

Outdoor Education Adventures Camp

CAMP BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE POLICY and CONTRACT

Outdoor Education Adventure camps provide a safe, supportive, and caring environment where individual differences are valued, where people are encouraged to ask questions and accomplish challenges, and where everyone can have fun. Creating such an environment requires the commitment of all participants. Therefore, we ask everyone to agree to the behavior expectations listed in this policy. Campers and parents/guardians should review and discuss these guidelines together.

Discipline and guidance shall be consistent and based upon an understanding of the individual needs of the child. Camp staff shall direct discipline to the goal of maximizing growth and development of the child and for protecting the group and the individuals within it.

Campers have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that is in the best interests of the camp program, its campers, and staff. Parents/Guardians have a responsibility to go over the Camper Behavior Contract with their camper(s), as we want to make all camper experiences a positive one. The Outdoor Education Adventures (OEA) camp staff has a responsibility to support your child in the camp setting, be a role model, and to follow all safety protocols, including behavior management.

What will happen if this contract is violated? If an incident occurs where a child conducts themselves in such a manner which jeopardizes their safety, the safety of others, or is not in accordance with the mission of OEA, the following steps will be taken:

- 1. First Violation:** A staff member will address the issue directly with the child. The child may be removed from an activity for the day, such as games, pond exploration, etc. Parents will be contacted during the day or at the end of camp depending on the time and severity of the incident.
- 2. Second Violation:** A staff member will address and document the issue directly with the child. The parent or guardian will receive a phone call and may be asked to pick up their child within the hour. The child may or may not be allowed to attend camp the next day that they are registered for.
- 3. Third Violation:** A staff member will address and document the issue directly with the child. Parents may be contacted immediately to pick up their child from camp. The child may be suspended for the day or week that they are registered for depending on the severity of the incident.
- 4. Fourth Violation:** Child will be dismissed from camp for the remainder of the program.

***Please Note:** We reserve the right, at any time, to dismiss your child from the program immediately for continued inappropriate behavior or severely inappropriate behavior (such as physical or emotional violence, bullying, or possession of prohibited items). If a child is dismissed because of behavior, no refund of remaining tuition will be granted. The parent/guardian is responsible for picking up a dismissed camper immediately.

CAMPER BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Parents/Guardians: Please review the following behavior contract with your child. Ensure that they understand the expectation that they always adhere to the terms of the contract while participating in OEA programs.

Camp Character Code Developing and displaying positive character values is especially important to OEA. *Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Gratitude* are large parts of our commitment to offering a safe and exciting camp experience. It is imperative that our campers agree to live by our Camper Character Code while under our supervision.

We CARE for ourselves and those around us.

We earn each other's trust through HONESTY.

We RESPECT each other and the environment.

We are RESPONSIBLE for our own choices.

We are GRATEFUL for the many opportunities this life brings us.

Please review and discuss the following statements with your child:

WHILE AT CAMP, I WILL:

- Show respect and kindness to other campers and staff, including personal property.
- Show responsibility by being helpful.
- Be honest with other campers and staff.
- Respect other people's feelings and differences.
- Have fun and make it fun for others.
- Make the most of learning opportunities by participating fully in activities.
- Try new things and have a positive attitude.

WHILE AT CAMP, I WILL NOT:

- Fight, "rough house" or behave unsafely.
- Threaten or bully other campers.
- Take things that do not belong to me.
- Use inappropriate language, make jokes or comments that make others uncomfortable.
- Bring toys from home, including electronics such as computerized watches, phones, or i-pads.

By clicking the box on the registration form I am confirming that my child and I have read and understand this Camper Behavior Contract and agree to follow camp rules and honor the Camper Character Code. I understand that failure to comply with these rules will have consequences, which may include, but are not limited to:

- Prohibition from participation in activities.
- Phone call to parents and early pick-up.
- Dismissal from OEA Camp.
- Permanent expulsion from OEA Programs.