

Is KidSport Adaptive the Right Fit for my Child?

What is the goal of KidSport Adaptive (KSA)?

To provide recreation. KidSport Adaptive will provide children with higher support needs the opportunities to become physically active. We will promote physical activity and find ways your child likes to move. **This camp does not provide therapy, or social skills intervention.** While there are opportunities for motor and social development to occur naturally, KidSport Adaptive is designed to affirm children and create opportunities for supported exploration, rather than to achieve specific therapeutic goals.

What kind of training do KSA staff receive?

KSA staff are trained and supervised by two faculty members in the School of Kinesiology. Kerry Winkelseth is a physical educator who has 30+ years of experience directing KidSport Summer Camps and leading physical education for people with a range of abilities and support needs, and Dr. Haylie Miller, a developmental psychologist

What if my child requires one-on-one (1:1) support or supervision?

KidSport is a group-based program, we do not offer 1:1 support or supervision. Occasionally campers may work 1:1 with a counselor on a particular skill or activity (e.g., in the pool while working on floating skills), but it is important to know that our camper to counselor ratio is 2:1.

Can I or a therapist/behavior aide come with my child to camp?

No, our staff are specifically trained to support physical activities in a group setting, and most therapists/behavior aides have not had this specific training. We are not able to train individual external support people to support the group activity goals that we have for campers, as this is an extensive process. We are also unable to offer external support people the campus safety training and background checks that would be required to allow interaction with campers, and we can not accept outside training certificates/background checks from external agencies.

Can a medical professional (e.g., skilled nursing) come with my child to camp?

We are happy to talk with you about your child's individual needs to determine whether we are able to support them in this way.

What if my child uses ASL to communicate?

No problem! We can provide ASL interpretation services, but we need to know at least 30 days in advance of your camper's week in order to arrange that support, and so that you can meet with the interpreter ahead of time to make sure they are a good fit for your child. ASL interpretation services are booked through the University of Michigan Equity, Civil Rights, and Title IX Office on a first-come first-served basis, so the earlier we can request this support for your child, the better.

What if my child communicates in a language other than English?

No problem! We often have other campers or counselors who speak other languages, and we've had lots of campers in the past whose first language was not English. Most of our activities can be taught through gestures and modeling.

Is KidSport Adaptive the Right Fit for my Child?

What if my child uses an AAC or other electronic device to communicate?

No problem! Please contact us prior to the start of camp to let us know about the device your child uses so that we can support them.

What if my child uses a mobility aid?

Our camp facilities are accessible, including ramps, elevators, a pool lift, and grab bars and/or benches in toilet and shower areas. We are able to support campers who use motorized wheelchairs, walkers, canes, braces, and other types of equipment. Campers who use non-motorized (manual) wheelchairs should be able to move their chair independently, as we do not have a 1:1 camper to counselor ratio. If you are uncertain whether your child will be able to participate fully in our group-based physical activities, we are happy to discuss their individual support needs!

What if my child is prone to running/wandering away (sometimes called “elopement”)?

We are happy to talk with you about your child’s individual history to determine whether we are able to support them safely and comfortably within a group physical activity setting. If your child is not able to participate in group activities without having an adult within arms reach to prevent them from running out of the room/building, KidSport is probably not the right environment for them. We operate in a large space, sometimes outside, and a counselor will not always be within arms reach. Some of our campers only run/wander when they are overwhelmed or upset, and we may be able to support their needs effectively.

Do KSA counselors help with toileting/diapering?

KidSport Summer Camps are not licensed or authorized for diapering and toilet training. We will help any child with the occasional accident and get them into clean clothes. Campers take a bathroom break every hour. If your child has had **any** bowel or bladder accident at **any** time of day in the past **6 months**, please send a full set of extra clothing with them in case of an accident.

Do counselors help with dressing/undressing?

KidSport counselors and sometimes KidSport swim staff are in the locker room with the children and can assist in getting changed before and after swimming as needed.

Do counselors help with feeding?

KidSport staff will be present during snack and lunch times. Someone will be seated at the table with our KSA campers and will assist in opening food containers/packaging. We will also assist with getting reusable containers back in their lunch box/backpack. We do not feed the campers.

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What if my child has a history of aggression/harmful behavior toward others or themselves?

We are happy to talk with you about your child's individual history to determine whether we are able to support them safely and comfortably within a group physical activity setting.

The following instances may lead to dismissal from:

- Any instances of biting other campers/staff hard enough to leave tooth marks/bruising or break skin
- Any instances of hitting other campers/staff with a hard object (e.g., hockey stick, water bottle)
- Any instances of throwing feces at or urinating on other campers/counselors
- Repeated instances of hitting, kicking, or head-butting other campers/staff on the head, face, or neck
- Repeated instances of verbal aggression toward other campers/staff (e.g., cursing, threatening physical violence)
- Repeated instances of self-injurious behavior involving impact to the head or face or resulting in breaking skin
- Repeated instances of targeted bullying (e.g., repeated instances of verbal or physical aggression toward one or more specific children)

What is a typical day like at KSA?

The following is a **SAMPLE schedule** from last summer. The times of the activities will likely change for this summer but you will have an idea of what our day MAY look like.

Morning Session		Afternoon Session	
8:00-8:40	Drop off/Acclimation to Camp/Structured Free Play	12:00-1:00 (only if staying a full day)	Lunch/quiet activity
8:40-9:10	Circle Time/Activity 1	1:00-1:30	Drop off/Acclimation to Camp/Structured Free Play
9:10-9:40	Bathroom/Wash Hands/Snack	1:30-2:20	Pool Time
9:40-10:15	Pool Time	2:20-3:00	Activity 4
10:15-10:45	Activity 2	3:00-3:30	Bathroom/Wash Hands/Snack
10:45-11:00	Break/Bathroom	3:30-4:00	Craft or Activity 5
11:00-11:45	Activity 3		
11:45-12:00	Bathroom/Prep for pick up or lunch		

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Who do I contact for questions?

KidSport Adaptive Camps questions:

Haylie Miller, Assistant Professor

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Email: kidsport.adaptive@umich.edu

KidSport Summer Camps questions:

Kerry Winkelseth, Director

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For billing and registration questions:

Jodi Tye

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