

Camp JCC's Behavior Expectations and Procedures

Like adults, children make mistakes. It is through mistakes that experiential learning takes place. This is also an opportunity for us to help them grow. Our policy is one that seeks to prevent misbehavior and puts the focus on the positive, using methods appropriate to the age & developmental stage of the camper. Redirection, modeling, and guidance form the core of the discipline policy, not punishment. Campers are expected to follow the behavior expectations below and to interact positively and appropriately in a group setting.

We are happy to discuss YOUR child with you; however, we will NOT discuss any other campers, by name, with someone who is not THEIR parent/guardian.

Guidelines for Positive Discipline

The following are Camp JCC's **behavior expectations**:

- Individuals are responsible for their own actions.
- Individuals will respect each other, themselves, property, and the environment. This means following directions and refraining from physical &/or emotional harm towards themselves and others, including hitting, kicking, biting, threats, intimidation, vandalism, harming animals, swearing, lying, and refusing to listen to staff.
- Individuals will make a strong effort to be a positive member of our inclusive community. This means being helpful and showing kindness towards others.
- Individuals will be safe. This means staying with the group or staff member and avoiding behaviors that could be dangerous, such as running away, climbing where not permitted, self-harm, etc.

Redirection, modeling, guidance, and natural consequences form the core of the discipline policy, not punishment. Staff will use the following steps and strategies to help campers follow the behavior expectations:

- Visual and verbal reminders of the rules at camp
- Compliments, encouragement, and praise for appropriate behavior
- Redirection or personal time or use of a quiet space. This can be in the same space as other campers or in another space based on what their specific needs are at the time.
- Discussion with camper about their behavior
- Natural consequences
- Problem solving with a camper
- Separating campers
- Staff offering appropriate choices to help campers make good decisions

Staff will NOT use, or threaten to use, any physical contact or restraint, unless the child presents a clear and present danger to themselves or to others.

When a camper does not follow the behavior expectations after use of the above strategies, camp staff will take the following steps. Other consequences may be implemented at the discretion of the Camp Leadership Team.

FIRST occurrence of inappropriate or unsafe behavior:

- Staff will ask the camper to stop the behavior
- Staff will use verbal or written communication to parent/guardian regarding camper's behavior and the strategies that camp staff have tried
- Staff may remove camper from situation (take to a quiet or safe space)
- Staff may create an individual behavior/action improvement plan
- For serious infractions as determined by staff, staff may recommend or require parents to pick the camper up early and/or one or more days home from camp with no refund

SECOND occurrence of inappropriate or unsafe behavior:

- Staff will ask the camper to stop the behavior
- Staff will remove camper from situation
- Staff will discuss concerns with a parent/guardian and create an individual behavior/action improvement plan
- Parent/guardian will be asked to pick the camper up early, and camper may have one or more days home from camp with no refund
- For serious infractions as determined by staff, camper may be asked to leave the program with a refund in accordance with our cancellation policy

THIRD occurrence of inappropriate or unsafe behavior:

- Parent/guardian will be asked to pick the camper up early
- Camper will have one or more days home from camp with no refund or be asked to leave the program with a refund in accordance with our cancellation policy

The following behaviors are not acceptable and may result in immediate suspension of a camper:

- Endangering the health and safety of themselves, other campers, staff, members, &/or guests.
- Leaving the program, their group, or JCC property without a camp staff member.
- Stealing or damaging other's property.
- Continuing to disrupt our program &/or another camper's experience with our program.

- Refusal to follow the behavior expectations &/or activity rules.
- Using profanity, vulgarity, slurs, or obscenity.
- Acting in a lewd manner.

Immediate expulsion will occur if a camper is in possession of &/or using tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, firecrackers, weapons, or explosives.