



Newtown
COMMUNITY CENTER

NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Camper Behavior & Inclusion Policy

At the Newtown Community Center, we are committed to ensuring every camper has a safe, fun, and successful summer experience. Through the support of positive role models, consistent reward systems, and an emphasis on respect for self and others, we strive to help each child thrive.

Setting Campers Up for Success

We encourage families to share as much information as possible with our team before camp begins. This helps us better understand and support your child's individual needs. Camp is a dynamic environment with many transitions, new peers, and primarily outdoor activities. It's very different from a school setting, and preparation and communication go a long way in setting each camper up for success.

We understand that each child is unique and responds differently to various situations. Our approach focuses on **positive reinforcement, clear and developmentally appropriate rules, and proactive redirection** to prevent incidents whenever possible.

When behavioral challenges arise, we follow a **progressive discipline model**, where consequences escalate in response to repeated or severe behaviors.

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Disrespect (towards staff/peers)	Inappropriate Language	Fighting
Disruptive Behaviors	Spitting	Biting
Excessive Horseplay	Property Destruction	Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying
Repeatedly not following directions/program rules	Threatening comments/gestures	Leaving assigned program area (without permission)
	Teasing	Severe aggression, causing harm to staff/peers
	Physical Aggression (EX: <i>pushing, tripping, hitting, kicking, etc.</i>) that is repeated/targeted towards peers or staff.	

Consequences & Disciplinary Actions

Camp leadership, in collaboration with our behavior management team, will determine appropriate consequences based on the level of behavior. Disciplinary actions may include:

- Verbal reminders or redirection
- Parent communication
- Behavior improvement plans
- Suspension from activities or camp
- Permanent dismissal from the program (for severe or repeated behaviors)

All behavior management decisions are made at the discretion of the **Program Coordinator and/or Director**.

Commitment to Inclusion & Support

We are dedicated to fostering an inclusive environment where children of all backgrounds and abilities can thrive. We recognize that some campers may have **unique behavioral or developmental needs**, and we are committed to working with families to provide reasonable accommodations when possible.

However, there may be circumstances where we are unable to meet certain needs due to staffing limitations, safety concerns, or the nature of the camp environment. In such cases, we will:

- Collaborate with the family to explore all available support options
 - Reassess participation if necessary
 - If suitable accommodations cannot be made, we may need to **discontinue participation** in the program to ensure safety and well-being for all campers
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Communication Is Key

We ask that families share any relevant information about their child's needs **prior to the start of camp**. Open and honest communication helps us better support your camper from day one.

If you have any questions or concerns about this policy, please contact the Community Center team directly. We're here to work with you in creating a safe and positive summer for everyone.

There are many factors that contribute to the consequences of the above behaviors, camp leadership and our behavior management teams take all of this into consideration.

The Newtown Community Center has a progressive behavior management plan that we utilize in our summer camp program. The severity of the situation will dictate the consequence of the behavior. In extreme cases, a child's behavior may warrant immediate suspension or dismissal from the program.

All behavior management decisions are up to the discretion of the Program Coordinator / Director.

At the Newtown Community Center we are dedicated to creating an inclusive and supportive environment where all children can thrive. We understand that campers may have unique behavioral and developmental needs, and we strive to provide appropriate accommodation and assistance to help each child succeed.

While we are committed to supporting children with a variety of needs, it is important to note that there may be instances where we are unable to accommodate certain behavioral or developmental requirements due to staffing, resources, or the nature of the camp environment. In such cases, we may need to reassess the camper's participation in the program to ensure their safety, as well as the safety and well-being of other campers.

If it becomes clear that we cannot provide the necessary support for a camper, we will work closely with the family to explore potential alternatives. If no suitable accommodations can be made, we may need to consider removing the camper from the program.

We encourage open communication and ask parents to share any relevant information regarding their child's needs before camp begins. This will help us assess how best we can support them during their time with us.

If you have any questions or concerns about this policy, please feel free to contact us at (203) 270-4349.