

Winter Break Camp 2026: Parent Information

Contact Information: camps@pickering.ca, 905.420.4660 ext. 3246

Welcome to Winter Break Camp!

We are thrilled to have your child join us for an exciting, active, and engaging camp experience. Whether it's their first time at camp or they're returning for another adventure, we are dedicated to providing a safe, inclusive, and memorable environment for all campers. Please take a moment to review the attached information, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Camper Pick-Up/Drop-Off

Camp Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

- Walk your child to and from the designated Pick-Up/Drop-Off location and ensure they are checked in and out daily with camp staff.
- If someone else is picking up your child, inform us in advance. All individuals that are picking up campers must present photo ID before your child is released.

Camp Locations

All camps are held at Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex, 1867 Valley Farm Rd:

- Mini Pidaca: Creative Centre
- Specialty Arts: Pottery Studio
- Winter Fun All in One: East and West Salons
- YEC: Program Room C
- Skating Camp: O'Brien Rooms A & B (please drive around to the Arena side of the building)

Absenteeism / Safe Arrivals

If you know in advance that your child will be absent or late, please email us at camps@pickering.ca with your child's name and the date(s).

If you would rather leave a voicemail, please call 905.420.4660 ext. 3246. If a camper is absent without prior notification, we will attempt to contact the parent/guardian.

Late Pick Up Fee

A fee of \$20 per 15 minutes will be charged to the parent/guardian account for all participants who are picked up late from camp.

Weather Alert: In case of severe weather, visit <https://www.pickering.ca/news/> or call 905.831.1711 for updates

What To Bring To Camp Daily

All campers are advised to wear comfortable clothing as well as footwear (indoor shoes) that are suitable for a full day of fun and engaging activities.

Campers are asked not to bring valuables to camp, as they will be responsible for their belongings. Campers are asked to please bring appropriate winter clothing (coat, hat, mittens, scarf). Extra set of clothes and indoor running shoes.

Please ensure to label campers' belongings (i.e. lunch bags, water bottles, extra clothing, etc.).

Skating Camp

1. Sharpened skates and a towel (separate bag).
2. CSA-approved hockey/multisport helmet with a front mask (no bike helmets) and gloves are mandatory.
3. Warm clothes and socks (extra pairs recommended).
4. Recommended: elbow and knee pads.
5. Water bottle and indoor running shoes.
6. Jacket and ski pants.

Lunch/Snacks

Campers are required to bring their own NUT-free lunch with them to camp every day. We also ask that lunches are packed in non-breakable containers (no glass). Each day campers will have two snack breaks and a lunch hour. Please send your child to camp with a reusable water bottle so they stay hydrated throughout the day. If our staff are unsure about snacks, campers will not be allowed to eat them at camp. Fruits and vegetables are always a healthy and allergy-safe snack! Extra snacks are always recommended.

Allergy Notice

Please be mindful of any food allergies that may be brought to your attention (i.e. tree nut allergies that can be life threatening). For this reason, please do not pack tree nuts, tree nut products, or any products containing traces of nuts in your child's lunch for camp. If staff are unsure of snacks (i.e. granola bars), campers will be asked not to eat them at camp. Please feel free to send a copy of the ingredients of any items we may be unsure of (i.e. cookies). Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Respectful Conduct Policy

The City of Pickering is committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment for both employees and customers. The Respectful Conduct policy addresses disrespectful behaviours from all patrons. Safety of our campers and staff are our number one priority.

Failure to abide by the camp policies may lead to removal from the program. Please discuss the importance of safety with your child prior to the first day of camp.

Swimming

Please note that swimming will not be offered during Winter Break Camps, as the CHDRC pool will be closed for the duration of the break.

Daily Camp Themes

Monday December 21	Tuesday December 22	Wednesday December 23	Monday December 28	Tuesday December 29	Wednesday December 30
Winter Wonderland	Disney Day	Pajama & Stuffie Day	Ugly Sweater Day	Superhero Day	Shine & Sparkle Day
Embrace the holiday spirit by wearing festive holiday sweaters or anything red!	Dress up as your favorite Disney character or wear your favourite colour to celebrate the magic!	Get comfy in your coziest pajamas and bring along your favorite stuffed animal for a cozy day of fun!	Wear your coziest, yet ugliest sweater to camp!	Dress up as your favourite superhero!	Ring in the New Year in style with outfits featuring lights, glitter, or anything that shines!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us directly via email at camps@pickering.ca.

We look forward to an amazing winter break with your child!

Your 2026 Winter Break Camp Staff