



YMCA DAY CAMP

Child Guidance Policy

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CAMP

ycamp.ca



Shine On

Child Guidance Policy

The YMCA's goal is to have a Day Camp where everyone feels safe and included. Our Child Guidance Policy exists to help ensure safety, inclusion and enjoyment in our camps, for all participants. We understand that some of the expectations outlined may be challenging for our Inclusion Campers to meet due to individual needs. As such, we are committed to offering flexibility and support where possible. However, any behavior that poses harm to oneself or others or negatively impacts the camp environment will be addressed with a zero-tolerance approach to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants.

Green, Yellow, Red-Light Practice

The Green, Yellow, Red-Light practice is to ensure our expectations are clear, and the regulation of uncooperative behaviour is consistent. YMCA Camp staff will work proactively with children to decrease the likelihood of uncooperative behaviour, and will react appropriately if uncooperative behaviour is exhibited.

Items such as positive reinforcement, reward systems, core value beads or stickers, Value Contracts, Think Sheets, incident reports, Check-in Chats and Parental Meetings will be used to help campers make positive choices and learn to regulate their own behaviours.

Our approach is to validate their feelings, while also holding important safety boundaries.

Please note: Any suspensions or expulsions from camp due to uncooperative behaviour will not be refunded.



- Caring
- Participating
- Respect
- Inclusive
- Sharing

- Honest
- Responsible
- Using kind language
- Following counsellors' instructions

Green Light

Behaviour exhibited within the Green Light will be met with positive reinforcement, earning core value beads and stickers, getting the option to choose future activities and games, and opportunities to be the leader.



- Disrespectful
- Not listening to others
- Running away
- Not following activity rules
- Refusal to participate

- Play fighting/rough play
- Dishonest
- Hurtful words or actions
- Exclusive

Yellow Light

Behaviour exhibited within the Yellow Light will be met with Check-in Chats and Think sheets, helping the campers to understand what the expectation is, and how to make better choices to avoid recurrence.

****If 3 Think Sheets are created for any repeat Yellow Light behaviour, the camper will experience a 1-day suspension day. To prevent further disruption to other campers' experience ****



- Fighting
- Possession of weapon
- Physical aggression
- Hitting with intent to harm
- Repeat "Yellow light" behaviour
- Sexual behaviour
- Racism
- Repeat verbal aggression
- Possession of alcohol or drugs
- Biting

Red Light

Behaviour exhibited within the Red Light will be met with Parental Meetings and Incident Reports, as well as immediate suspension from Camp. The opportunity to return to camp will depend both on the severity of the behaviour, other campers safety, as well as the willingness of both camper and parent to rectify the behaviour.

****If a camper is returning from a 1-day suspension, and any Yellow or Red-Light behaviours occur, the child will face expulsion. ****

Return Policy

If a child is removed from camp during the current seasonal session (Summer Day Camp or School Year Day Camp), the family may attempt to re-register for a future seasonal session. However, prior to re-registration, the family will be required to meet with the YMCA staff to review the camp's child guidance policy. This meeting will provide an opportunity to collaborate and ensure a mutual understanding of expectations moving forward.