

FZY Summer Camp 2024 - FAQs

About FZY & FZY's Summer Camps

What is FZY?

The Federation of Zionist Youth UK (FZY) is a Jewish Zionist Youth Movement, strengthening Jewish and Zionist identity whilst creating a strong and vibrant Jewish community for tomorrow. At FZY we strive to challenge, stimulate, educate and excite British Jewish youth through an array of programming. FZY works within a pluralist framework and therefore welcomes and respects members from different Jewish and political backgrounds, whilst providing a space to explore your own Jewish identity and that of others. Check out this [short video](#) and the [FZY website](#) to understand more about FZY's ideology and programmes.

What is FZY Summer Camp?

FZY is a lifechanging journey and this summer we are offering three different 11-night summer camps for young people finishing school years 8, 9 and 10 which provides not only a great soft landing into the UK's oldest and largest Zionist youth movement but also offers a fun and exciting way for participants to spend part of their summer holidays. **As an educational and ideological youth movement, FZY's summer camps reflect this framework.** The programme will include educational aspects and recreational/social ones. The Summer Camp methods may include and range from learning through artwork and personal stories, zip-lining, hiking, educational activities in a classroom setting, abseiling, sport and activities revolving around drama and music. FZY Summer Camp brings together young people from across the UK providing a safe space to meet new friends whilst spending quality time within their existing relationships. For further information, explore [FZY's summer camp section of its website](#).

What are the dates of camp?

Camp for all year groups will be from the 28th July – 8th August. Although not expected, all dates are subject to change.

What age participants is FZY Summer Camp 2024 for and why?

FZY's Summer Camps are for young people that are finishing school years 8, 9 & 10 (S2, S3 and S4 in Scotland) at the end of the 2023/24 academic year. Assuming there is demand, each year group will have its own separate camp although all camps will be utilising the same site and there will be a few cross communal activities throughout the 12 days. This year, we have taken the decision to not run a camp for participants at the end of school year 7. We believe that this year, we can run our most effective programming for participants from years 8-10 to maximise the FZY experience for all our participants.

What will the participants do on the Summer Camps?

A detailed schedule will be sent to applicants and their families nearer the time of departure. There will be a mixture of educational, fun and team-building activities which will be safe, engaging and ideological. Most of the activities will take place on the large grounds of the site we are using, although we are expecting to leave the site on 2 occasions safety and security permitting. The itinerary will include educational aspects and recreational/social ones. The Summer Camp methods may include and range from learning through artwork and personal stories, zip-lining, hiking, educational activities in a classroom setting, abseiling, sport, and activities revolving around drama and music. For anyone who is familiar with a traditional British Zionist youth movement camp and are looking for this type of experience will find this on our summer camps. More details can be found in [FZY's summer camp section of its website](#).

Where will the camps be based?

All the camps will be using the same site, which is based in Norfolk, UK. For security reasons, the exact address will only be provided to families after they have registered and been accepted on the programme. The site we are using is the same one we used last year for our Ofek and Maslul camps.

What type of site will the camps be staying on?

The site is an activity centre which is part of a respected chain that has several sites across the UK. Schools, youth groups and other similar organisations use this throughout the year. Although the site is based at an activity centre, the camp is not an activity camp and the itinerary reflects FZY's nature as an educational Jewish and Zionist youth movement.

Will the camps be taking place indoors or outside?

The site we are using is indoors, has all its sleeping spaces inside, but has large outdoor fields and space to use.

How many participants will sleep in a room?

Rooming at the site ranges from two people in a room to larger dormitories. All participants will share a room with at least one other person from their camp.

How many participants will there be on the different camps and from each year group?

This will partially depend on how many people apply. There is space on the site for approximately 250 participants in total. Should any of the year groups have less than 30 applicants, FZY will combine school years together to allow for a positive social experience for everyone. If this will be required, year groups will only be combined with one other which will be either a single school year above or below.

Do the different camps mix or are they separate?

Although the camps will be on the same site as one another, the three camps are being planned to be run separately. There will be different staff and rooming assigned to each camp. There may be a few small areas when the camps will overlap, i.e., Shabbat services, some mealtimes, etc., but on the whole the camps are being treated as separate and will not spend any significant time together.

Will the participants be with their friends?

FZY's plan is to place participants with their friends whilst at the same time ensuring they get to be with some new people. As part of the application process you will be asked to highlight some people you would like to be in a kvutsa (group) and bedroom with. FZY will then attempt to split the groups and rooming as best as we can based on friendship requests and ensuring groups that are balanced. All participants will have plenty of time they can spend with other summer camp participants even if they are not placed in the same room or kvutsa as them.

Can I join FZY summer camp for a selection of days or a shorter time?

The basic answer to this question is no. However, if you have a personal situation that you believe may be 'exceptional' then please be in contact with the FZY Office who can determine whether there is anything that can be done about your specific case.

Will transport be provided?

Yes. FZY will provide transport to / from the site from the main centres our participants come from across the UK.

Who are your staff?

FZY as a youth movement is more than 110 years old. We have decades of experience of running activities for young people and we do so in a professional manner. Most of our staff are graduates of one of FZY's leadership development training courses and many have previous experience of leading activities for young people. The majority of FZY's leaders will have been a participant on an FZY summer camp or another FZY activity over the last decade so will understand where the young people are coming from. FZY's leaders will be no younger than graduates of secondary school, almost all of them being at least 18 years of age. The FZY staff will also be joined by a delegation of Israeli leaders from FZY's sister youth movement, the Tzofim, who have similar training and experience. In addition to the young student leaders, there will be several more experienced adults who will be helping to manage and support the team. Professional staff based between FZY's London and Israel offices, plus at the site itself, between them have decades of experience building these types of programmes.

What are FZY's staff to child ratios?

FZY's [Safeguarding & Child Protection](#) policy aims for there to be at least one leader to every six young people. We are likely to see a greater number of staff to young people than this so we can best cater for everyone's needs whilst also overseeing the camp generally, dealing with the logistics, and managing the group leaders.

What are the prices of the summer camps and what does this price include?

FZY has an early bird price in addition to our standard price. These are the prices:

- Camp Early Bird Price – £1,499 (Before Monday 4th March)
- Camp Regular Price – £1,599 (After Monday 4th March)

The price includes accommodation, three meals a day, travel to and from the site from major centres, staffing, activities, and security. The price does not include spending money (i.e., for tuck shop and merchandise), travel insurance and a refundable damage deposit.

Will the participants need spending money?

FZY will operate a tuck shop throughout the summer camps that will sell snacks and FZY merchandise / clothing. We recommend participants bring with them a small amount of spending money to purchase these things if they want.

What food will be provided?

FZY provides a fully kosher camp and will provide three substantial meals a day. After decades of running seminars and camps, FZY understand what our participants want to eat, and we provide a nutritious menu of healthy tasty food.

Can FZY cater for special dietary requirements?

FZY will cater for all dietary and allergy requirements if we are made aware of these in advance. Our summer camps are nut-free environments.

How does Shabbat look in an FZY camp?

Shabbat is often one of the best days on summer camp as we create a real '*Shabbatmosphere*' that encapsulates the whole site. FZY is a pluralist youth movement, and as such does not dictate or educate how participants should / shouldn't observe Shabbat. We will provide three different services / options for participants to engage in on Friday night and Shabbat morning and all the activities that we offer operate within the laws of Shabbat. In public places we ask that the participants do not break Shabbat, but in their rooms and private spaces they are able to as they wish.

Can participants use their phones?

Mobile phones, tablets and other communication devices will be collected by staff at the start of the camp. We do this to create a positive and inclusive environment where participants can focus on programming and each other rather than be distracted by technology. It is expected that at a few times throughout camp, and in designated areas, participants will have access to their phones to make calls home should they wish. The frequency of access to phones is currently under review, and we will share the result of this closer to the time of camp starting.

What is the procedure if a participant is unwell?

There will be both first aiders and a welfare leads on each of FZY's summer camps for the duration of the programme. If a participant is feeling unwell or requires extra support, these staff will be available to assist alongside the group madrichim (leaders).

What happens with medication during the summer camp?

FZY will collect all medication at the start of camp to ensure this will not get lost or misused. The first aiders will make this medication available to participants as and when required. For those participants that have a headache or something similar, the first aider will have medication to provide participants. Parents/Guardians will need to approve through the online application form that these medications can be administered if there is a need during camp.

Application Process

How do I sign up?

To sign up you need to complete a short online application form which can be found on [FZY's website](#). This must be accompanied with a deposit which can also be paid online via the application form. A more thorough application and medical form will be sent later in the process.

How and when do I pay?

A deposit is required upon initial application and there is a section in the initial online application that can process payment of this. The full balance of the Programme is due and must be paid no later than 23:59 on Monday 6th May 2024. Payment using credit / debit card through FZY's online payment system is preferable, although other payment methods are accepted. Contact Eliana (eliana@fzy.org.uk) at the FZY office to explore additional payment methods.

What if I can't afford the full cost of the summer camp?

FZY is an inclusive youth movement and we understand, especially during the challenging financial times brought about by inflation and the Covid-19 pandemic, that not everyone can pay the full price for its summer camps. Therefore, there is some financial assistance available for families that are unable to pay the full price of the programme from FZY and the [Friends of FZY](#). As part of the initial online application form there is an opportunity to request financial assistance. If you require further information and/or your circumstances have changed and you did not request financial assistance on the initial application form, please contact Claire (claire@fzy.org.uk) at the FZY office in confidence. She will be able to explain the financial assistance process further and answer any questions you may have.

Are there limited spaces on the summer camps?

Yes. The site we have contains a limited number of beds and for FZY's ability to effectively provide a great summer camp experience in a safe environment, there is a maximum number of participants we can accept. FZY is hopeful we can cater summer camps for all those that want, but there may be limits as to the number of participants that we can cater for based on applications and other factors.

[Will my child have priority if they have been on the Noar programme this year or on a previous camp with FZY in the last 12 months?](#)

Yes. Those participants that have been enrolled within FZY's Noar programme this past year and/or were on another FZY camp in the last 12 months will receive priority if they apply before 23:59 on Monday 4th March 2024. After this deadline passes, FZY can no longer provide priority to anyone. Even within the time allocated for priority placement, FZY will still operate on a first-come first-serve basis and there may be other factors, i.e., ensuring a balanced camp with regards to gender, etc. or governmental regulations that may impact the acceptance process. We recommend applying quickly to maximise your chance of getting a place.

[Will there be an information evening?](#)

Absolutely. FZY will be setting dates for an information evening closer to the time, approximately 4-6 weeks before the start of the summer camps. We will share this date and other information about the meeting with parents/guardians in due course.

[Cancellation](#)

[Will I get a refund if FZY cancels the programme before or during camp?](#)

If it is not possible to operate the summer camps for legal, safety or other reasons, FZY will be forced to cancel. FZY will use its best endeavours to safeguard money paid to it to be able to offer as close to a full refund as possible should the Programme have to be cancelled by FZY. Read FZY's [cancellation policy](#) for details on cancellation.

[Do I need to take out my own insurance?](#)

FZY suggests the participant has a suitable travel insurance policy in place. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to take out this personal travel insurance and to check whether cancellations or curtailments for reasons relating to Covid-19, security cancellations, etc., will be covered.