



# FAMILY HANDBOOK

For a better us.®

2024 Summer Day Camp  
YMCA OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



# BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS

## Camp is all about belonging



Dear Summer Camp Family,

The YMCA has a grand tradition of camping, spanning over 150 years. We are both excited and honored to serve your family this summer and add your child to the vast legacy of YMCA campers. The YMCA of Greater Kansas City summer camp programs are offered in multiple locations around the Kansas City area. Our Youth Development Services, as well as industry experts who are leaders in their respective fields of expertise, design our summer camp themes and curriculum. We take pride in the quality that we offer our families.

Y Camp provides youth with supervised activities that teach core values, conflict resolution and leadership skills. Campers have fun while making new friends, building self-confidence, finding a sense of belonging and growing in self-reliance. For youth, Y camp is a fun, happy place to enjoy the summer, play games, create arts and crafts, explore science and technology, swim, participate in field trips, appreciate nature and discover and value our many cultures.

Seasoned YMCA Directors carefully select our youth development staff. Each staff person is thoroughly screened and they receive instruction that is well above the industry standard. This includes training related to safety, risk management, child development, behavior management, and program delivery. Our staff members are CPR/First Aid certified and Child Abuse Awareness trained yearly.

Please read through our handbook and take some time to sit with your campers and explore all the opportunities they have with the Y this summer. If you should have additional questions, please contact us at any time at any of our YMCA locations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darcy Swan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Darcy Swan

Senior Vice President of Youth Development Services, YMCA of Greater Kansas City

# What to Expect

## CAMP MISSION

To have fun learning essential life skills that build positive relationships, a feeling of belonging and a sense of achievement in a safe, supportive environment.

## ABOUT YMCA CAMPS

The Y is giving kids their Best Summer Ever! The YMCA of Greater Kansas City camps offer a mix of fun and educational activities aimed at improving kids' well-being. Our programs center on three areas proven to impact kids' development: Achievement, Relationship and Belonging.

The Y has been a leading provider of summer camp for over 150 years and continues to provide youth with an enriching experience. We ensure that campers are in a safe environment with caring YMCA staff that instill positive values that help build character. When at camp, kids are given new responsibilities and learn independence. As a result, they become more confident, open to trying new things and grow as individuals and as part of a group. Camping at the Y is a fun and unique experience that gives youth the opportunity to discover their full potential, meet new friends, play and create memories that last a lifetime.

Join The Y Day Camp for a week or for an entire summer of fun! We focus on caring, honesty, respect and responsibility in all of our activities, from educational camper-chosen skill activities to swimming and everything in between. We provide fun-filled weekly themed activities that allow for physical movement, social interaction, educational opportunities, leadership building, personal growth and creativity. Day campers will be divided into small groups by age with activities appropriate to the interests and needs of each group.

The Y works to help youth discover their full potential by providing opportunities to learn, grow and thrive amidst caring, supportive adults. These experiences are grounded in a set of objectives that characterize all of the YMCA of Kansas City camping programs. Through the Y's day camp program, kids participate in fun and educational activities that help them with:

- **ACHIEVEMENT** - Learn and master skills that help them realize their passions, talents and potential.
- **RELATIONSHIP** - Build friendships with new friends and staff role models adding to their well-being.
- **BELONGING** - Help them feel like they belong so they feel safe, welcome and free to express their individuality.

## Typical Traditional Camp Daily Schedule

- **Camper's Choice & Play** during early morning and late afternoon hours
- **Skills building** related to STEM, Art and Humanities, Sports and outdoor recreation play
- Participates in **Camp Readers** Program
- Start and end a camp day with a **group assembly** filled with song, dance and recognition to celebrate the spirit of camp
- At least once a week campers will travel to a local pool and participate in water activities on site.
- **Character development** with a focus on our core values: Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility
- A variety of either onsite special activities & guest speakers or off site field trips. \*Vary per week, per camp site.

7 - 9 a.m.*	Before Care
9 - 9:30 a.m.	Opening Ceremony and Announcements
9:30 - 10 a.m.	Group Time and Morning Snack
10 a.m. to noon	Morning Activity Rotations
noon to 1 p.m.	Lunch, Read and Rest
1 - 3 p.m.	Afternoon Activity Rotations
3 - 3:30 p.m.	Group Time/Reflection
3:30 - 4 p.m.	Closing Ceremony
4 - 6 p.m.	After Care and Afternoon Snack

\* Start times may vary by location and program

## ENROLLMENT AND REGISTRATION

### Online at [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](https://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp)

Families may register for camp online using our ActiveNet registration system. If you receive state subsidy or are applying for YMCA financial assistance, online registration is not available. Please download and complete the printable registration form and financial assistance application available at [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](https://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp).

All campers are required to complete an emergency packet and bring it to camp on your first day. Please keep a copy for yourself. If your child attends multiple Y camps throughout the summer, you will need to bring a copy of the emergency packet to each camp. You can download the emergency packet from our website [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](https://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp). Campers will not be able to attend unless emergency packet is provided.

We encourage you to register early to secure a spot. Registration is on a weekly basis. The last chance to register for any week of camp is at midnight on the Thursday before the camp begins. (For example, for camps beginning Monday, June 5, the registration deadline is midnight on Thursday, June 1.)

When you register, the following are due:

- **A \$55, one-time camp registration fee**, per child, for the summer. It is non-refundable.
- **A \$20 deposit for each week of camp you are registering for**, to hold your child's spot. **The deposit will be applied to your weekly camp tuition** and is non-refundable and non-transferable.

Payment is due for every week registered regardless of attendance and will be automatically drafted the Friday before each week of camp. Weekly tuition is not prorated for any reason. Cancellation and refunds for any reason requires a written notice given to the Y one week prior to register sessions. Drop/Change forms are available to download and print at [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](https://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp).

A \$20 late fee is charged if your payment is late. We reserve the right to discontinue service if the account becomes 5 days delinquent. We understand that occasional financial situations arise; please keep the YMCA Senior District Program Director informed as to your family's situation in advance of delinquency so we can work with you. Upon registering for the YMCA Day Camp Program, you are responsible for payment of all program dues associated to your child's enrollment in the program.

You may pay by:

- Automatic draft from a credit/debit/prepaid card
- Automatic draft from a bank account by providing a voided check

### Non-Discrimination Statement

The YMCA of Greater Kansas City recognizes the worth of all persons, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, veteran status or other considerations made unlawful by applicable law.

### ADA Requests

The YMCA is committed to making reasonable accommodations for children. Requests for accommodation related to facilities or programs should be made as soon as practicable, but in any event at least two weeks in advance of needed accommodations. The YMCA will engage in an interactive process with parents or guardians regarding the requested accommodation and whether it can reasonably be accomplished. Not all accommodation requests may be possible to honor.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE & THIRD PARTY SUBSIDIES

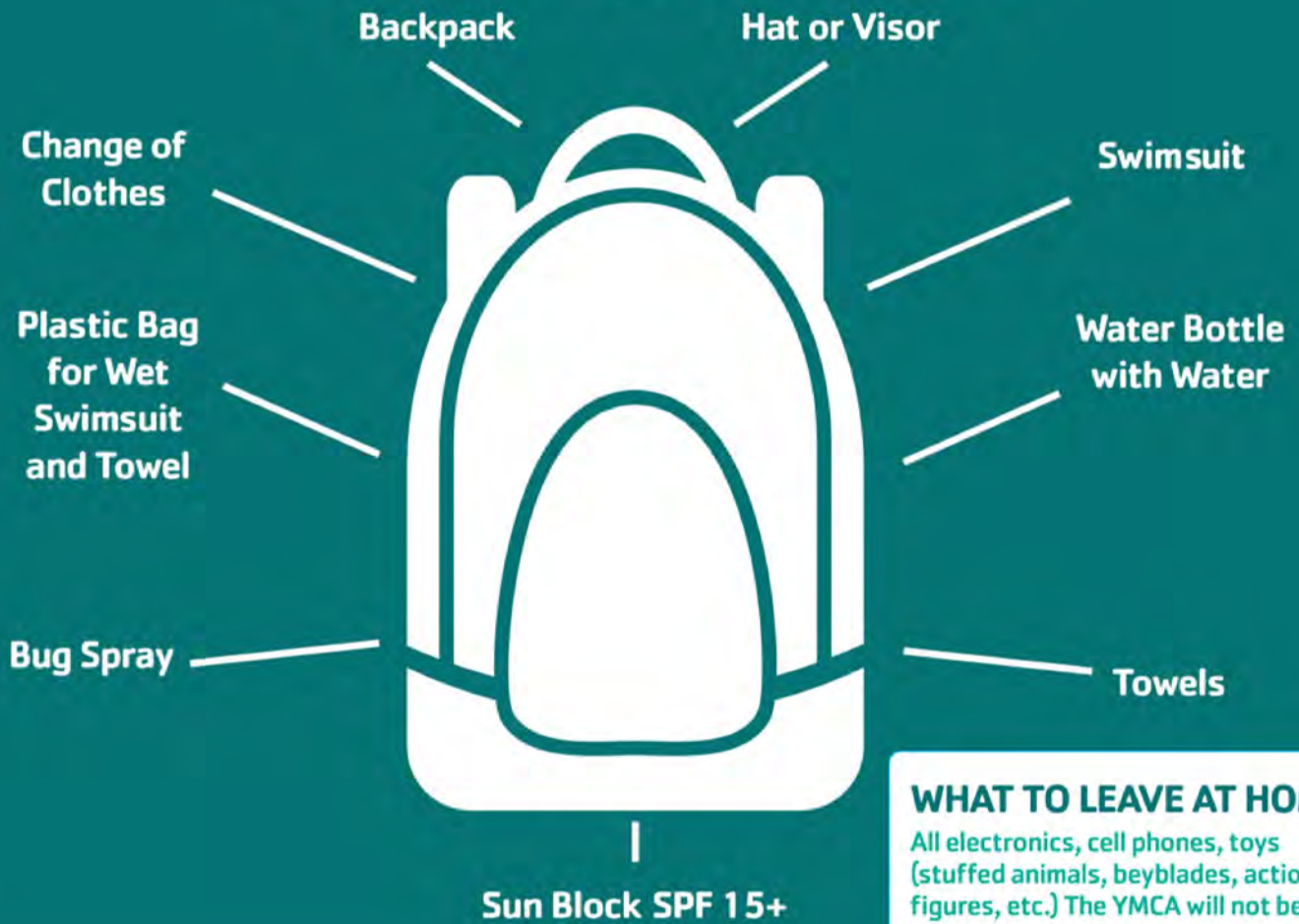
The YMCA is committed to providing quality programs to all children and families regardless of their financial circumstances. The YMCA strives not to turn anyone away due to an inability to pay and offers financial assistance through our Annual Campaign scholarship program. Interested families must complete an application. Discounts on weekly fees are given to those who qualify, and the amount of the discount is determined based on funds available.

Download and complete the Financial Assistance Application at [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](https://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp).

Families may qualify for state subsidy for child care through DCF in Kansas or DSS in Missouri.

# Suggested Supplies for Camp

Please add your child's name on everything they bring to camp.



## WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME

All electronics, cell phones, toys (stuffed animals, beyblades, action figures, etc.) The YMCA will not be responsible for lost items.

## Personal Belongings

Please mark all belongings with your child's name. The YMCA is not responsible for any personal items lost, stolen, or damaged at our programs. Please make sure your child leaves all electronics, cell phones, toys (stuffed animals, fidget spinners, and action figures, etc.) at home. The YMCA will not be held responsible for lost items.

## Camp shirts

Your child will receive their shirt during their first week of camp. Write your child's name somewhere on the shirt. The shirt must be worn on days your camp goes on field trips.

## How to dress your child for camp

Please dress your child appropriately for the weather. Keep in mind that the children will be active and may get dirty, so dress your child in clothes that are for play and that you won't mind getting dirty. Closed-toe shoes are strongly recommended. Remember to send a swim bag with appropriate swim gear on the days your child goes swimming. Campers should wear their camp shirt on field trip days.

## Sunscreen

The sun is always a concern for us. We are committed to making sure your child is safe from the sun. We strongly encourage you to pack your camper with SPRAY ON SUNSCREEN. Please provide a sunscreen with at least an SPF of 15 that is labeled "All Day" and "Waterproof". Campers should arrive to camp with sunscreen on – Camp counselors will reapply spray sunscreen to youth throughout the day. If sun exposure is ever a problem, please notify the camp director immediately so that extra precautions and applications can be made.



## Our Counselors

Our counselors receive extensive hours of professional development training that exceeds state licensing requirements. Counselors are CPR and First Aid certified. We meet or exceed state staff-to-child ratios. We perform background checks on all YMCA counselors.

Your camp director is your primary contact for information about our programs or any questions you have. We strongly encourage and invite parental participation and communication.

## Ratio and safety

We understand that safety is the number one objective. All of our school building-based camps are licensed by the states of Kansas and Missouri Child Care Agencies. Both states require specific adult to child ratios that we follow at all times. We lower those state ratios when we take off-site Field Trips and Swim trips to our centers and community pools.

We always check restrooms before a child goes into a restroom in a public place. We want to know who is in the restroom before the children go in. We monitor who goes in and out of the restroom while our campers are in there.

Camp is an outdoor activity. We spend the majority of our day outside, playing games, learning and just having fun. We ensure that all campers stay cool by providing swim time, coming inside when it gets too hot, and keeping all of our campers hydrated. When the temperature reaches 98 degrees or higher, or Heat Index reaches 100 or above, we rotate camp activities inside more frequently. Hydration is another component of health safety. We encourage multiple water breaks throughout the day. Send your child to camp with a water bottle – every day.

## Field trip Safety

When we are on field trips, we take health information and medicine with us and require a permission slip to be signed for each trip. You will receive details and permission slips from your camp director each week. We frequently take attendance and use a method called "name-to-face checks" – that means when we take attendance, we aren't just calling names and listening for the child to say, "Here." We want to see who is saying it. We do this every time we take attendance, and as the children get on the bus.

## Swim Safety

When we go swimming, we expect our staff to be in the water and interacting with the kids – but not all at once. Some staff will be in the water, while others will be equally spaced around the side of the pool monitoring the children. You will not see our staff lounging or sunbathing at the pool. We help children apply sunscreen before we leave for the pool, and about every hour while we are at the pool. We require a swim test of all of our campers each week to ensure we know their swim ability (varies by location).

**Swim test** consists of swimming the length of the longest pool during which campers are asked to jump into pool, submerge fully, return to the surface and immediately begin swimming without pushing off the wall. Swim in a horizontal position, on stomach and on top of the water. Exit the pool without assistance using either the wall or pool ladder.

**Green Band** Indicates they can swim in the deep end of the pool AND utilize the diving board and slides with signed parent permission. Will need to take weekly swim test.

**Yellow Band** Indicates they can swim in the end of the pool but cannot utilize the diving boards and slides at the pool. Will need to take weekly swim test.

**Red Band** indicates they need to swim in the shallow end of the pool where they can touch and may not swim in the deep end or utilize slides, diving boards etc. Campers can take the swim test weekly to see if they can pass the test. Red swimmers will need to wear an approved life jacket; the YMCA will provide a coast guard approved life jacket for all red band swimmers. Families are welcome to send your camper with their own coast guard approved jacket if preferred.

## Healthy Environment

Please help us keep a healthy environment for all our children. If a child cannot participate in the program due to illness, the child must be kept at home. Children who are ill may not return until they are symptom-free for 24 hours. They must also be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers. If your child becomes ill during program hours, you will be notified and requested to pick up your child.

Small cuts and scrapes will be treated by our CPR/First Aid certified staff using standard first aid procedures. In cases of serious illness or injury, the Camp Director will contact parents immediately. If the parent cannot be reached, the designated 'emergency contact' will be called. The YMCA will contact EMS at any time necessary for the safety of a child, which may involve transportation to an emergency medical facility.

The YMCA will contact the parents of any child who is found to have head lice. That child will be asked to be picked up early and will be allowed to return only after a successful treatment resulting in the complete removal of live lice and nits. YMCA will notify all other parents of incident.

## Medication

Prescription medications must be in their original container labeled with the child's first and last name, the date the prescription was filled, the name of the licensed physician or licensed nurse practitioner who wrote the prescription, the expiration date of the medication, and specific and legible instructions for administration and storage of the medication. YMCA staff will administer the medication according to the instructions. Non-prescription medications can be given by permission and directions from child's physician. YMCA staff will administer non-prescription medication from the original container labeled with the first and last name of the child or youth and according to the instructions on the label. All medicine will be held in a locked box. All medication left at camp at the end of summer will be disposed of one week after the last week of camp.

## Youth with 504/IEP or Behavior Plans

Here at the Y, our programs are to serve youth with varying degrees of all abilities. Our Behavior Team works with families and youth to ensure that the youth is set up for success. If the youth has an IEP or 504 Plan, medical, physical, emotional or behavioral needs, it is important to disclose all of this information within the enrollment packet. Our Behavior Team will connect and may ask for more information so that we can better support each youth. Our goal is long-term support as each youth grows through the years and with the Y.

**Ensuring Success for All** – When filling out the enrollment packet, if information was shared regarding medical, educational, or behavioral needs then a Behavior Team member will reach out to gain more information in order to determine the best way to support the youth through the creation of an Individual success plan (ISP). This plan is a way to ensure success for each individual while also helping us to maintain consistency in delivery of care. The Behavior Team and Camp Directors work with teachers, counselors and other specialists (when available) to provide consistency throughout the youths' day. An ISP may also be created after several behavioral incidents; families also have the ability to request an ISP for their child to ensure the youths' success.

## Attendance Procedures

Your child must be signed into and out of the program. Only people you authorize may pick up your child from the program. If your child is going to be absent, please notify your camp director. Withdrawing from the program requires one week's notice in writing on the change/drop request form. Obtain drop forms at [KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp](http://KansasCityYMCA.org/Camp) or from your camp director.

**Drop Off/Pick Up** – For the safety of staff and campers, campers may not be dropped off at the YMCA Camp site earlier than 6:30 or 7 a.m., depending on camp location. At that point, a YMCA staffer will be waiting to greet you and your camper at your YMCA Camp Site. You must sign in your camper each day. All campers must be picked up by 6 p.m. and by signing your camper out. Please be prepared to show a government issued I.D. to verify authorized pick up. **Early Pick Up** – We understand that there will be times when you need to pick up your child early. When this occurs, it is extremely important that you call or email the camp director with the details of the early pick up. Please understand that we use many areas of our facility and children may be participating in an activity away from the building. We have a handheld radio system that allows us to communicate effectively. It may take a few minutes to retrieve the child from the program area. Your patience is appreciated.

**Late Pick Up** – In fairness to our staff and because of subsequent program demands, it is very important that your child be picked up on time. A late fee will be charged for each child not picked up by 6 p.m. The fee will be assessed at a rate of \$1.00 per minute per child starting at 6:01pm, and it is due when you pick up your child. Cash payments will not be accepted. Please provide a check or money order for payment. If a child is not picked up by 6:20 p.m. we will begin calling parent's and/or emergency contacts. If the child is not picked up by 7 p.m., local authorities will be called.

## Parent Visitation

We have an open door policy in regards to having parents/guardians coming to see what great activities and fun their child is experiencing. We do require that all parents/guardians sign in with the director/coordinator that runs the program. From there, they will walk with you to the participant's location.

## Custody Issues

The Primary Parent listed on the Camp Enrollment form is the ONLY authorized party to make any account or enrollment changes. Any change in family status which impacts authorized parties for pick-up will require official documentation from the proper authority. In cases of separation or divorced parents where visitation rights are denied to one parent, we cannot deny releasing the child to such parent unless a court decree or separation documents are in our file expressly forbidding such parent to pick the child up from our program, or from pick up at times not allowed by the court decree. The court decree must also be specific to the rights of visitation on the YMCA property during program hours. Please call the director if you have specific custody issues that we need to be aware of. YMCA staff will not testify in court in regard to child custody proceedings. Neither our programs nor staff will endorse any person(s) for the purpose of custody disputes. The YMCA reserves the right to discontinue care if custody issues disrupt the program or become an issue for program staff, office staff, the child, or other children in the program.

## Family Transitions

Occasionally, campers' actions in our program can be a result of problems they are experiencing at home (i.e. pet's death, parent divorcing, fight with sibling, etc.). If any such disruptive or traumatic experience should occur, please inform your director. This will enable us to better meet the needs of your child.

## Babysitting/Fraternization

YMCA associates are not allowed to fraternize with, babysit or transport your child outside the YMCA program. We request that you not ask any YMCA associate to care for your child outside of the program. If a relationship exists outside the YMCA which predates the staff employment with the YMCA, staff should notify their supervisor.

## Potty Trained/No Diapering Policy

All children must be fully potty trained (no pull-ups) and demonstrate independence with toileting skills. Our associates are not equipped to provide diapering services to any children in Y Day Camp.



## Camp Rules

The purpose of rules is to set boundaries for a child's behavior. Please review with your child daily the types of behaviors that we expect (outlined below) and perhaps even spend some time discussing their importance in order for your camper to have a successful time at camp.

1. **Friends Helping Friends!** Honesty and respect will be the basis for all relationships and interactions. Reach out and make a new friend each week. We respect each other and the environment. If we listen to others; they will listen to us. Use your magic words, please and thank you often. Be courteous with the words you use. Inappropriate language, verbal threats, fighting and tactics used to humiliate or intimidate another simply **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
2. **Social Inclusion:** Teamwork and cooperation will be the basis for including every one. Politeness and courtesy go a long way. People are responsible for their actions. Use positive language at all times. Speak for yourself, not anyone else. Encourage others by avoiding put downs, who needs them? Show respect. Every person is important. Keep your hands and feet to yourself at all times. You are not allowed to touch another camper/staff member in a negative way.
3. **Building a community:** Every child is part of the Y day camp. You are here to make new friends, play with old friends, learn new games, try something new, build on an old skill and just have fun. Respect all Y staff, Y members, counselors and other campers. The proper use and cleanliness of the locker rooms, equipment, supplies, etc. is the responsibility of all. Clean up is important and we need your support. Not only do we respect each other but also we respect our camp environment by putting litter in its place, by not destroying property that belongs to camp or to others and putting equipment up in its proper place. We are all responsible for our words and our actions. Be responsible for personal belongings. More things are lost than found. Leave important things at home. Stay in program areas with your counselor – running away is not acceptable. Cooperate with staff and follow directions. They know best how to keep you and your friends safe.

## BUS RULES

- Be seated, facing forward while the bus is in motion.
- When seat belts are provided, they must be worn.
- Keep all heads, arms, legs and objects inside the bus.
- Maintain a reasonable noise level.

## POOL RULES

- Running, shoving and horseplay is not permitted on the pool deck, in the water or in the restroom.
- Do not hang on staff or fellow campers.
- Obey lifeguards and staff at all times.



## The Discipline Policy

Our discipline policy is youth-centered and designed to achieve a positive outcome to misbehavior and conflicts. We acknowledge good behavior while responding to misbehavior and conflicts in an appropriate manner. We have the right to suspend or expel children from our programs if they or their families threaten the safety or interfere with the sustainability of a quality program.

- The YMCA of Greater Kansas City has a policy of non-restraint with the exception of those associates trained in Crisis Prevention Institute's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (CPI). CPI is an evidence-based training that teaches non-violent physical and verbal intervention skills intended to keep the child in crisis and all others involved safe during a physical risk behavior
- Physical interventions may only be used as a last resort when all other verbal interventions have been exhausted. (See page 2 for full Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Policy)
- Corporal punishment (spanking, hitting, or any form of physical punishment) is prohibited.
- Time out is not an acceptable practice. A safe seat is only to be used as a cool-down tool. ([bit.ly/Safeseat](http://bit.ly/Safeseat))
- Expectations will be stated frequently and positively (e.g. instead of saying "don't run," say "please walk.")
- Documentation of serious incidents must be stated objectively; without opinions or guessing included. Only what was observed may be included in incident reports and behavior reports.
- No child may be expelled from a program without approval from Professional Learning Community (PLC) Leader/ Senior Program Director and/or Senior Vice President of Youth Development.

Behaviors that may result in immediate suspension or expulsion include but are not limited to:

- Any action that could threaten or pose a direct threat to the physical or emotional safety of the child, other children, or staff (harassment, bullying, running from supervision, or physical aggression)
- Possession of a weapon of any kind
- Stealing, vandalism, or destruction of property
- Sexual misconduct
- Possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances

## Individual Success Plans

An individual success plan is designed for associates to gain more knowledge surrounding the youth so we can deliver individualized support and reasonable accommodations to teach and reinforce program expectations and healthy coping skills. The goal of an ISP is to teach each youth, helping them gain independence, social skills, coping skills and responsibility for themselves. Caregiver participation in an ISP meeting may be requested:

- After there have been several conversations regarding behavior and there has been no observable improvement
- If there is a serious behavioral event including: Elopement (i.e running away from supervision while on a field trip, leaving the program without permission both inside the program space and outside the program location); physically aggressive behaviors towards associates or peers; Behaviors of sexual nature

It is expected that caregivers attend the ISP meeting and cooperate as the ISP is created and monitored.

Suspension and/or expulsion from Y program may result if:

- Caregivers do not attend the ISP meeting nor work with Associates to develop an ISP by providing accurate information.
- The youths' behavior continues to escalate after associates have implemented the ISP accommodations
- In the event that a behavioral incident is major and jeopardizes the integrity of the Y program, the safety of associates or the safety of other program participants.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

When delivering consequences and managing behavior, we help develop youths' skills in conflict resolution with adults and peers; identifying and expressing emotions; advocating for their needs appropriately; and utilizing coping tool(s) such as calm spots and calm boxes to aid in self-regulation and de-escalation. Stage and age of development of each individual youth is considered when delivering consequences. In the event of a behavior incident Y associates will process among staff and youth. Depending on the level of crisis, extensive fact-finding may be necessary prior to the determination of final consequences.

### MINOR

Behaviors that affect others' ability to play/have fun/be safe. The child is not responding to the redirection or calming techniques (Hurtful/Un-safe/Not typical/Not stage or age-appropriate behavior.) Evaluating stage and age in behavior – what may be minor for some youth would be considered major for other youth.

- Excessive screaming/yelling
- Using mildly inappropriate language; age and ability of the youth is considered.
- Using body or body-positioning to intimidate another, making threatening/ inappropriate gestures such as ballfists towards another, giving someone the finger
- Improper display of affection- improper touching, hugging, kissing, and/or engaging in inappropriate social behavior. Stage and age of youth is strongly considered
- Minor verbal aggression directed towards another (Comments about topics that are not school appropriate, condescending words/tone, mocking)
- Navigating a non-educational website that is inappropriate, but not sexually explicit or excessively violent or youth is chatting online with an unapproved person
- Minor elopement: Leaving the designated area without permission and evading a staff member, but staying inside the building; the age and ability of the youth are considered
- Chronically being in another child's "personal space" uninvited or suddenly
- Throwing/kicking objects in anger not directed at another person (e.g. blocks, toys, knocking over furniture etc.)
- Knocking over toys that someone is using or physically interrupting a game or puzzle

**Consequences may include one or more of the following, although not all inclusive**

- Redirection to a calm spot
- Practice calming techniques (Breathing, fidget, i-spy etc.), utilize the calm spot then triage with Y-club associates
- Loss of specific privileges for 1-15 minutes (group game, group activity, etc.) \*If physical activity is removed, an alternative physical activity will be offered
- Conversation with caregiver, notifying of the incident
- Removal from the group for short period of time
- Youth switched groups for the day
- Referral to the Behavior Team guide the selection of appropriate support tools (breathing techniques, reinforcement, staff training) or for an ISP if criteria is met (See "Individual success plans" above)
- Referral to work with Behavior Team to select an appropriate support tool
- Possible suspension from program for 1-2 days

## **MAJOR**

More severe behaviors with regards to safety; youth not responding to behavior interventions; The safety of the youth, other youth or staff is jeopardized; behaviors that require immediate separation of the youth from the situation without warning/redirections. (Physically/emotionally harmful or threatening behavior)

- Using extreme or continuously using inappropriate language (swearing or sexually explicit in nature)
- Any language directed towards someone in a threatening or harmful manner. Name calling, demeaning put-downs (ability, race, gender, religion, national origin, political beliefs, physical appearance, sexuality), profanity towards another person
- Destruction of property or theft (eg. throwing iPads / Chromebook / computer, clearing/knocking over area carts, tearing/destroying property, etc.)
- Exposure incident- defined as intentional exposure of one's private areas to another youth or staff or the attempt/action of exposing another youth or staff. This does not include accidental exposures that may happen such as pants falling down while exercising or swimming
- Physical aggression or threats towards others with the intent to cause harm : hitting, biting, spitting on, slapping, kicking, choking of another, etc.
- Throwing objects at others or using them in a manner as to cause harm (e.g. heavy objects, sharp objects, furniture – anything that could be considered a weapon.)
- Sexual misconduct- Actual or simulated conduct including, but not limited to fondling, touching, or the engagement in any sexual act in the programming space, during program functions, or at YMCA sponsored activities
- Evading a staff member and leaving the building (e.g. leaving the school building, leaving the playground, running away from the group when on a field trip, etc.)
- Youth/group of youths are bullying in person or cyberbullying
- Youth is on a website that is sexually explicit or includes excessive violence and/or gore
- Youth is chatting online with an unapproved person
- Any accumulation of any minor or major offenses that alter Y Day Camp programming.

Consequences may include one or more of the following, although not all inclusive

- Youth removed from the group
- Physical intervention may be utilized as a last resort by associates trained in NCI non-violent crisis intervention and verbal de-escalation in order to increase safety for all all individuals involved
- Parents/guardians are notified as soon as possible for pick up
- Possible Suspension for 3-5 days. This will be determined in collaboration with the Multi-Site Coordinator, Sr. District Program Director or a member of the Behavior Team
  - To increase a successful transition back into program modifications may be made to the schedule or activities of the youth upon return
- Loss of field trip privileges
- Dismissal from Y Day Camp may result, based on a review of the situation, and will be determined by the Vice President of Youth Developmental Services



## Guardian Conduct

A child may be suspended or permanently removed or expelled from Y Day Camp if Guardian conduct does not meet Y Day Camp Guardian Expectations. Guardian conduct that could lead to child suspension or expulsion includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Threats, written or otherwise to Staff.
- Actions that threaten Y Camp's state license.
- Failure to comply with Y Camp policies and procedures including documentation required for the Application for Enrollment and Child Care Services Agreement and supplemental information as required from time to time.
- Failure to treat with respect Y staff.
- Failure to complete all required application materials.
- Failure to update and maintain any information requested by Y Day Camp, including but not limited to child drop off and pickup authorization information and all required medical information.
- Refusal to cooperate in any action related to child conduct, or other provisions in this handbook that require parent cooperation including but not limited to referrals of the student to professionals for evaluation and providing the results of such referrals.
- Parent conduct that causes health and safety concerns for the child, other children or Y Staff.

It is our desire to serve all children in need of the program's services; however, certain child or Guardian conduct may require that a child be removed from the program either on a temporary or permanent basis. In addition to the actions that may cause immediate suspension or expulsion, actions and omissions that may lead to suspension or expulsion may include but are not limited to the following:

- Incomplete enrollment forms and required authorizations;
- Specific incidences, or repeated child behavior problems that endanger the child, others, or property;
- Child behavior problems that impair the operation of the program for other participating children and families;
- Chronically disruptive behavior that may include but is not limited to the following:
- Inflicting physical or emotional harm on self, other children or staff
- Threatens the safety of others through actions prohibited under the Missouri Safe Schools Act
- Ignores or repeatedly disobeys program rules which guide behavior
- Conditions that cause health and safety concerns for the child or threaten the program's state license, and
- Guardian failure to meet Y Club's Expectations of Guardians

**NOTE:** The Y has tried to be thorough in identifying inappropriate behavior. However, it is not possible to list everything that might occur, and therefore, the Y reserves the right to address issues of comparable severity even if not specifically identified in this document.

The Y complies with all applicable laws. The provisions of this handbook shall be construed to comply with any law that imposes obligations beyond policy set forth in the handbook.

## MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions, please contact your site supervisor or visit our website at [KansasCityYMCA.org / YClub](https://www.kansascityymca.org/YClub). You can also call the YMCA Youth Development Services support team at 816.360.3390.