

## HOW TO TALK WITH YOUR KIDS ABOUT CAMP THIS SUMMER

**Let them guide the conversation.** Many of our campers are young enough to mainly be focused in the present, thinking about school, seeing friends, and celebrating special occasions. Camp may still seem far away to them. If they ask you if they will be going to camp this summer, you can say something like **“We are really hoping that you’ll be able to go to Alonim this summer, but we don’t know for sure right now.”**

For older campers, they may have been looking forward to a summer at Alonim more than ever before. They probably can’t imagine what a summer would be like without their camp friends and celebrating Shabbat in all white. Most of them are probably aware of the uncertain times and are holding out hope for camp to be open this summer. For them, we suggest you say something like **“Camp is doing everything possible to be able to run this summer in a way that is safe and still feels like Alonim.”**

Although so much right now is existing within the unknown, we know that many of our campers will want to know **when** they will have the answer about their specific session of camp running this summer. We suggest that while we figure out what the coming weeks will mean for summer 2020 at Alonim, that you encourage your kids to do whatever they can to stay connected to Alonim. They can stay in touch with camp friends (let us know if you’d like a bunk roster from last summer), join in our virtual programming [here](#), or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay connected.

If your child’s session was cancelled and it is unlikely that another session is an option for you this year, we suggest that you say something like **“Unfortunately, you won’t be able to go to camp this summer, but we are making plans for you to be at camp next summer and stay involved in the ongoing programs camp will continue to offer throughout the year.”** We understand that this is a difficult conversation to have, but encouraging them to look forward to next summer will at least let them know that Camp Alonim will still be a part of their lives in the future.

We want to thank you for being a partner with Camp Alonim during these difficult times. Please feel free to reach out to any of us with questions you may have. We will all make it through these trying times together in the spirit of Alonim with strength, resilience and connection.

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