood Camps, we strive to create a safe space for campers from all countries, cultural backgrounds, ages and gender identities. In order to do this, we need our campers to agree to support us in upholding a positive learning environment. The expectations listed below are to be followed for the camper's duration at camp in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all campers in our care.



- 1** *Campers must be on time to all classes, meals and other scheduled meeting times set by their counselor.*
Campers are to remain in their assigned rooms after lights out (except to go to the washroom). Since each day is full, campers need to sleep and be ready for the next day. Lights out is 10:00 PM for juniors and 10:30 PM for youths and seniors unless otherwise specified by senior staff.
- 2** *Campers are responsible for keeping their rooms clean. Those who do not have clean rooms will be asked to tidy them and may miss out on activities or an excursion.*
- 3** *To ensure campers are not distracted by their phones and other technology, Tamwood campers must follow our Reduced Technology policy (found on the next page of this guide).*
- 4** *Campers will not express any inappropriate public display of affection during their stay at camp including kissing and inappropriate touch. Tamwood camps have students of all ages and cultures, therefore to respect for these differences campers are to reserve any relationships that form for after camp.*
- 5** *Campers must be respectful of the property and environment around them. Stealing or intentionally damaging property that belongs to another camper, Tamwood camps or any of the facilities may be sent home (without refund) and expenses to repair/replace the item will be passed on to parents.*
- 6** *Campers must respect each other, counselors, teachers, and guests. Bullying of any kind is not allowed. This includes physical fighting, name-calling, verbal threats, or using social media to hurt an individual/group. Campers who are not respectful of other campers and staff may be sent home (without refund).*
- 7** *Drugs, alcohol and cigarettes are not permitted at Tamwood camps. In accordance with provincial and state laws in Canada and the United States, minors cannot have alcohol or tobacco in their possession. Use of any drug or alcohol will be grounds for immediate dismissal (without a refund).*
- 8**

Creating an Unplugged Camp Experience

Creating Real Connections, Unplugged Moments, and the Best Summer Ever!

At Tamwood Camps, we believe summer is the perfect time for kids and teens to disconnect from screens and reconnect with the world around them. Our Device-Free Policy helps campers enjoy camp life to the fullest — with more friends, more fun, and fewer distractions!

What's the goal for our Device-Free Policy?

The goal isn't to take something away—it's to give them something better in return:

A summer full of memories.



In today's society, we understand that kids are more connected to their phones than ever—and it's not always easy to imagine them without one. But at camp, our goal is to help them truly disconnect from screens and reconnect with the people and experiences around them. Our Device-Free Policy isn't about cutting off contact—it's about giving your child the chance to be fully present, build independence, make real friends, and enjoy all the fun and growth that camp has to offer.

We've seen it over and over: when campers put their phones away, everything changes for the better. They make deeper friendships, get more involved in activities, sleep better, and show more confidence and independence. Without the constant buzz of notifications or the urge to scroll, campers become more present — and that's when the magic of camp really happens.



Device-Free at Camp (Juniors)

Juniors

Tamwood Camps is device-free for Junior campers, except during Jr. Recharge Time, so they can stay engaged in activities, build friendships, and fully enjoy camp life. Limiting phone use also helps campers stay aware of their surroundings, follow staff directions, and keep their personal devices safe.

Phone Collection & Weekly Schedule

Phones are collected on Monday morning before breakfast and stored securely in designated cell phone lockers. Campers staying multiple weeks will have access to their phones each Sunday.

Jr Recharge Time

On most on-campus days, Junior campers have access to their phones for about one hour during Jr. Recharge Time, which typically takes place after afternoon activities and before dinner. This is a calm, supervised period where campers can check in with family or choose other quiet activities such as reading, drawing, writing postcards, or spending time with friends. Phone use is optional and restricted to the designated area. *You can find the "Jr Recharge Time" on our schedule.

Responsibility & Communication

Parents are encouraged to review this policy with their child before camp to set clear expectations. Campers are responsible for following the policy, including turning in their phones as scheduled. Camp staff are always available to support campers and assist with communication when needed.



Device-Free at Camp (Youths & Seniors)

Youth & Seniors

Tamwood Camps designates certain days as Device-Free to support a focused and engaging camp experience, while helping youth develop responsibility, self-control, and balanced phone use habits.

17 Device-Free Days

Device-Free Days are typically on-campus days. Please refer to the Device-Free icon on the weekly schedule for exact dates. Signage will also be posted in residence as a reminder.

*You can find the "Device-Free" icon on our schedules.

Phone Collection

On Device-Free Days, phones are collected before breakfast and placed into secure phone lockers.

Phone Return for Device Free Days

- Phones are returned at the end of Conversation Club (around 9:30 PM).
- On Disco Days (usually Saturdays), phones are returned before the disco starts (around 5:00 PM).

Responsibility, Enforcement & Communication

Campers are responsible for their devices. If a phone is not turned in when required, staff may hold it for longer periods on subsequent days, and additional supportive steps may be taken at the discretion of camp leadership. Tamwood is not responsible for charging, loss, or damage.



Phone & Device FAQs



Q: Is Tamwood a device-free camp?

A: Yes. Tamwood operates as a mostly device-free campus so campers can focus on activities, friendships, and being present. Phone access is limited and varies by age group.



Q: Why do we have this policy?

A: We have this policy to help campers disconnect from screens and fully engage in camp life. It helps them build friendships, stay present, and develop independence.



Q: How can I reach my child in an emergency?

A: If you need to reach your child urgently, please contact the camp team directly. Staff are always available to support communication in urgent situations.



Q: What if my child doesn't have a phone?

A: That's completely fine. Recharge and downtime periods include non-phone options such as relaxing, reading, drawing, writing postcards, or spending time with friends.



Q: Should my child bring tablets or gaming devices?

A: We strongly discourage bringing tablets, gaming consoles, or other personal electronics, as they are not part of the camp experience.



Q: What if a phone is lost or damaged?

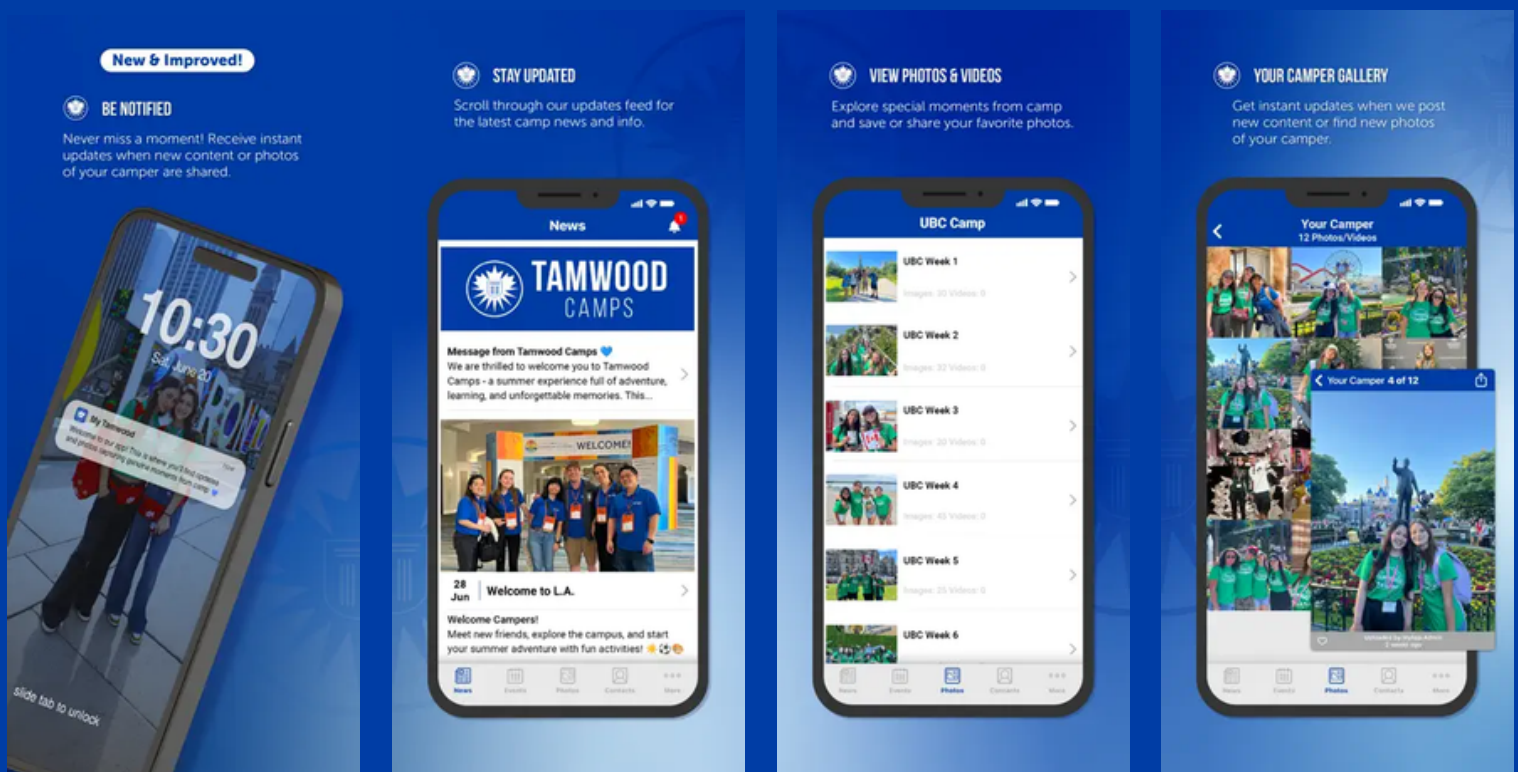
A: If a phone is lost or damaged, our staff will provide reasonable assistance where possible. However, please note that Tamwood is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal devices.

MY TAMWOOD APP

Their Camp magic – shared with you.

The My Tamwood App is designed to help you stay connected to your child's camp adventure! While they're exploring, making friends and having fun, we'll bring the highlights straight to you.

Setting up the app gives you a secure platform where you can view photos, videos and camp updates, so that you can share in the fun and excitement of camp from wherever you are!



News

Stay in the loop with camp highlights and announcements



Photos

Browse, download, and share high-quality photos of your child's summer adventure



Events

See what your child will be up to any given day or week



Contact

Need to reach out for an urgent inquiry or emergency? Find all the contact information you need in the app

MY TAMWOOD APP

STEP-BY-STEP SETUP GUIDE

Step 1: Complete the App Registration Form

Complete the [App Registration Form](#). This helps our team verify your details and link your account to your child's camp location.



Scan to register for the app.

Step 2: Keep an Eye on Your Inbox

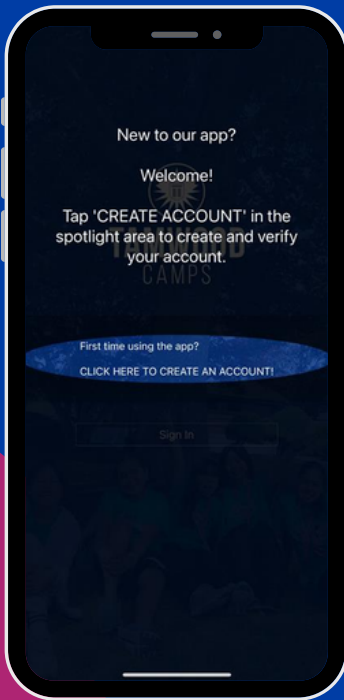
Once we've verified your registration, we'll create your secure profile. Look out for your Welcome email letting you know your account is ready!

Step 3: Download the My Tamwood App

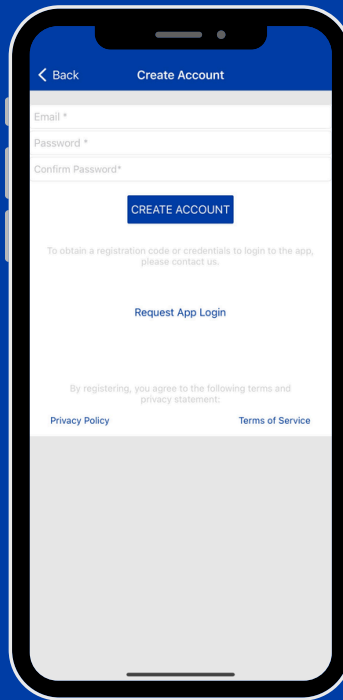


For more info, FAQs, and support please visit: [MyTamwoodApp](#)

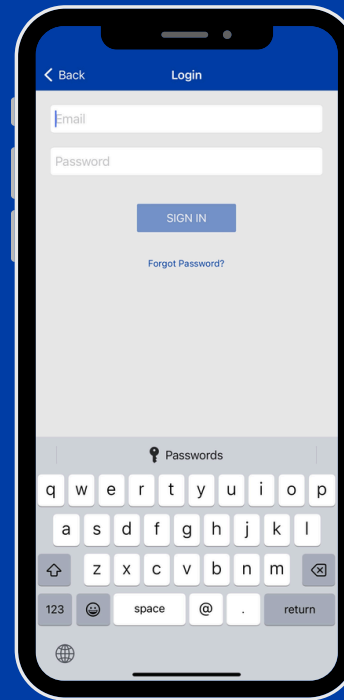
Step 4: Create an account, login and explore!



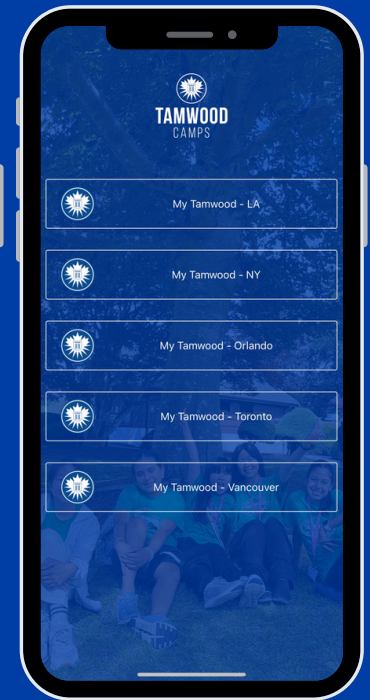
Once you receive the confirmation email, you can open the app and create an account.



Use the email address you provided and setup your own password. Click on "Create an account."



The app will redirect you to the login page. Enter your credentials to enter the portal. Click on "SIGN IN"



Once you logged in, you will have access to the camp location your child signed up for.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IS VANCOUVER SAFE?



**SAFETY
FIRST**

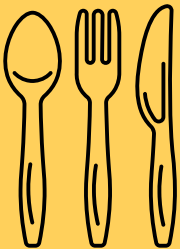
Yes. Vancouver is generally very safe, and the SFU campus is a secure university environment. Campers are always accompanied by Tamwood staff during activities and are rarely unattended. Students are still encouraged to stay aware of their surroundings and report anything unusual to staff.

HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I BRING?

Campers should bring enough money to cover any personal needs, including shopping for any personal items and/or souvenirs at local malls and attractions. Campers must also bring additional \$150 CAD cash for damage deposit.



WHAT IF I DON'T LIKE THE FOOD?



Please communicate any food concerns prior to camp. We will try our best to work with you to ensure a balanced diet is achieved. It is also extremely important that your Director is informed of all dietary restrictions you may have.

WHAT SHOULDN'T I BRING/BUY?

Do not bring cigarettes/matches/lighters/illegal drugs/alcohol. Smoking & drinking are not permitted for campers in Canada/USA due to state and provincial laws. Any items that can be seen as weapons, like pocket knives or toy weapons, should be avoided.



DO CAMPERS WEAR UNIFORMS?



Tamwood Camps does not require students to wear a uniform every day, but they are asked to wear a Tamwood lanyard at all times. Campers are also required to wear the Tamwood T-shirts on all excursions off-campus.

MORE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAN A PARENT OR FAMILY VISIT CAMP?

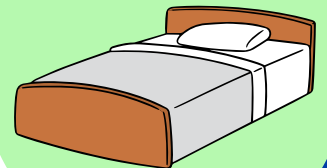


We do not allow parents into residence buildings, and we also do not host parent visits during camp to ensure the safety and consistency of our program, as many campers are attending without their parents in town.

Parents are welcome to take their child off-campus on Sundays, with pick-up around 10:00am and return before dinner. If you need to drop off items for your camper, please contact the Camp Director in advance to make arrangements before coming to campus.

WHEN CAN OUR CHILD ENTER THEIR ROOM AFTER THEY ARRIVE AT CAMP?

Rooms are usually ready by 4:00 PM on check-in Sundays. Since it's the university's turnover day, cleaning may still be in progress if your child arrives early. They'll be able to enter once the room is cleaned and released.



WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO THE CAMP LEADERSHIP TEAM HAVE?



Our summer leadership team consists of individuals with previous camp experience, as well as specific skills and training in their area of responsibility. All staff have an up-to-date Criminal Record check, First Aid Certificates & have participated in camper safety training.

I TAKE MEDICATION. WILL I BE ASSISTED WITH THIS?

If you require our assistance, we can accommodate. All medication is secured by the Health Attendant and dispensed as required. We ask parents to provide double the doses of medication separated in two waterproof bags with legible writing providing clear instructions of use (in English).



SEE YOU SOON!

If you have
questions before
camp, please email:

KEVIN HUANG

kevin.huang@tamwood.com



YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

If you have
questions during
camp, please email:

WENDY WEN

Director.SFU@tamwood.com

+1-604-695-2802



SFU DIRECTOR



TAMWOOD
CAMPS

