

SHOALHAVEN CONFERENCE CENTRES
12-18 JAN 2026

Updated 2nd Dec 2025

Ignite 2026 Family Info Pack



Prepared by Ruth Smith &
Peter Lenehan



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

What We Do

02

Why Send Your Camper?

03

What We Believe

04

Ignite Expectations

05-07

Ignite Discipline Guidelines

08

Phones & Photography

09

Roles on Ignite

10

FAQ & Covid Policy

11

Ignite 2025





WHAT WE DO

Ignite is our week-long annual summer camp.

It's an opportunity to disconnect and reset. There's SO many things we do on camp it can be hard to capture it all! Here's what a typical day looks like:

08 BREAKFAST

09 SESSION
(LIKE A CHURCH SERVICE)

1030 MORNING TEA
PERSONAL BIBLE
READING (TAWG*)

11 GROUP BIBLE STUDY

12 LUNCH

13 CAMP GAMES
(TRIBE WARS!)

1430 ARVO TEA

15 FREE TIME
(POOL TIME!)

18 DINNER

19 NIGHT ACTIVITY

21 SUPPER

22 CABINS

2230 LIGHTS OUT

*Time Alone With God

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Service Morning - Help with gardening and weeding around the campsite.

Year 9-10 Camping Trip - Years 9 and 10 hike to, and camp overnight, at Bengalee Scout Camp.

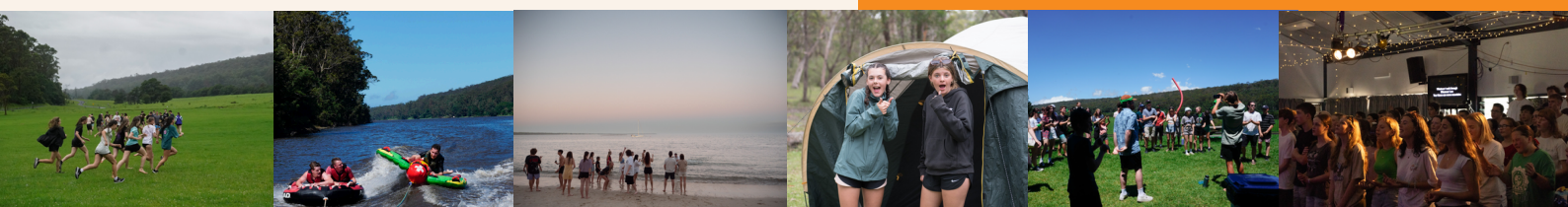
Seminars - Leaders prepare a session on a particular topic related to Christian discipleship e.g. how to read the Bible; learning about aid projects.

Year 12 Offsite Night - Year 12 heads offsite on the Thursday night of camp, to spend some quality time together as a team e.g. Huskisson.

Friday Festival - A bit like a talent show, youth have an opportunity to get in front of a mic and perform their hearts out.

We're always open to feedback from parents as we seek to improve and learn!

Just contact us if you have any questions or feedback.





WHY SEND YOUR CAMPER?

01. COMMUNITY

We do stacks of fun activities including massive outdoor games, water fights, dances, pool hangs, wide-games, skits and so much more!

We know youth face many challenges with their mental health, social life, and life direction. We can't solve all these things, but we know having a week of supportive community can be life-changing.

It is also a time where youth can get to know each other better. We've been running Ignite for 20 years now and we've seen friendships that have lasted the test of time through this camp.

We encourage all our youth, whether they are outgoing or shy, to come along and be part of it!

02. RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Ignite is a pathway to helping young people come to know and love God. The God who loved us so much he sent his Son to die and rise again for us.

Many of our youth report significant spiritual growth through coming on camp.

03. YOUTH MENTORS

We have an amazing team of volunteer leaders at Figtree Youth. Our leaders are of such high quality that they contribute to the positive development of young people, whether or not they share the faith of their leaders.

All our leaders have Working With Children Checks, Safe Ministry Training, and Safe Ministry checks.



WHAT WE BELIEVE

03

We believe in Jesus for Everyone! We believe knowing Jesus is what we were made for and that the Christian faith positively transforms lives.

Ignite is a ministry of Figtree Anglican Church. We are part of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. On Ignite, youth will be taught about the Christian faith in accordance with the beliefs of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. You can find out more about these [here](#).

The reason we do this, is that we want youth in our community to know Jesus so they can start living life to the full *now* (John 10:10). We want youth to hear and respond to the good news which is...

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE
WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES IN HIM, WILL NOT
PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.**

JOHN 3:16



IGNITE EXPECTATIONS

We expect everyone who attends Ignite to support a positive culture.

GRACE

We are a community of grace.
We love and forgive each other just as Jesus has loved and forgiven us.

RESPECT

We respect each other and our leaders
in both word and action.

BE PRESENT

We spend time with the people who are here.
We don't rot. Leave the phones in cabin.

GOOD TALK

Both publicly and in private, we speak about others in a positive way.
We don't make rude or sexual jokes or speak so that others feel uncomfortable.

RESPECT PERSONAL SPACE

Hi-five, fist-bump every day!
We respect others and don't push, shove, touch, or hug them without permission.

STAY WITH YOUR CREW

We stay with the crew. We don't wander off alone. We bring everyone along.

NO BULLYING

If someone asks you to
stop, you stop.

SAFE SWIMS

Shirts on in the pool at
all times.

If you're not feeling good about something that happened on camp,
you can talk to any adult on camp and we can help you out -
whatever it is. There's nothing too bad that can't be talked about.



A week away is a big deal!

We recognise that looking after young people for this amount of time will inevitably involve coaching them and helping them grow in maturity.

Below are the principles we follow when we recognise youth are acting in a way that is out of step with the expectations we set on camp.

- **Respect before discipline** - We prioritise building positive relationships with youth to foster mutual respect. We focus on spending positive time with youth to reduce the likelihood we will need to use disciplinary measures. In a relationship of respect, we can do so much including lead, guide, nurture, and even appropriately rebuke. Youth (usually) listen to those they respect.
- **Clarity** - When we decide on a behaviour management plan, we make sure everyone affected is clear on what that plan is, and agree to review it in 24 hours. We agree as a leadership team about how serious a behaviour is. Where behaviours are serious or repeated, we collaborate with the parents of the camper. We take proportionate responses to behavioural concerns recognising some challenging behaviours are part of normal teenage development.
- **Collaboration** - We don't make discipline calls on our own. We're all different and may lean towards over-, or under-, reacting. We chat to a senior leader to sense-check how we're feeling and come up with a plan in collaboration with them, our team, and families where appropriate.



GUIDELINES ON SERIOUSNESS OF BEHAVIOUR

Below outlines examples of how we consider particular behaviours on camp.

This informs our response.



Major

- Not cooperating with all adults across camp despite several conversations
- Risk of significant harm to self/others
- Illegal items (weapons, drugs)

Serious

- Causing significant disruption to camp
- Prohibited items (e.g. vapes, alcohol)

Moderate

- Not responding to leaders
- Repeated unkind behaviour

Minor

- One-off disruptions
- One-off unkind words
- Gossip
- Inappropriate comments/jokes
- Anti-camp culture (see page 4)

1

2

3

4





IGNITE RESPONSE OPTIONS

Below outlines how we can respond to particular behaviours on camp.

Parents will be responsible for promptly collecting their children from camp if they are dismissed due to concerns about their behaviour.

**Youth
Minister**

**Site
Director**

**House
Parent**

Leader

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone call to parents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismissal from camp |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal from activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonecall to parents • Final warning |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach leaders on response options | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First warning |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen • Disciple • Challenge • Mediate • Support forgiving | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apology • Repentance • Mentor • Pray • Scripture |

1

2

3

4



PHONES & PHOTOGRAPHY

Context

At Ignite, phone usage presents three main concerns we want to manage in partnership with parents:

- 1) We want youth engaged and connected with those around them.
- 2) We want appropriate photographs to be taken, that have youth and parental consent.
- 3) We want to ensure internet is not accessed inappropriately and youth are not exposed to inappropriate content.

Information for Parents

- We encourage campers to leave their device at home for the week.
- If campers bring their phones, they will be 'checked in' and kept in possession of the leadership team between lights out (10:30pm) and breakfast (8am).
- Youth can be reassured that even if they don't bring a phone, the week will be well captured by our dedicated photographer/s and their leaders.
- Whilst there is limited reception and internet access on camp, we are aware that youth have historically accessed the site's wifi.
- As a leadership team, we will take reasonable efforts to ensure internet is not inappropriately accessed whilst on camp.
- We want to be upfront with parents that we are not able to provide direct supervision of internet use on camp. We ask parents to consider their own young person and have open conversations with them about the responsibility of bringing a device to camp. If they are ever concerned by the internet use of other campers they can raise this with their leaders.
- Youth are not to put photos online of other youth without their consent. Any photos uploaded must be respectful.
- Campers who use photography or internet inappropriately whilst on camp will be sent home.





ROLES ON IGNITE

YOUTH MINISTERS

Ignite is overseen by the Youth Ministers of Figtree Anglican Church, Ruth Barnes and Peter Lenehan. These are the staff members on camp responsible for ensuring camp is run according to the highest standards. The Youth Ministers are responsible to the Senior Minister of Figtree Anglican Church (Robin Kinstead). If parents or campers have any safety concerns they can raise this with the Youth Ministers or Senior Minister.

HOUSE PARENTS

House parents provide pastoral support to our leadership team along with providing parental presence and oversight.

LEADERS

Leaders provide the direct support and supervision throughout the week along with running epic activities and so much more. As a minimum, we have a 1:5 leader to camper ratio, yet some years are closer to 1:3. This ensures all our campers are well cared for.

CAMP NURSE

We have our amazing camp nurse who comes along to ensure those inevitable bumps, scrapes, and mild illnesses are well cared for.

PHOTOGRAPHER/ VIDEOGRAPHER

On camp we have a dedicated photography/videography team to ensure camp is not only well captured, but that we comply with best practice in this area. We follow the [safe ministry guidelines](#) from the Anglican Diocese of Sydney regarding photography and videography.

CAMP COUNSELLOR

Our counsellor provides supervision and guidance to our team on managing mental health concerns that arise on camp. Where professional expertise is required, our counsellor may provide direct support to campers with camper consent. Parents may be contacted during or after camp regarding the mental health needs of campers. Our counsellor is a trained mental health professional and provides counselling in line with the doctrines, tenets, and beliefs of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney.



FAQ & ILLNESS POLICY

1. What should campers bring?

A list of what to bring will be emailed to campers the week before camp.

2. Are there sponsorship options available?

Yes, please contact Peter Lenehan or Ruth Barnes if you have any questions about this, including about part-payment plan options.

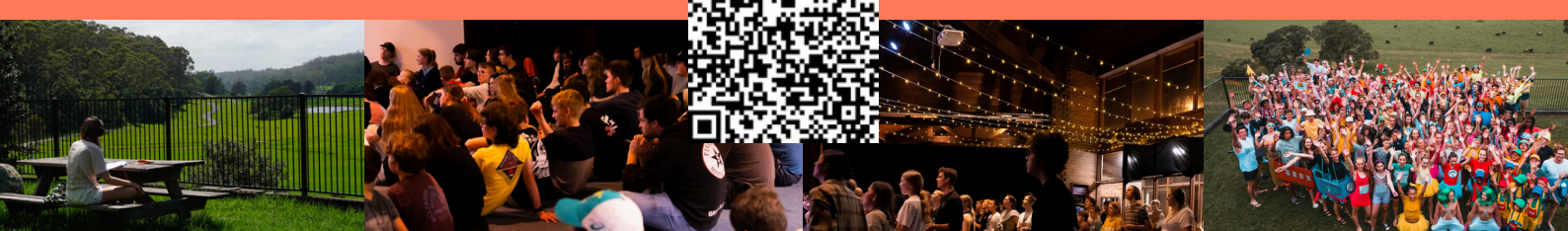
3. What is the camp's COVID policy?

- Figtree Youth will follow the COVID policy of Youthworks (Sydney Anglican's Youth Department) at the time of camp. This is subject to change at late notice. We have been informed by Youthworks that they will follow NSW Health advice.
- By coming to camp, campers and their parents agree they will follow any directions given by Figtree Youth leadership seeking to implement the policy in good faith.
- The most recent policy will be communicated to parents in the week prior to camp.
- Currently, Youthworks requests campers who are unwell with any illness to not attend until symptoms have subsided.
- Youthworks also requests campers consider the safety of all on site and leave the site if they are unwell. They are to do this by presenting to leadership who will organise arrangements for them to be picked up from camp by their carers and remain at home until they are well.
- Youthworks is a COVID-safe organisation and has other procedures youth may be requested to follow on camp.
- Figtree Youth will not be responsible for reimbursing the costs of camp if campers are requested to leave under the Youthworks policy.

4. I think Ignite is awesome! How can I donate to this ministry?

Thank you! Donations can be made here and help subsidise our support team, sponsor campers whose families are experiencing financial hardship, and cover the costs of equipment not covered by the site (e.g. buses, printing).

Donate Here!





13 - 19 JAN 2025

MORE INFO + REGO

figtree.church/events/ignite

EARLY BIRD CLOSES 31 OCT

ALL REGOS CLOSE 17 DEC



figtree.church/youth



@figtreeyouth

Ruth Barnes: ruth.barnes@figtree.church

Peter Lenahan: peter.lenahan@figtree.church

T: 02 4272 1322