



Sharon Community Education

Summer Camp Guide, 2025



SharonCommunityEducation.com



Welcome to our Summer Camp 2025 guide! Even though Winter has just begun, we are planning our Summer Programs! Both STAR and CREATE Camps will be held again at Sharon High School! Being in the same building as the Community Education office and administrative team allows us to better communicate with and support our staff and campers.

For families who have been with us before you will notice that our schedule for STAR Camp looks a little different. The last day of school for the 2024/2025 academic calendar is scheduled for Friday, June 20, 2025 (without snow days). To allow for potential snow days, we will open camp on Monday, June 30, 2025 and close on Friday, August 8, 2025. Normally, STAR Camp and CREATE Camp close on the same day, however, STAR will operate for one week after CREATE closes. For families with children who participate in both STAR and CREATE, they will start and end their camp experience this summer with STAR Camp.

CREATE's operation will remain the same as a four-week program giving families the flexibility to select either one, two-week session or both sessions for a total of four-weeks. CREATE will open on Monday, July 7, 2025 and close on Friday, August 1, 2025.

We have updated our online registration process to allow parents/guardians to register their children into the proper grade group for STAR Camp. Families will be required to select the registration button with your child's grade for the 2024/2025 school year to ensure your child(ren) will be sorted into the correct group. If you are registering multiple children, make sure all children are added to the "cart" before moving on to completing the child's information and moving onto the payment screen.

We are proud to be able to say that our camps have grown in popularity in recent years and registration fills very quickly. We highly encourage families to consider your plans for the summer now, review our policies, and register as soon as registration opens if you know you want your child(ren) to participate in STAR and/or CREATE Camps.

Sincerely,

Erin, Barbara, Bridget, and Sara.

Sharon Community Education is a self-sustained branch of the Sharon Public Schools. We support all people who are interested in academic, social, and cultural development. Sharon Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, homelessness, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.

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STAR Camp

STAR Camp is a recreational camp serving children entering Kindergarten through current 6th graders. The STAR Camp Program is inspected and licensed by the Sharon Board of Health, and is in regulatory compliance with the State of Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

STAR Assistants

STAR Assistants are our 7th and 8th grade students (2024/2025 school year) who will assist our specialists throughout the day. STAR Assistants will meet with the Camp Director to select which specialist they would like to assist. In addition to assisting staff, the STAR Assistants will have their own activities specially designed with their age and interest in mind. ***Due to the role STAR Assistants have in STAR Camp, they will not be able to also enroll in CREATE Camp.***

Field Trips

Beginning in week two, campers and staff will take weekly field trips off-site to explore some of the many natural, historical, and recreational places in Massachusetts. Field trips are included as part of your tuition and there is no extra cost associated with attending a trip.

A CPR and First Aid Certified staff member will accompany each group on their trips. In some cases the camp nurse will also be in attendance. All necessary medical equipment, aids, and medications will be brought on the trip to ensure your child has access to them in case of an emergency. **When completing registration, it is imperative that you provide detailed information regarding any allergies or medical needs your child may have so we can ensure a safe experience for them.**

We will always bring snacks and water on every trip. For trips that last the entire day, please pack a paper bagged lunch that can be disposed of while we are away. This cuts down on the potential of lost items.

Field Trips typically last the entire day and buses leave between 9:30 and 9:45 am. Children arriving late cannot stay at camp as all staff attend the field trips. Parents are not allowed to drop children off at field trip locations. Children cannot be dismissed from field trip locations. This is to limit confusion and ensure safety. If your child needs to be dropped off late or picked up early from camp on a field trip day, we suggest you plan to keep your child home that day.

Lake Days

Three days a week we will visit Lake Massapoag for recreational and instructional swim. Campers will change at our camp location and then walk to the lake. Once there, students may choose to swim, play on the beach, create arts & crafts in the shade or play sports on the field. In accordance with Christian's Law, our Swim Instructors will assess each child's swimming ability on the first day of camp to determine if Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) or Life Vests will need to be worn during swim time. We provide Life Vests, however, PFD's can be provided from home as long as it is a **Coast Guard approved device**. We are at the lake for approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes, after which, we will return back to our camp location for afternoon

snack. Students may not be dismissed from the lake. If your child needs to be dismissed early on a lake day, they must be dismissed before 12:30 PM or after 3:30 PM from camp. Water is available the entire time we are at the lake. We do not allow campers to purchase from the lake snack bar. In the event that weather keeps us from going outside, we will make every effort to reschedule the lake days. Children are required to wear water shoes in the lake during recreational swim time.

Swimming Lessons

For those parents who desire swimming lessons for their children, we employ Red Cross Certified Water Safety Instructors (WSI) to teach swim lessons at an additional fee. Swimming lessons are held on lake days with the exception of Monday, June 30th as the instructors will be conducting swim assessments for each camper in accordance with Christian's Law. **There will be no retakes of assessments for campers who do not pass.** If a camper is not in attendance on June 30th, they will be assessed on the next lake day they are present. The assessment requirements are posted on our website. Red Cross Swimming certificates, *if earned*, are available only to campers who successfully complete and pass the various testing procedures that are part of the full six-week program. PFD's and water shoes are not worn during swim lessons only for recreational swim (should the child require PFD's).

Early Drop Off and Late Pick Up

As a convenience for our working families, we offer Early Drop-off and Late Pick-up services. You may drop your child off any time between 8:00 AM and 8:45 AM and/or pick up your child as late as 5:00 PM. Children cannot be dropped off before 8:00 am and cannot be left unattended outside of the school.

Children will be dropped off and picked up at the Community Education entrance of the high school, door A21 (unless otherwise communicated). Campers must be brought to the door and handed off by a parent/guardian or individual listed on the child's Community Pass account. Children will not be released to anyone who is not listed as a person authorized for pick up in Community Pass without parent approval. If your child needs to be picked up early, or will be picked up by another person, you need to communicate this to the Community Education Office and update your online transport release in your Community Pass account. **Children cannot be dismissed at the lake or at field trip locations.**

The safety of children is our number one priority and we want to ensure that it is a safe and fun summer for everyone. For your child/children's protection we will be requesting identification from anyone picking up a child whom our staff is unfamiliar with. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Lunch and Snack

Lunch should be sent with your child daily. Students should bring a lunch that is clearly labeled. It is also a good idea to label any reusable containers that your child brings.

We are using the school facility for storage so we do not have the ability to refrigerate individual lunches. Please pack an ice pack to keep food cool. We are not able to reheat any food items.

We will supply a morning and afternoon snack each day. We work hard to provide a variety of healthy and kid friendly snacks. Campers are never forced to eat, and certainly may bring a snack from home that they prefer.

One afternoon on the last week of camp, we will provide a BBQ lunch for all campers and staff to celebrate the end of STAR. The BBQ features 100% Angus beef burgers, 100% all-beef hot dogs, veggie burgers, and baked chips. We understand there are a variety of dietary restrictions and needs, and for those who need accommodations, we are happy to grill items brought from home (ex: kosher hot dogs, vegetarian or vegan burgers). We ask that those items be wrapped in foil, and labeled with the child's name. In addition, please make sure your camper delivers their food to their counselor first thing that morning so that we may properly store the food in preparation of the cookout. Parents will be notified of the date of the BBQ lunch. It is not necessary to pack lunch on this day, unless your child would prefer to eat food from home. We ask families with children who have food allergies or dietary restrictions to identify these when completing the online registration form so that we may properly care for the campers during meal times.

What to Bring

All campers should have a change of clothes that can be left at camp. Spare clothes should be in a plastic bag and clearly labeled. **Be sure to label all items!** Our staff will make every effort to help your child keep track of their belongings. Each day, lost items are gathered together and placed in a central location. Please call the program to inquire about any lost items. All campers will need:

- Sunscreen, SPF 25 or higher. Sunscreen should be applied before coming to camp. Campers will reapply their own sunscreen throughout the day.
- Water-shoes are required and should have solid traction and be made for water.
- Towel (Clearly labeled with child's name)
- Bathing suit
- Goggles (optional)
- Reusable water bottle (dishwasher safe if possible). Water bottles will stay at camp for the week and will be sent home on weekends to be washed. We will sanitize and refill them daily.
- Hat (optional but recommended)
- Lunch (except for the BBQ lunch day)

The following items should be left at home:

- Any electronic device
- Cell phone
- Gizmos/smart watches
- Heelys
- Stuffed animals
- Toys from home
- Money

The camp assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to campers personal property.

Tuition and Fees

Registration Fee: Waived if registration is received before May 1, 2025	\$50.00
STAR Camp: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	\$1,650.00
STAR Assistants: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	\$1,250.00
Early Drop Off: 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM	\$200.00
Late Pick Up: 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	\$200.00
Both Early Drop Off and Late Pick Up	\$350.00
Swimming Instruction (Space is limited)	\$150.00

Payment Schedule

STAR Camp tuition may be paid in one full payment of \$1,650.00 or families have the option of paying in four installments of \$412.50. STAR Assistants may also be paid in one full payment of \$1,250.00 or four installments of \$312.50. If the installment plan is selected the first installment (or deposit) is due at the time of registration. The second installment due on March 21st, the third installment due on April 18th, and the final installment due on May 16th. **All tuition payments must be received prior to June 2nd. Children will not be admitted to camp until any outstanding balances are paid.**

Registration

Registration must be completed online by logging into your Community Pass Account or by visiting our website: www.sharoncommunityeducation.com and visiting the Summer Camp page. Registration for all of our programs are first come first serve and payment either in full or the first installment must be made for registration to be accepted. Registration will remain open until June 2, 2025 or as space allows. Any registrations received after May 1, 2025 must pay the \$50.00 registration fee. Children are grouped in age/grade appropriate groups. We will not accept group or friend pairing requests. **Families with an outstanding balance with Community Education will not be allowed to register until the balance has been paid.**

***Please note:** Children must be registered for STAR Camp or STAR Assistants respectively to ensure a spot in camp. Only registering for Early Drop-Off, Late Pick-Up or Swimming Lessons WILL NOT secure a spot in camp. Any children who are registered for these additional services but have not been registered for STAR Camp or STAR Assistants, will be automatically withdrawn and the payment added as a credit to your Community Pass Account.

STAR Camp Calendar

Monday, June 30- STAR Camp begins (dependent upon last day of school)

Friday, July 4 - No camp in honor of Independence Day

Friday, August 8 - Last day of STAR Camp.



CREATE Camp

CREATE performing arts program offers two, 2-week sessions for children currently in 3rd grade through current 9th grade (for the 2024/2025 school year). Each session features a different musical and material. CREATE will be held at Sharon High School and all shows are performed in the temperature controlled auditorium.

Students may register for one 2-week session or both sessions for a total of four weeks. This format will give parents/guardians the maximum flexibility to arrange for their busy summer activities without having to commit to a program for an extended period of time. Each session features a fully realized Junior version of a Musical Theatre production featuring a Broadway Script. Session One: *Disney's Mary Poppins Jr.* from July 7, 2025 to July 18, 2025 and Session Two: *Disney's Newsies Jr.* from July 21, 2025 to August 1, 2025. Each closing Friday, the campers will put on a performance that is free and open for family members to attend.

There are two “tracks” students can select: Performance and Production. For those interested in performance there are opportunities for exercises in acting, singing, and dancing as well as performing in the show. Those interested in production will get hands-on experience in set design, lighting, and sound design. Because theatre is a collaborative discipline, participants will all take classes in prop making and dance.

Daily Activities

One of the main principles of CREATE is that of improvisation, the willingness and ability to continuously assess the situation of the present moment, and to spontaneously create and implement the best response. The program is based around the ensemble as it's framework, and creation and preparation of the Friday performance as it's goal. Over the course of each day, students will branch off into different topic areas with our talented staff to learn skills and to create, to meet the arising needs of the show as it develops towards the Friday afternoon performance. In addition to building the Friday performance, there are showcases throughout the week, where participants will feature work from the various classes, and allow all participants to perform and exhibit in a supportive environment. Subjects covered in classes include:

- **Acting:** Students will learn basic foundations of theatre (voice, movement, improvisation, and rehearsal techniques).
- **Dance:** This will include choreographed dance that will be featured and performed in the weekly showcase. Student ideas will be incorporated in the final production.
- **Theatre Tech:** Students will design and operate lights and sound for use in the final performance.
- **Set Design:** Students will design and build the scenery for the final production.
- **Props:** Students will design and create the props to be used in the final performance.
- **Singing:** Students will work on solo and choral singing. While the music assigned is part of the show, students will be able to work on vocal technique and training that is applicable to all singing situations.

All activities are planned with student ages in mind, and highly qualified and experienced instructors teach the electives, which may be mixed in age.



A typical camp day follows this schedule:

9:00-9:15	Drop Off and Check In
9:15-10:00	Warm-ups and Games
10:00-10:45	Acting
10:45-11:00	Snack
11:00-11:45	Rehearsal
11:45-12:15	Dance
12:15-12:45	Lunch
12:45-1:30	Recess/Games
1:30-2:15	Scene Shop
2:15-3:00	Rehearsal
3:00-3:45	Showcase
3:45-4:00	Wrap-up and Dismissal



Casting

Every child who wishes to perform will have an opportunity to participate in the performance. Casting decisions are not made lightly, and many factors are taken into account when making decisions. There is the experience of the child, which must be accounted for, while at the same time the need to create an aesthetically appealing show for an audience.

Casting is done following an audition (we ask every child to try their hand at an audition). In addition to learning lines, blocking, and choreography, every child will also spend time in the technical and design shops. This helps the children learn to respect all roles in the theatre.

Tuition and Fees

Session One	\$550.00
Session Two	\$550.00
Both Sessions	\$1000.00
Early Drop Off: 8:00-9:00 AM	\$75.00 per session
Late Pick Up: 4:00-5:00 PM	\$75.00 per session
Registration Fee: Waived if registration is received before May 1, 2025	\$50.00

Registration will remain open until June 2, 2025 or as space allows.

***Please note:** Children must be registered for CREATE Camp to ensure a spot in camp. Only registering for Early Drop-Off or Late Pick-Up WILL NOT secure a spot in camp. Any children who are registered for these additional services but have not been registered for either one or both sessions of CREATE, will be automatically withdrawn and the payment added as a credit to your Community Pass account.

Community Education is dedicated to serving the community.

Be sure to check our website for the most up to date information. www.sharoncommunityeducation.com

For questions regarding STAR and CREATE camp do not hesitate to contact us: Sharon Community Education
Phone: (781) 784-1574 ext. 5 or Email: snorton1@sharonschools.net



Superintendent: Dr. Peter Botelho
Assist. Superintendent: Ellen Whittemore
Assist. Superintendent: Joel Jocelyn
Assist. Director of Community Ed: Erin McCabe
Camp Support and Program Information: Sara Norton



Program Policies

All portions of Community Education Programs are supported through tuition. Programs will be scheduled according to the number of students registered. We keep our groups to a low counselor-camper ratio, and therefore some groups reach their maximum capacity very quickly. Do not delay in registering your child to avoid disappointment.

Pick Up

It is important that children be picked up promptly. If children are not picked up by dismissal, our staff will stay with them until you arrive. An additional charge of \$5 will be levied for EACH five-minute interval and fraction thereof, after the first five minutes grace period for the summer. Dismissal of campers is only allowed at the camp location. Campers will not be dismissed from the lake or a field trip location. For further details regarding early dismissal on lake days or field trip days, please see page 4. Dismissal Procedures will be communicated to registered families in their welcome packets prior to the start of camp.

Health Care

Though we share facilities with the Sharon Public Schools, we do not have access to any camper's school medical file. Please list any pertinent health information for your child when completing the online registration and provide a copy of your child's up to date immunization record to the Community Education office.

Our camp is staffed by either a Registered Nurse or a Nurse Practitioner, and is supervised by an on-call primary care physician. Medications should be in their original container with dosage instructions. No medicine will be administered without a completed Medical Authorization Form. Medications will be stored in a locked cabinet.

Children seek out the nurse for a variety of reasons, some small and some large. The camp will always communicate with the parents/guardian whenever a camper receives any medical treatment. In the event of an emergency situation, the nurse will call 911 and then the parents/guardian.

Behavior and Discipline

A safe and friendly environment is a necessity at camp. It is the goal of all our staff to model appropriate behavior and communication at all times. All disciplinary issues will be brought to the attention of the head counselors who will work with your child to resolve the issue. Parents will be informed in writing what occurred and what action was taken to resolve the issue. In the case that a camper poses a safety risk to themselves or others, the camper may be asked to leave camp.

Visitors

Visitors to the program are welcome **only after** receiving permission from the Community Education office and securing a pass to come to the program. Unidentified or unauthorized visitors will be asked to leave the premises, if they refuse or are found on the premises again, Sharon Police will be notified. This policy applies to parents/guardians who attempt to bypass the main office to visit or view their child at the program either on or off campus. This may cause distress to campers and staff members. If you wish to see your child while at camp, please come to the Community Education office and your child will be called down. We do not allow visitors (parents/guardians included) to interact with campers either on or off campus (Lake Massapoag or field trip locations) without prior approval from the Camp Director.

Staff

The staff is composed of certified teachers and experienced assistants. Each has had a positive background check, including a criminal offender registry inquiry (CORI) and a sexual offender registry inquiry (SORI), along with other inquiries as mandated by the MA Dept. of Public Health.

Refund Policy

Tuition Fees are non-refundable. Our programs incur staffing and other expenses based upon the total number of individual child enrollments and operating costs associated with them projected for the full year. Neither financial reimbursement, nor credit, will be given for a child's absence due to: emergency days; family trips; illness; religious events; snow days; vacations; or failure to make full use of the program. In the event a child becomes totally unable to participate in the STAR camp or CREATE program due to illness, disability, or otherwise, upon written request, the program director may refund or abate tuition fees. Tuition fees will not be refunded in the case of a child's absence, delayed attendance, early departure or withdrawal from the program. Any refunds processed are subject to a processing fee.

Contact Information

Community Education Office: (781) 781-1574
Address: 181 Pond Street, Sharon, MA 02067
Email: snorton1@sharonschools.net
www.sharoncommunityeducation.com



Community Education Announcements

Before Care, After Care, and Middle School Lounge for the 2025/2026 School Year

Mark your calendars and set your alarms because registration for Before Care, After Care, and Middle School Lounge programs for the 2025/2026 school year opens on Wednesday, February 12th at 9:00 AM! We provide a safe nurturing environment for Sharon Public School Elementary students both before and after school to support working families. Our Middle School Lounge Program provides a place for students in grades 6 - 8 to do activities, homework, and socialize under the guidance and supervision of our staff. All registrations must be completed online and the first month's payment (for September, 2025) is due at the time of registration. Visit our website at www.sharoncommunityeducation.com under Programs to learn more and complete registration.



After School Enrichment, Grades K-8

Term Two Enrichment begins in January but there's more fun coming up this Spring for Term Three. Watch for the Term Three program announcement to come through in February, 2025 or keep up to date by visiting: www.sharoncommunityeducation.com/programs/enrichment-programs.



Winter and Spring Adult Education

Adult Education offers a great variety of programs to suit all needs and interests! There are sports and fitness programs, outdoor nature classes, as well as various daytime and evening classes both in-person and virtually. Adult Education is also able to offer online fundamental skills and career training courses through our partnership with online education provider, Ed2Go. There are hundreds of classes to choose from that you can access anytime day or night! Visit us at: www.sharoncommunityeducation.com/programs/adult-education to view current programs and see what's coming up!



Registration for STAR Camp and CREATE
Camp for Summer 2025 opens on Friday,
January 31st at 9:00 AM!

Registration also opens for 2025/2026
Before Care, After Care, and Middle
School Lounge on Wednesday, February
12th at 9:00 AM!



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