

## 2023 Junior Camps (3-4 years old)

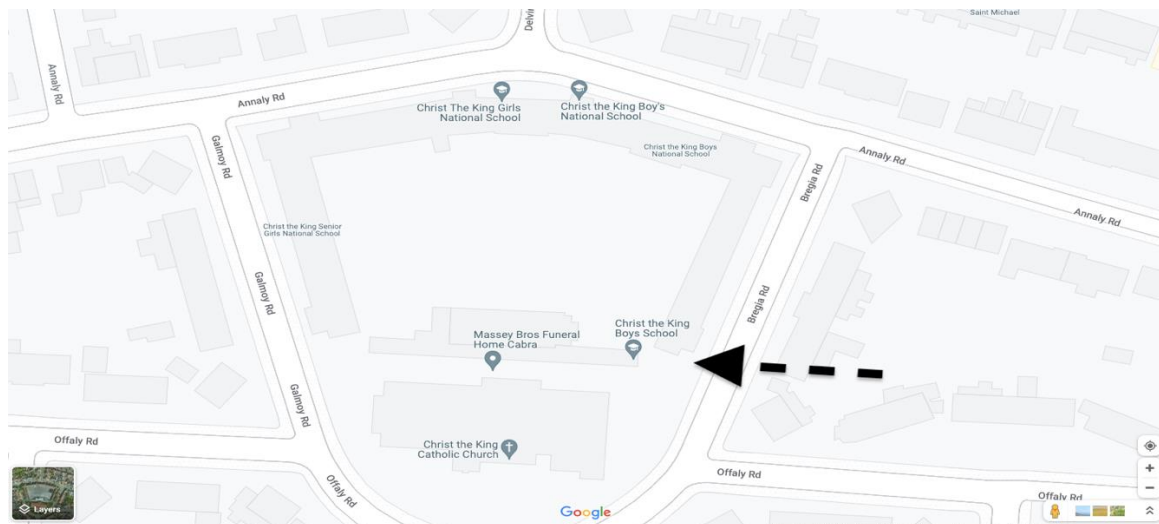
*Parents/Guardians: Things to Know!*

### Junior Camp Location:

**Christ the King. G.N.S, Annaly Road, D07 DC56\***

- 10-14 July
- 24-28 July

**\* Please note:** Entrance to the camp will actually take place at the **boys school side** on Breglia Road. See Map Below. It's only a 60 second walk around the corner from the girl school entrance.



### Facilities:

Christ the King offers a lovely PE hall in a separate building to the main school. It has toilets attached which is ideal for private hire. We also have use of their large yard with a soft spongy area in one corner. The yard is completely closed off from the public and enclosed on 4 sides, which allows for maximum supervision and safety.

**Rainy Days:** We aim to get outside as much as possible so encourage all parents to pack a rain jacket. If weather is too bad, we have contingency activities in the hall.



### Contact Information:

- Kevin Beakey – Camp Director, The Underdog Games
- [info@theunderdoggames.ie](mailto:info@theunderdoggames.ie) / 0851148174 (**WhatsApp only**)

### Pick up and Drop Off:

Junior Camp runs from **9.30am – 1pm daily**.

The Underdog Games Team are not responsible for children’s wellbeing before 9:15am. Please be prepared for **delays** at pick up and drop off due to increased safety measures.

Children may arrive as **early as 9:15am** and may be collected from **12:45pm onwards**.

**Please note:** Parents are **NOT ALLOWED** to stay on the premises during the camp. This is an insurance protocol and child-safety issue.

### Sign In / Out:

Children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult when arriving and departing camp. A member of staff will tick off the child's name at the beginning and end of the day.

- **Arrival / Collection:** Parents **are permitted** to enter the hall in order to complete sign in and sign out. However, they are encouraged to exit the hall promptly to allow for a swift flow of people. A faster exit will make it easier for your child to settle.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Day Procedure:

We understand that participating in a Easter or Summer Camp for the 1<sup>st</sup> time can be a daunting experience for some children (particularly our Junior Campers!). We try to alleviate that worry by providing as much information as possible to the parents/guardians so they can pass it on to their little ones. More information results in: more understanding, more familiarisation, more confidence and therefore: happier campers!

1<sup>st</sup> day procedures upon arrival:

- **Colour Groups:** Children will be given a name tag, coloured bib and coloured wristband indicating their group for the week. They will be shown to their group's spot in the hall / yard where they can start playing with the toys in that area. Please see list of groups below:



- **Secret Bell:** After all the children have arrived (usually 15 mins) a member of staff will ring a bell to secretly announce to the remaining parents that they must exit the hall. We've found that a 'big announcement' can cause panic and tears so we've opted for a more subtle approach.
- **Activities:** As soon as the last of the parents exit the hall, each group can begin the first of their exciting activities for the day!

The remaining days of camp will start with a similar routine

### Staff

We are fortunate to avail of excellent staff members at The Underdog Games. Each is Garda Vetted and experienced working with children. Majority are Student Teachers.

The camp is owned and operated by experienced primary school teacher, Kevin Beakey. Kevin has been teaching for the last 7 years in a wide variety of schools in Dublin while also gaining valuable experience working with children in the US and Australia.

### Ratio (1:5)

We offer an amazing ratio of 1 staff for every 5 children!  
This ensures maximum supervision of our young campers.

### Lunches

The children will have **two breaks** similar to school structure. They will eat within their assigned group and will be mandatory to clean their hands prior to eating.

The Underdog Games do **NOT** provide lunches.

We encourage children to bring a **big labelled Bottle of Water (500ml)** and avoid fizzy drinks and crisps/popcorn. Re-fills may not be permitted so it's important your child has sufficient to last the day. Please be advised our camp is **STRICTLY NUT AND EGG FREE**. This includes Nutella. A number of children attending are allergic. Please double check snacks before adding to lunch box to be sure. Children are **NOT allowed to share food** under any circumstances. Please ensure your children have 'easy-to-open' snacks.

### What to Bring / not to Bring?

#### Yes:

1. Packed Lunch
2. Comfortable footwear to run in.
3. Comfortable clothing (they may get a little worn)
4. **LABELLED Jumper/jacket for outside**
5. Labelled bottle of water

#### Optional but advised:

1. **Spare underpants / trousers** in case of a toilet-related emergency!

#### No:

1. Loose hanging jewellery
2. Open toe footwear (sandals/flip-flops)
3. Valuables (you won't need them!)
4. Toys
5. Any sharp objects

### Timetable:

Each pod will have a **structured timetable for the week**, comprising of a diverse range of exciting games, activities and free play.

### Activities:

Range of team games focusing on learning fundamental movement skills – throwing, catching, running, skipping etc.

Range of Free Play (Aistear) activities focused on developing cognitive skills as well as social skills and turn taking.

Whole Camp games designed to be a fun and exciting as possible! (including Giant Omnikin ball, Obstacle courses, Tug-of-War etc).

### Child Groupings:

Children will be placed in **5-6 pods of approx. 8-10**. They will have a variety of games with just their pod, together with another pod of similar age and also large activities with the whole camp. It's the perfect balance of small, medium and large sized games.

### Toilets:

As mentioned above, the PE hall has toilets attached. Children will be accompanied as far as the door of the bathroom. Staff will not enter the bathroom while a child is present inside, unless in cases of emergencies.

We incorporate set 'toilet breaks' for each group throughout the day. This encourages the 'more shy' children to use the toilet while at camp, and thus, reduces the risk of accidents. Children may use the toilet outside of these times also.

**Important:** Your child must be well practiced in using the toilet independently. We will have toilet training seats available for those who require it (or feel free to provide your own from home if that would be more comfortable).

### First Aid:

At least 1 member of staff on site will be trained in First Aid.

If your child sustains a minor injury, we have a Med Bag containing antiseptic wipes, medical gloves, plasters, ice packs, cotton swabs etc. It's imperative you **disclose any allergies** your child has to such items.

We operate an opt-out policy for basic first aid at our camps. If you do not want a member of our team to provide first aid treatment you must provide this instruction in writing prior to the camp's start date.

**Policy for Head knocks:** All bangs to the head will prompt an automatic call to the parents.

### Lost Property:

Please be advised that The Underdog Games Team accept no responsibility for any loss of valuables at our camps. We urge children to leave any unnecessary items at home (especially toys!) Please ensure all clothing is labelled (including water bottle)

**Policy:** All Lost Property will either be discarded or donated to charity at the end of each week if not claimed.

### Sun Cream

We encourage you to have sun-cream applied prior to arriving at camp each morning. Please note it is not the responsibility of staff members to apply sun cream to your child.