



Child Guidance Policy

We believe in open communication, accountability for one's actions, imagination, and providing a safe space. The importance of community is critical for the growth and development of our future youth so that they feel confident, secure, and successful in their everyday lives. Our program and policies are designed to promote the development of self-regulation, self-direction and socially acceptable behavior, as well as the overall well-being of all the children within our camp.

Our Camp Counselors and volunteers play a key role in attaining these goals, and use these strategies when working with your children:

- Acknowledge positive, prosocial behaviors.
- Use positive reinforcement.
- Develop center rules and living agreements in partnership with children.
- Interact individually with children and problem solve when appropriate.
- Communicate daily with parents and guardians.
- Talk with children and families in a respectful manner.
- Use natural and logical consequences (when appropriate).
- Partner with elementary, middle and high schools (for school age children).
- Continually encourage and empower.
- Develop behavior plans with parents/guardians and children as needed.
- Be sensitive to children's feelings, needs, culture, ability and situation.
- Establish consistency and follow through.
- Engage children in the problem-solving process (as appropriate).

It is our goal to help each child make appropriate behavioral choices. In order to support this important developmental process, we help children learn to express their needs, listen to others, solve conflicts, and understand their emotions. Small and large group settings provide numerous opportunities for children to gain self-regulating skills.

Although a conflict resolution process is always central to our efforts to guide children's inappropriate interactions, there are times when a child's behavior is harmful to the safety of others and may result in removal, suspension, or disenrollment from the program.

The following behaviors are considered not acceptable:

- Excessive disruption of the program
- Endangering the health or safety of children, themselves, staff, or other adults
- Continual refusal to follow acceptable rules of behavior
- Use of inappropriate language
- Leaving the center premises without permission
- Theft or damage of center property
- Possession of any objects that may be harmful to themselves or others

Immediate Removal: Possession of and/or use of tobacco, knives, alcohol, illegal drugs, firecrackers, explosives or firearms

I have reviewed the Child Guidance Policy with my child. I understand and agree to all the terms that are presented in this document.

Parent(s)/Guardian Signature:_____ Date_____