



G.A.P. Summer FAQ

Welcome to summer with G.A.P.! Here is where we will try to answer all the questions you may have.

How old do children need to be to attend? Children need to be five by the time of attendance.

What site should we sign up for?

- Children entering junior kindergarten or kindergarten in the fall will attend at the Kindergarten site unless the Kindergarten site is full, or the child has an older sibling enrolled at the Medary or Hillcrest site.
- Children entering 1st grade – 3rd grade in the can sign up for either the Medary or Hillcrest site.
- Children entering 4th – 6th grade in the fall will attend the Camelot site.

What are the phone numbers for the sites? Camelot 605-696-4447, Hillcrest 605-696-4645, Kindergarten 605-692-4399, Medary 605-696-4369, main office 605-692-8066. Please try to limit calls to the site to urgent needs as our staff are busy interacting with and supervising the children.

What is the Hi Mama app and why do I need it? The Hi Mama app is used to improve communication with families and to streamline processes. Pictures will be posted in each site's journal on the app of things sites are doing throughout the summer.

You will also sign your child in and out through the app. Signing your child in and out helps G.A.P. to comply with regulations set by the United States Department of Agriculture as G.A.P. participates in the food program.

How do I pay my fees? Fees are invoiced and paid through Hi Mama on a schedule provided in the Summer Fee Structure Agreement. When you set your account up for payment, we recommend choosing bank withdrawal as the fees charged to G.A.P. are less than the credit card transaction. G.A.P. also recommends turning on autopay.

Do I have to pay for days my child is absent? If G.A.P. is notified by Hi Mama message or email to gapost@brookings.net two weeks in advance of the absence, no charge will be incurred. However, a maximum of two scheduled absences will be accepted for the summer where fees are waived.

What happens if I am late picking my child up from G.A.P.? Late fees are \$1.00 per minute. Late fees begin at 6:00 PM. If you are late, you will be invoiced through Hi Mama. However, G.A.P. gives this money directly to staff that had to stay late.

Do you provide lunch? G.A.P. provides a morning and afternoon snack. You will need to send a packed lunch, unless it is a planned order in or eat out day. It is recommended that ice packs are included with lunches as needed as refrigerator space is limited. Also, please keep any microwave time is less than three minutes.

Do you take children to Safety Town? Children attending at the Kindergarten site will be bussed to one session of Safety Town, time, and date to be determined. Children attending at the Medary site can attend can participate in Safety Town, preferably a morning session.

Do you sign up children for Park and Rec activities? We do not register children for Park and Rec activities.

Do you provide transportation for swimming lessons? G.A.P. will recommend sessions and times for swimming lessons where we will provide transportation and staff. Watch your emails for future information.

If I sign my child up for other Park and Rec activities, do you provide transportation? G.A.P. does not provide transportation to Park and Rec activities. If you sign your child up for activities, you will be responsible for providing transportation. The exception is tennis and soccer lessons for children at the Hillcrest site. If children at the Hillcrest site sign up for tennis or soccer, a staff member will walk the children to and from these activities.

Do you take field trips, and do they cost extra? G.A.P. does have outings to places that may include the movies, bowling, the climbing wall, etc. These activities usually incur an extra fee. These fees will be invoiced through the Hi Mama app. Please let the office know via a phone call at 605-692-8066 or email at gapost@brookings.net if you do not want your child to sign up for activities that involve an extra fee.

Do you take the children to the swimming pool? We take the children to the pool two to three times per week. All sites are bussed to the Hillcrest Aquatic Center except the Hillcrest site who walk to the pool. The children leave site around 2 PM.

Children are closely monitored by staff while in the pool. The Kindergarten site stays in the zero-depth pool area. Children are not required to swim and may choose to play in the park under the supervision of G.A.P. staff. All sites go to the pool on the same day, but these days will vary. A calendar will be provided via the website and Hi Mama app.

Pick up on swim days is at the Hillcrest park. Please park in the lot on the east side of the park and walk to the playground area. Each site will have a table and a flag up- yellow for Camelot, red for Hillcrest, yellow checkered for Kindergarten, and green for Medary. It usually takes 10-15 minutes for children to gather their belongings, so please plan accordingly.

If bad weather occurs while the children are at the pool, they will go to the Hillcrest G.A.P. site until further plans are made. A message will be sent via Hi Mama as well as posted on Facebook.

I have or do not have a pool pass. How does this work? Please let us know if you have purchased a season pass to the Hillcrest Aquatic Center. If you have a duplicate pass card, you may give that to G.A.P. to keep at site. If you have a pool pass, but do not have a duplicate card, please let staff know so they may add your child to the list for check in at the front desk of the pool. You can also purchase a discount card for 10 daily passes and give it, labeled with your child's name, to G.A.P. staff. If you do not have a season or discount pass, your child will be invoiced through the Hi Mama app for the daily swim rate.

Can I send money for my child to get a treat at the pool, bowling alley, etc.? Children are not allowed to purchase snacks at the pool, bowling alley, etc. G.A.P. provides a morning and afternoon snack.

Do I have to send sunscreen and bug spray? Sunscreen at G.A.P. is a priority. All children will apply sunscreen before going outside. G.A.P. provides the sunscreen, but we always welcome donations to the G.A.P. sunscreen supply. We most often use a generic PABA free waterproof sunscreen with a SPF of 30-45 which provides UVA and UVB protections. You are welcome to send your own sunscreen for your child just make sure it is labeled with their name.

G.A.P. does not supply bug spray. If you send bug spray for your child, please label it with their name.

Do we need to send a water bottle? Water bottles are encouraged. Please make sure your child's water bottle is labeled.

If you have further questions that were not answered here, the parent policy manual is available on the "Parents" page of our website at www.brookingsgap.com. You may also ask any staff member, call the office at 605-692-8066, email the office at gapost@brookings.net, or send a message through Hi Mama.