

4-15
yrs

Guide to
Camp Williams
and

YMCA | day camps
in the school holidays

nottsymca.com | **0115 711 7006**

Registered Charity 243044 Ofsted number: EY498929

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to Camp Williams!

Camp Williams is an incredible place where children aged 4 - 15 years get to choose activities, make friends and discover new talents. We really believe in what we do. It's what we're about. Our YMCA has been supporting the local community for over 150 years so we like to think that between us all we know what we're talking about.

Every day at Camp Williams is different. This is mostly because our campers are so diverse, are always changing, growing and shaping the experiences of camp. We believe in individuals and independence so we build in freedom and fluidity at camp. There are elements that thread through; adventure, team work and new experiences to name a few...

The following pages give you an idea of what to expect, and why we do camp this way! We know how important these years are for your children. We want to be part of giving them positive experiences that will last a life time.

If you're still not sure about whether YMCA day camps are right for your child, our team are available on 0115 711 7006 and at ymcadaycamps@nottsymca.org to answer any questions you might have. No question is too big or small.

We hope to see you and your child really soon; scaling that climbing wall for the first time, on the open water in a kayak or cheering everyone else on at Camp Fire Friday!

Healthy regards,

Martyn Gibbons | Camps and Adventure Service Manager



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We want all children and young people to thrive.

Our programme for children and young people has its foundations in our belief that children who develop skills and have access to positive relationships and experiences during their early years, make healthy choices and positive contributions to society in later life.

We call these skills, positive relationships and experiences...

developmental assets

YMCA research shows that young people who have access to a high number of these assets, are not only better able to thrive - but also less likely to engage with negative or risky behaviours too.

THRIVING YOUTH

=

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

+

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

This is why you'll find that we include creative activities, positive peer influence, community values, responsibility, sense of purpose and self esteem and much more designed in to our programmes.

You can find out more about developmental assets on nottsymca.com

Our camps and age groups

4-15
yrs

Camp Williams
YMCA | day camps

Book today

nottsymca.com
0115 711 7006

Camp Williams, based at the Nottingham Emmanuel School, has loads of space for 4 - 15 year olds to play, learn, explore and have fun!

8 - 15 year olds on our full programme at Camp Williams will join a group depending on the age distribution at each camp. Discovery for the youngest through to Explorer and then Adventure. Older campers will be given more independence around the site and have the opportunity to leave site for a special day trip each week.

All children in Discovery, Explorer and Adventure will take part in skill clinics (which will be confirmed on their first day). Afternoons are for swimming, sports, pick 'n' mix, specialty activities, traditional camp games, art and crafts and rallies with special awards given out each day.



Kids Zone (4 - 7 year olds) and Pioneer Camp (8 - 12 year olds) are our one-day programmes on site at Camp Williams. Both groups will join their camp leaders for traditional camp games, sports, arts and crafts, juice jam and swimming.





What does it take to be a Camp Leader?

The staff team at all of our camps are inspirational leaders, role models, adventurers. Safe - in every sense of the word. That stuff you can't bottle - our camp leaders have it.

"Having worked on YMCA day camps for 10 years I have had the pleasure of meeting thousands of different children and being part of so many fantastic experiences. I genuinely look forward to every camp, especially if we have new children, new skills and new activities... or a new piece of equipment that I need to test... for safety reasons obviously."

Mel Rooney – YMCA Camp Leader Alumni



A Typical Day at Camp Williams

Here's what to expect on typical day at Camp Williams...

Discovery, Explorer and Adventure 		Kids Zone and Pioneer 	
8am	Arrive	8am	Arrive
9am	Morning Rally	9am	Morning Rally
9.30 - 1pm	Skill clinics and masterclasses*	9.30 - 1pm	Morning activities/traditional camp games/skill clinic taster sessions***
1pm	Lunch	1pm	Lunch
1.30 - 4.30pm	Traditional camp games/juice jam**/ swimming/pick 'n' mix/specialty activities/day trips***	1.30 - 4.30pm	Traditional camp games/ swimming*/juice jam**
4.30pm	Afternoon rally and awards ceremony	4.30pm	Afternoon rally and awards ceremony
6pm	The magical journey ends for the day (but we do it all again tomorrow!!)	6pm	The magical journey ends for the day (but we do it all again tomorrow!!)
*Explorer and adventure villages only **Wednesdays only ***Adventure village only		*Pioneer swim everyday **Wednesdays only ***Skill clinic tasters are subject to availability and pioneer village only.	

Camp rallies

"The Y's an open door!" We love teaching campers all of our songs and cheers. Parents are sure to know the words too by the end of the week...

Awards

Our core values are caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. We award certificates to campers who demonstrate these values. We also award certificates for being a general superstar and being awesome.

Swimming

All campers can look forward to swimming during the holidays. Children at Camp Williams will travel with their groups to The Portland Centre. Sessions include free play and floats and are led by our Level 2 qualified swimming instructor.



Juice Jam

All children at camp have the opportunity to free play together outside after lunch every Wednesday and choose a refreshing juice box to drink after free play and chill with their friends before afternoon activities begin.

Pick 'N' Mix

Children in Discovery, Explorer and Adventure Villages take part in Pick 'n' Mix activities one afternoon per week, campers choose a skill clinic activity at lunch and spend an hour and a half taking part in their chosen activity as part of Pick 'n' Mix!

Specialty Activities

Children in Discovery, Explorer and Adventure Villages will take part in timetabled specialty activities during one of their afternoons, these activities could range from climbing to skateboarding to crafts to archery.

Day Trips

Our Adventure Village will leave site on Thursdays each week to go on a planned afternoon trip to somewhere cool and awesome. Being our role models at Camp Williams our Adventure campers are trusted with flying our Camp Williams flag positively off-site once a week.

Camp Fire

At the end of each week we invite parents and carers to join us and celebrate. All campers will have the chance to show off some of their new skills and achievements. Camp Fire may take place in our outdoor amphitheatre or on our indoor stage.



Skill clinics

Camp Williams

8 - 15 year olds in Discovery, Explorer and Adventure groups will take part in skill clinics. From...

game design

to

skateboarding

and

climbing, archery,

craft works

and

mountain biking.

We've got something for everyone.

All skill clinics are delivered by specialist programme leaders with knowledge in their field.

We're always developing our skill clinics and adding new ones.

Skill clinics are listed on nottsymca.com/williams. There is also information here on how many skill clinics children can expect to take part in at each camp and how to choose.

Campers also have the chance to become a master in their chosen skills by taking our advanced skill clinic sessions, focusing on one skill for an entire week.

Current Masterclass options are:

music

and

skateboarding

The Camp Williams journey

I get to play lots of camp games and join in with Juice Jam, go swimming, do arts and crafts and perform at Camp Fire Friday.

I get to do everything that Kids Zone do and more, I get to choose SKILL CLINICS! I pick three skill clinics to complete bronze, silver and gold challenges throughout the week, I can choose any skill clinics from mountain biking to film and photography. I get to go swimming, choose pick 'n' mix activities and soak a coach!

I get to visit Camp Williams for one day of jam-packed action. We get to take part in sports, camp games and go swimming.

I get to do all the things that the campers in the Discovery village do, including skill clinics AND skills clinics masterclasses! This means that I can pick one skill clinics to focus on through the week and become a master, getting an award at the end of the week.

As one of the older campers, I get to do EVERYTHING that the other campers do AND I get to go on day trips, where I get to experience what I've learned in my skill clinics outside of Camp Williams! I also do team building games with my other Adventurers and learn more advanced sporting techniques.



KIDS ZONE

AGES 4 - 7

DISCOVERY

AGES 8 - 9

PIONEER

AGES 8 - 12

EXPLORER

AGES 10 - 12

ADVENTURE

AGES 13 - 15

"My son has learnt new skills, made new friends and had so much fun at Camp Williams, I can't praise it highly enough! He wants to come back every summer holiday!"

"My two boys loved it. They said the skill clinics were amazing, with such energetic highly motivated and engaging staff. Both had a full fun packed week of games, fun, new friends and learning new things. What else can you ask for?"

"I was worried that at 14 my daughter might be bored and be on the edge of the age groups participating. But this wasn't the case; she got involved in lots of new activities, had fun, and talked non-stop about the team! Big thanks to all, guys!"



"My granddaughter absolutely loves it and has been going for years. Campfire Fridays are fun and very interactive, it's great to see parents sing along with camp fire songs!"

Getting to Camp Williams NG2 7YF

Ofsted number: **EY498929**

YMCA bus

The YMCA bus can be included in all **week-long bookings during Easter and Summer holidays.**

- Arnold Hill Academy
- The Forest
- Kimberley, outside Sainsbury's
- YMCA youth and community centre, Melbourne Park
- Eton Grove Bus Stop (Stop WO24)
- Emmanuel School, Camp Williams

Specific times for each stop will be confirmed in the pre-camp email sent before Easter and Summer camp.

camp sign in	08:00 - 09:00
camp sign out	17:00 - 18:00



By tram

You can get the Clifton tram to Wilford Village. Camp Williams is just a 5 minute walk from there. There are cycle and foot paths leading towards The Nottingham Emmanuel School. Look out for the playing fields as you approach.

By car

Take B679 (Wilford Lane) from A453 or A60 (Loughborough Road). Turn onto Gresham Park Road near the playing fields and Cadet Centre. There is space for you to park whilst you sign your child in and out of camp.

Bring a Friend Programme

Camp Williams is all about making friends and learning new skills together in a fun, positive environment. We want you to bring your friends to experience an awesome day at camp FOR FREE with 'YMCA Bring a Friend'!

If you book a full week of Camp Williams in our Kids Zone, your friend will be able to attend the first day of the week without any booking charges. They will play camp games and take part in rallies. Your friend can also book and pay for the remainder of their week after they've enjoyed their free day.



*Please note that this initiative is only applicable to certain weeks at Camp Williams. Please see nottsymca.com for more details.

"My daughter loves Camp Williams so much, she has so much fun. She is like family there"

Scholarships

We are committed to increasing children's participation in healthy activity across the whole of Nottinghamshire. No child should be turned away.

We are proud to offer help for families who can't pay full price.

Our mission, based on Christian values, is to develop the mind, body and spirit of individuals, families and communities, and improve health and well-being for all.

Our scholarships are our way of making sure every child has the opportunity to experience a week at day camps. Thanks to contributions from our generous group of trust funders, we are delighted to be able to offer subsidised places at YMCA day camps and Camp Williams throughout the school holidays.



Did you know...you can use childcare vouchers to pay towards our childcare and day camps programmes? To find out more about this and our scholarships please visit nottsymca.com/camp-williams

Who qualifies for a scholarship place?

Scholarship places are for children who receive free school meals and to support families who might not be able to cover the whole cost of purchasing a place at camp.

How do I apply?

Simply request a scholarship form from our team.

@ ymcadaycamps@nottsymca.org

📞 0115 711 7006 - lines open Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm

Notice for teachers

We work with schools to give their pupils more opportunities to learn and grow in the holidays.

At camp we encourage children to build developmental assets through adventure and experiential learning in an exhilarating environment.

If you would like to spread the word about scholarships for your pupils or you're interested in us running after school clubs at your school, contact us today.



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