

YMCA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT BEHAVIOR POLICY

Siouxland YMCA



Our Youth Development Program is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for all children. Our behavior policy is designed to foster positive interactions, encourage self-regulation, and support the social and emotional development of each child.

Positive Behaviors:

- Use kind and respectful words/actions
- Follow directions from teachers
- Respect others' feelings, personal space, and belongings
- Express emotions in a safe and constructive manner
- Engage in cooperative play and problem-solving

Level 1 Behaviors:

- Being disruptive
- Being disrespectful
- Inappropriate language
- Attempting to leave supervised setting without permission
- Not maintaining personal space or keeping hands/feet to self

Level 1 Interventions:

Staff will utilize the following in-program interventions

- Verbal redirection
- Student is asked to move to a Safe Spot or Take a Break
 - Student is given time/tools to calm down
 - Student processes with adult before rejoining the group
- Parent communication through Dojo or at pickup

Level 2 Behaviors:

- Refusal to participate in Level 1 interventions
- Disruptive behavior requiring one-on-one intervention for a prolonged period of time
- Destruction of property
- Physical aggression
- Racial Slurs
- Significant threat of bodily harm

Level 2 Interventions:

- Parent will be contacted, and student will be sent home. Parent has 15 minutes to have a reasonable plan of pick-up in place.
- Child will be removed from the group and process with a staff while waiting for pick-up
- Child may receive an additional day of suspension for repeat Level 2 behaviors
- An Individual Behavior Support Plan may be developed for youth with persistent challenging behaviors

Level 3 Behaviors:

- Serious physical harm, resulting in injury
- Leaving program property / supervised area
- Inappropriate touching
- Intentional vandalism
- Possession of weapons, drugs, or alcohol
- Continued aggressive behavior

Level 3 Interventions:

- Parent will be contacted, and student will be sent home. Parent has 15 minutes to have a reasonable plan of pick-up in place.
- Child will be removed from the group and process with a staff while waiting for pick-up
- **Child will be removed/discharged from the program immediately**

Individualized Behavior Support Plan:

An individualized Behavior Support Plan is developed in collaboration with both parents and the Program Director to address areas of challenge and promote growth in specific skills. This plan is implemented consistently in the classroom and shared with parents to ensure continuity of support at home. The plan is followed over a four-week period, with regular assessments of progress. If insufficient improvement is observed, a discussion will be held with the family to explore alternative options, including the potential discontinuation of the child's enrollment in the program. If the child's challenging behaviors results in other children being seriously injured, or parent input and cooperation are not present, YMCA reserves the right to end care immediately.

In our Youth Development Program, we prioritize building strong, collaborative relationships with families to ensure the best possible support for each child. We encourage open communication at all times, regularly sharing updates on the child's progress, behavior, and development. We value input from families and work together to address any concerns or challenges that may arise.