# Kesher UK 2022 - FAQs

The following FAQs and answers are based on the situation as of February 9th 2022 and are subject to change in line with Covid-19 developments in the UK and the [Terms and Conditions](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Gz7GmQWYexZDJ-uGSwpMfb1nLsyE7sIx/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117512691039220152974&rtpof=true&sd=true) for application to Kesher UK.

## About FZY & Kesher UK

### What is FZY?

The Federation of Zionist Youth (FZY) is a Jewish Zionist Youth Movement, strengthening Jewish and Zionist identity whilst creating a strong and vibrant Jewish community for tomorrow. At FZY we strive to challenge, stimulate, educate and excite British Jewish youth through an array of programming. FZY works within a pluralist framework and therefore welcomes and respects members from different Jewish and political backgrounds, whilst providing a space to explore your own Jewish identity and that of others. [Check out FZY’s website](https://www.fzy.org.uk/) for more information about FZY’s ideology and programmes.

### What is Kesher UK?

Kesher UK is FZY’s 11-night summer camp that provides a fun and exciting way for participants to spend part of their summer holidays. Kesher UK brings together young people from across the UK, plus a delegation of Israeli peers, providing a safe space to meet new friends whilst spending quality time within their existing relationships. For further information, explore the [Kesher UK brochure](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xHiv8wAyhC3TkaV_bFZf_S3MYlcxXfEe/view?usp=sharing).

### What are the dates of camp?

Kesher UK will be running from 24th July – 4th August. Although not expected, all dates are subject to change.

### What age participants is Kesher UK for?

Kesher UK is for young people that are finishing school years 9 and 10 (S3 and S4 in Scotland) at the end of the 2021/22 academic year. For information about other programming FZY will be facilitating for other age groups, see the [FZY website](https://www.fzy.org.uk/summer-programmes).

### Will Kesher UK be residential or a day camp?

FZY is planning and opening applications for residential camps only this summer. According to current government guidance for out-of-school settings, residential camps are able to operate. If this changes in the future FZY will adapt its planning accordingly, but currently we are planning to run residential camps only this summer.

### What will the participants do on Kesher UK?

A detailed schedule will be sent to applicants and their families nearer the time of departure. There will be a mixture of fun, educational and team building activities which will be safe, engaging and ideological. Most of the activities will take place on the large grounds of the site we are using, although we are expecting to leave the site on 1-2 occasions if guidelines permit. For anyone who is familiar with a traditional British Zionist youth movement camp and are looking for this type of experience will find this on Kesher UK. More details can be found in the [Kesher UK Brochure](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xHiv8wAyhC3TkaV_bFZf_S3MYlcxXfEe/view?usp=sharing).

### Where is the camp?

For security reasons, the exact address will only be provided to families after they have registered and been accepted on the programme. Kesher UK will be taking place in England.

### Will the camp be taking place indoors or outside?

The site we are using is indoors but has large outdoor fields and space to use.

### How many participants will sleep in a room?

Rooming at the site ranges from two people in a room to large dormitories. All participants will share a room with at least one other person from Kesher UK.

### How many participants will there be on camp?

This will partially depend on how many people apply. There is space on the site for over 100 participants on Kesher UK and FZY probably have the ability to cater for a camp quite a lot larger than this.

### How many people will be at camp from each year group?

This really depends on how many people apply from each year group. FZY have a maximum number of people we can facilitate overall for camp; however, this can be broken down in whichever way we like between the school years. FZY will do its best to accommodate the needs of those that sign up.

### Do year groups 9 and 10 (S3 & S4 in Scotland) mix or have separate programmes?

The Kesher UK summer camp is entirely integrated between the two school years. FZY aims to keep the Kesher UK summer camp separate from other FZY camps which may be on the same site for the most part. There may be certain times when the camps will interact in small ways, but the different camps are largely separate and will be treated as such.

### Will the participants be with their friends?

FZY’s plan is to place participants with their friends whilst at the same time ensuring they get to be with some new people. As part of the application process you will be asked to highlight some people you would like to be in a kvutsa (group) / room with. FZY will then attempt to split the groups and rooming as best as we can based on friendship requests and ensuring groups that are balanced. FZY are not planning to operate in bubbles during Kesher UK, so all participants will have plenty of time they can spend with other Kesher UK participants even if they are not placed in the same room or kvutsa as them.

### Can I join Kesher UK for a selection of days or a shorter time?

The basic answer to this question is no. However, if you have a personal situation that you believe may be ‘exceptional’ then please be in contact with the FZY Office who can determine whether there is anything that can be done about your specific case.

### Will transport be provided?

Yes. FZY will provide transport to / from the site from the main centres our participants come from across the UK.

### Who are your staff?

FZY as a youth movement is more than 110 years old. We have decades of experience of running activities for young people and we do so in a professional manner. Most of our staff are graduates of one of FZY’s leadership development training courses and most have previous experience of leading activities for young people. The majority of FZY’s leaders will have been a participant on an FZY camp or other activity over the last decade so will understand where the young people are coming from. The FZY staff will also be joined by a delegation of Israeli leaders from FZY’s sister youth movement, the Tzofim, who have similar training and experience. The leaders are supported by a professional staff based between FZY’s London and Israel offices who between them have decades of experience building these types of programmes.

### What are FZY’s staff to child ratios?

FZY’s [Safeguarding & Child Protection](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zK66rLNFh1VK9fAPhJ8f75RocMrWavjR/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117512691039220152974&rtpof=true&sd=true) policy dictates there must be at least one leader to every eight young people. We are likely to see a much greater number of staff to young people than this so we can best cater for everyone’s needs whilst also overseeing the camp generally, dealing with the logistics, and managing the group leaders.

### What is the price of Kesher UK and what does it include?

FZY has an early bird price in addition to our standard price. These are the prices:

* Early Bird Price – £1,299
* Kesher UK Regular Price – £1,399

The price includes accommodation, three meals a day, travel to and from the site from major centres, staffing, activities, and security. The price does not include spending money (i.e., for tuck shop and merchandise) and travel insurance.

### Will the participants need spending money?

FZY will operate a tuck shop throughout Kesher UK that will sell snacks and FZY merchandise / clothing. We recommend participants bring with them a small amount of spending money to purchase these things if they want.

### What food will be provided?

FZY provides a fully kosher camp and will provide three substantial meals a day. After decades of running seminars and camps, FZY understand what our participants want to eat, and we provide a nutritious menu of healthy tasty food.

### Can FZY cater for special dietary requirements?

FZY will cater for all dietary and allergy requirements if we are made aware of these in advance. Kesher UK is a nut-free environment.

### How does Shabbat look in an FZY camp?

Shabbat is often one of the best days on Kesher UK as we create a real ‘*Shabbatmosphere*’ that encapsulates the whole site. FZY is a pluralist youth movement, and as such do not dictate or educate how participants should / shouldn’t observe Shabbat. We will provide three different services / options for participants to engage in on Friday night and Shabbat morning and all the activities that we offer operate within the laws of Shabbat. In public places we ask that the participants do not break Shabbat, but in their rooms and private spaces they are able to as they wish.

### Can participants use their phones?

During programmed time, in the dining room and at mealtimes we have a phone-free environment to encourage the participants to socialise with one another and build lasting friendships. At limited and specified times during free time, and only in private rooms / outdoor spaces, participants can use their phones.

### What is the procedure if a participant is unwell?

There will be both a first aider and a welfare lead on Kesher UK for the duration of the programme. If a participant is feeling unwell or requires extra support, these staff will be available to assist alongside the group madrichim (leaders).

### What happens with medication during Kesher UK?

FZY will collect all medication at the start of Kesher UK to ensure this will not get lost or misused. The first aider will make this medication available to participants as and when required. For those participants that have a headache or something similar, the first aider will have medication to provide participants. parents/guardians will need to approve through the online application form that these medications can be administered if there is a need during camp.

## Application Process

### How do I sign up?

To sign up you need to complete a short [online application form](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/ne8UCrmAYc8nvXiNVYLY). This must be accompanied with a deposit which can also be paid online via the application form. A more thorough application and medical form will be sent later in the process.

### How and when do I pay?

A deposit is required upon initial application and there is a section in the initial online application that can process payment of this. The deadline for the payment of the deposit is 23:59 on Thursday 10th March 2022. The full balance of the Programme is due and must be paid no later than 23:59 Thursday 28 April 2022. Payment using credit / debit card through FZY’s online payment system is preferable, although other payment methods are accepted. Contact Ruth (ruth@fzy.org.uk) at the FZY office to explore additional payment methods.

### What if I can’t afford the full cost of Kesher UK?

FZY is an inclusive youth movement and we understand, especially during the challenging financial times brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, that not everyone can pay the full price for Kesher UK. Therefore, there is some financial assistance available for families that are unable to pay the full price of the programme from FZY and the [Friends of FZY](https://www.ffzy.org.uk/). As part of the initial online application form there is an opportunity to request financial assistance. If you require further information and/or your circumstances have changed and you did not request financial assistance on the initial application form, please contact Claire (claire@fzy.org.uk) at the FZY office in confidence. She will be able to explain the financial assistance process further and answer any questions you may have.

### Are there limited spaces on Kesher UK?

Yes. The site we have contains a limited number of beds and for FZY’s ability to effectively provide a great summer camp experience in a safe environment, there is a maximum number of participants we can accept. FZY is hopeful we can cater the Kesher UK summer camp for all those that want, but there may be limits as to the number of participants that we can cater for based on applications and other factors.

### Will my child have priority if they have been on the Noar programme this year or on a previous camp with FZY in the last 12 months?

Yes. Those participants that have been enrolled within FZY’s Noar programme this past year and/or were on another FZY camp in the last 12 months will receive priority if they apply to Kesher UK before 23:59 on Monday 28th February 2022. After this deadline passes, FZY can no longer provide priority to anyone. Even within the time allocated for priority placement, FZY will still operate on a first-come first-serve basis and there may be other factors, i.e., ensuring a balanced camp with regards to gender, etc. or governmental regulations that may impact the acceptance process.

### Will there be an information evening?

Absolutely. As there may be changes to Kesher UK based on government guidance over the coming months, FZY will be setting dates for an information evening closer to the time. We will share this date and other information about the meeting with parents/guardians in due course.

## Keeping Kesher UK Covid-19 Secure

### Are you allowed to operate Kesher UK under current government guidance?

As things stand as of the time of writing, yes. Should the government guidance for out-of-school settings change in the future, FZY will ensure to work according to these guidelines and regulations, and we will be guided by our number one priority: the health, safety and welfare of our participants and staff.

### What steps are FZY taking to ensure everyone’s safety?

The health, safety and welfare of our participants and staff is FZY’s number one priority. Therefore, there are numerous steps that FZY are taking now and will take in the future to make sure camps will be Covid-secure. As the guidelines will likely change and be amended by the government before the start or camp, nearer the time FZY will send to families a full overview of how these camps will operate. FZY’s latest version of its [Covid-19 Policies](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o8COGUi_J_ZofdMVvKnp0E11Txca6hWt/view?usp=sharing) can be accessed on FZY’s website.

### Will the participants be in social bubble?

No, all participants will be able to freely mix with one another, however FZY will be encouraging participants to adopt social distancing where they can and maintain good hygiene routines where possible. FZY’s current [Covid-19 policies](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o8COGUi_J_ZofdMVvKnp0E11Txca6hWt/view?usp=sharing) may change based on future updated government guidance.

### Will participants need to wear a face mask?

FZY recommends, but does not mandate, participants wear a face mask whilst in indoor settings unless eating, drinking, sleeping, or playing sport. Face masks must be worn whilst on transport and at times when third-party venues and/or facilitators require this. FZY’s [Covid-19 policies](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o8COGUi_J_ZofdMVvKnp0E11Txca6hWt/view?usp=sharing) are subject to change.

### What happens if a participant tests positive for Covid-19 whilst on Kesher UK?

Currently anyone testing positive for Covid-19 needs to self-isolate for a minimum of 5 days. If this were to occur on Kesher UK, FZY will require a parent/guardian to collect their child at the earliest opportunity so the isolation can happen at home and not on the Kesher UK site. During the interim period before the participant is collected from Kesher UK, they will be isolated separately from the rest of the camp, either in a closed room or an outdoor area away from others. FZY will ensure that there are staff available for the entirety of this time and there will be access to an assigned medical professional and welfare lead.

### Will participants need to be vaccinated to be allowed onto Kesher UK?

Vaccination from Covid-19 is not a requirement for participation in Kesher UK. However, FZY recommends participants are vaccinated if eligible to lower the risks to them as per the [advice given by the NHS](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/).

## Cancellation

### Will I get a refund if FZY cancels the programme before or during Kesher UK?

If is not possible to operate Kesher UK for legal, safety or other reasons, FZY will be forced to cancel. FZY will use its best endeavours to safeguard money paid to it, including taking out Event Insurance, to be able to offer as close to a full refund as possible should the Programme have to be cancelled by FZY. Read FZY’s [cancellation policy](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1URu68e1zic3srpm6qcgcyYjK0FQYLt1w/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117512691039220152974&rtpof=true&sd=true) for full details.

### What happens if a participant gets Covid-19 and can’t go on Kesher UK?

If a participant tests positive before Kesher UK is due to leave and provided that the Participant provides FZY with a valid medical certificate or independent verification of this, then FZY shall refund the monies paid less an Administration Fee and any third party cancellation costs or charges incurred by FZY. Read FZY’s [cancellation policy](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1URu68e1zic3srpm6qcgcyYjK0FQYLt1w/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117512691039220152974&rtpof=true&sd=true) for full details. FZY requires participants to take out travel insurance that covers cancellation and curtailment due to Covid-19.

### Do I need to take out my own insurance for Kesher UK?

FZY requires the participant to have a suitable travel insurance policy in place. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to take out this personal travel insurance and to check whether cancellations or curtailments for reasons relating to Covid-19 will be covered.