

2023 Senior Camps (5-12 years old)

Parents/Guardians: Things to Know!

Contact Information:

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

Pick up and Drop Off:

Camp runs from **9am – 2pm daily**.

The Underdog Games Team are not responsible for children’s wellbeing before 8:45am. Please be prepared for **slight delays** at pick up and drop off as we operate a ‘one-at-a-time’ queuing policy for maximum supervision. Children may arrive as **early as 8:45am** and may be collected from **1:45pm onwards**.

Summer Camp Location 1:

Our first 5 weeks of summer camp will be held at:

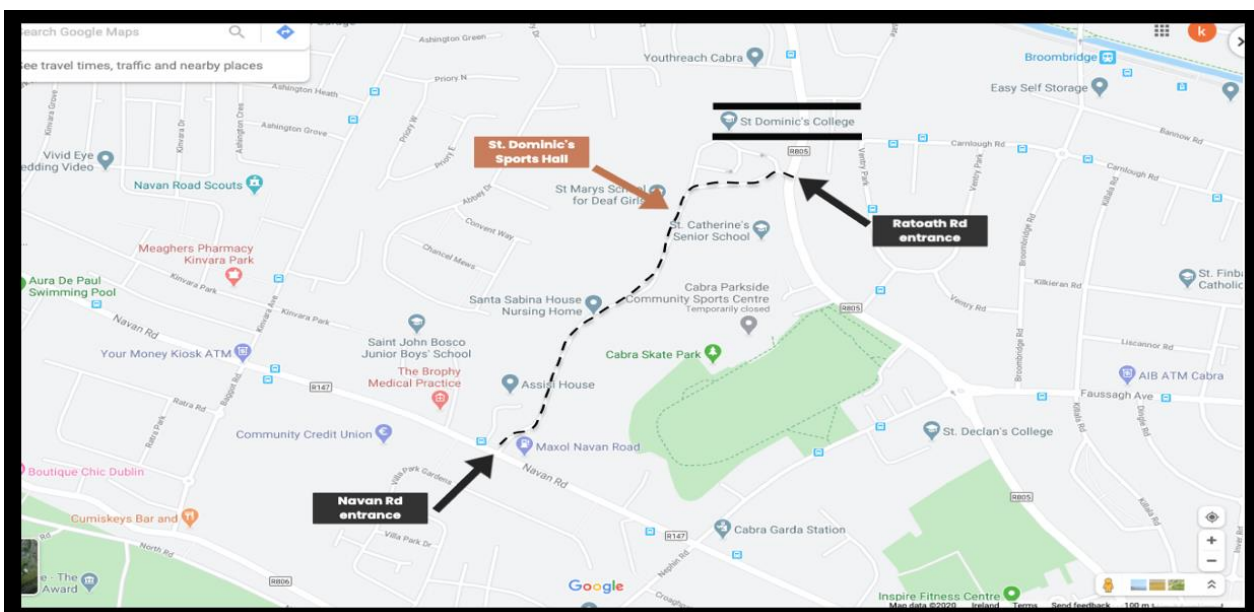
St. Dominic's College, Ashtown, Ratoath Road, D07 NX47.

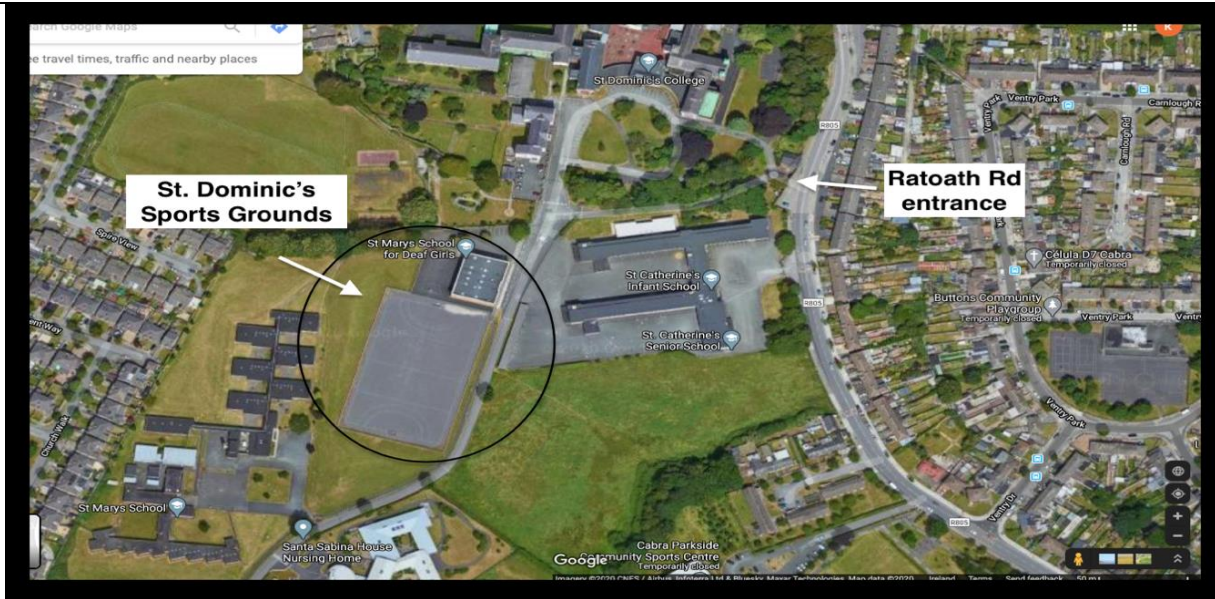
• 03 – 07 July	• 10 – 14 July	• 17 – 21 July
• 24 – 28 July	• 31 July – 04 August	

Please note the college has two entrances, one from Ratoath Road and one from Navan Road.

Navan Road will be accessible by CARS and PEDESTRIANS

Ratoath Road will be accessible by PEDESTRIANS ONLY





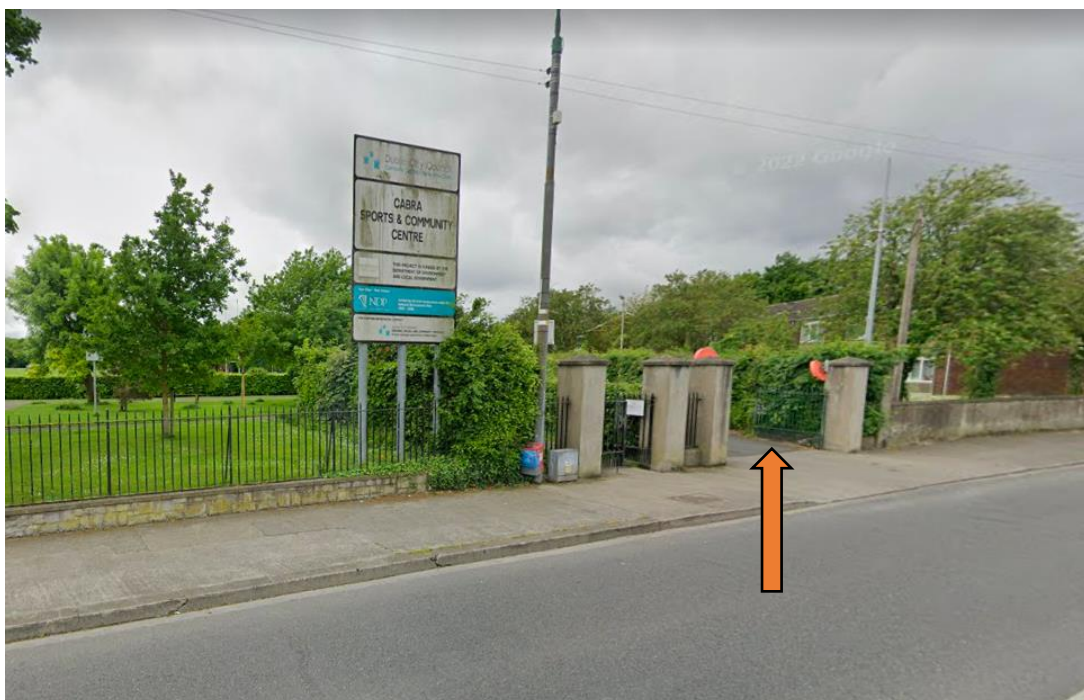
Summer Camp Location 2:

Our final 3 weeks of summer camp will be held at:

Cabra Parkside Sports Complex, Ratoath Road, D07 Y891

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| • 08 – 11 August | • 14 – 18 August | • 21 – 25 August |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|

Enter via Ratoath Road. Small laneway. Easy to miss! Limited parking available inside.
Please use main entrance of building and follow signs for Sports Hall.



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.

Cabra Parkside Sports Complex:

- **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.

St. Dominic's College:

- **Arrival / Collection:** Parents are **NOT permitted** to enter the building in order to complete sign in and sign out. Please form a socially distanced queue outside and your child will be brought in / out one at a time.

1st Day Procedure:

We understand that participating in a Easter or Summer Camp for the 1st time can be a daunting experience for some children. 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!

1st day procedures upon arrival:

- **Colour Groups:** Children will be 'checked off' as they arrive and will be given a coloured wristband indicating their group for the week. They will be shown to their group's spot in the hall where they can leave their belongings. Each day of camp begins with free play with balls, hoops, cones etc. This allows the children to settle in while we wait for everyone to arrive.
- **Whistle:** After all the children have arrived (usually 15 mins) a member of staff will blow the whistle and children will line up in their groups. They will be given a name tag and introduced to their Camp Leader for the week.
- **Activities:** As soon as they have been explained the rules and safety features at camp by their respective Camp Leader they can start the first of their many exciting games of 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. There will be a **minimum of 7 present** each day during the camp. 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.

Staff / Child Ratio:

1 : 11

Lunches

The children will have **two breaks** similar to school. 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 (750ml)** 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. Chewing gum is not allowed.

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.

What to Bring / not to Bring?

Yes:

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

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

Child Groupings:

Children will be placed in **age-based pods of approx. 12-14**.

Each child will receive a **coloured wristband** on arrival to camp each day. This identifies their pod (group) for the week to all the staff members.

Pod	Partner Pod	Age Range
Orange	Green	Youngest (approx. 5-6)
Blue	Yellow	Middle (approx. 7-9)
Purple	Red	Oldest (approx. 10+)

Please note the **age range** of each colour pod **may fluctuate** from week to week as it is completely dependent on who signs up to camp. For example: the average age in the Oldest pods (Red/Purple) may be 11 one week and only 9 the next week.

Please be advised that, despite our best efforts, it **may not be possible** to group your child with his or her friend(s) and sibling(s). We will do our best.

Timetable:

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

They will have a variety of games with just their pod, together with their partner pod of similar age and also large activities with the whole camp. It's the perfect balance of small, medium and large sized games.

Activities:

40+ diverse and exciting team games per week (approx. 8-10 per day). The activities are all non-boisterous and encourage teamwork and a broad skillset. Examples include Dodgeball, Tug of War and Capture the Flag.

Toilets:

Cabra Parkside Sports Complex:

- Campers will be accompanied to the toilets (located on both ground floor and first floor). As this is a public venue, the bathrooms are not exclusively for the use of the camp participants.

St. Dominic's College:

- There are also two sets of toilets inside the sport building. Despite being a private venue, **our staff will still NEVER leave a child unaccompanied** to go to the bathroom. This is a strict policy to ensure maximum child safety standards. Extra monitoring of hand washing will be observed.

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)

As parents are not permitted to enter the building at St. Dominic's, it's even more important that the children don't bring any unnecessary items as they will have to pack up their own bags independently.

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

Water Games:

We aim to run Water Activities for each group once during the week (**not including camp at October Midterm**)

Unless otherwise stated here is the **Scheduled Days** for Water Activities for each colour pod:

- **Blue / Yellow / Purple / Red: Wednesday**
- **Orange / Green: Tuesday**

What to Bring for Water Activities?

1. Spare change of Clothes
2. Towel
3. Water Gun (if you have one)

Please ensure all personal items (**incl. water gun**) are LABELLED!

Children can opt out of the Water activities at their own discretion (we won't force a child to get soaked against their will!). However, **we encourage parents to pack the above items just in case** as quite often, when they see the other children having fun, they change their mind and want to join in.

First Aid

There will be a minimum of 1 staff member trained in First Aid each week.

A First Aid Bag is present at all times during the camps. It contains plasters, disinfectant wipes/sprays, medical gloves, ice packs, bandages 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.

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.