

Camp Bethel Camper Discipline Policy

Statement of Purpose

Our goal for each child is to have an experience of Christian community in which the camper is safe and grows spiritually and socially. Because of this goal, campers are encouraged to participate in all camp activities to the best of their ability. Likewise, campers are encouraged to treat one another and the staff with mutual respect. During a week at camp, in the course of activities, it is natural that there will be conflicts within cabins and between campers and their counselors. It is in resolving these conflicts some of the most important lessons of a week at camp are learned.

Occasionally, however, behavior on the part of a camper may become as disruptive as to require his/her removal from camp because conflicts cannot be resolved. Therefore, the following guidelines are presented for children during their week in camp. Parents are encouraged to review these guidelines with their children.

1. Abide by the rules and regulations of the camp.
2. Use language appropriate for a Christian community.
3. Respect the rights, privacy and property of others.
4. Respect the property and facilities of the camp.
5. Wear appropriate clothes for activities and environments.
6. Engaging in or threatening acts of physical, sexual or verbal abuse is prohibited (camper/camper or camper/staff).
7. Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, or any illegal substance or paraphernalia is prohibited.
8. Possession or use of weapons is prohibited.

Disciplinary Action

Camp Bethel will attempt to be fair in assessing consequences for camper behavior. When appropriate, consequences shall be given in a progressive order in relation to the severity and/or frequency of the infraction(s). The specific disciplinary action and severity of punishment for inappropriate camper behavior will be handled by the Cabin Leader, Program Director, or, in some cases, the Camp Director.

Zero Tolerance Policy

Because we want campers to be able to experience the safest week possible, Camp Bethel has a zero tolerance for the following behaviors.

1. Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, or any illegal substance or paraphernalia.
2. Possession or use of weapons of any kind.
3. Theft.
4. Physical assault.
5. Sexual Violence.

Any camper who willfully violates any of the above rules of conduct will be dismissed immediately.

Search of Personal Belongings

In order to provide for the safety of campers and staff, Camp Bethel retains the right, if deemed necessary, to search all personal belongings of any camper who attends camp and camp-sponsored events. If any staff member has reasonable suspicion that a camper possesses any substance, article, or weapon that is prohibited or may endanger any staff/camper, the Camp and/or Program Director(s) have the right to perform a search of the camper and/or the camper's belongings.

Reimbursement of Fees

If the camper is dismissed due to inappropriate behavior, no refund of camper fees will be available.

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Admission Agreement

In signing this section, I acknowledge that I have read through the above code of conduct with my child. I am aware that my child is expected to cooperate in all camp activities. Likewise, I am aware that my child is expected to abide by all regulations governing personal conduct and use of camp property. If my child does not cooperate, or becomes a hindrance to the camp program, I understand that my child will be sent home.

Parent/guardian signature is *required*.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

In signing this section, I acknowledge that I have read through the above code of conduct. I am aware that I am expected to cooperate in all camp activities. Likewise, I am aware that I am expected to abide by all regulations governing personal conduct and use of camp property. If I do not cooperate, or become a hindrance to the camp program, I understand I will be sent home.

Camper signature is *required*.

Camper Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this agreement – signed by both parent/guardian and camper – on arrival at camp. Campers will NOT be admitted without this signed form. Thank you for your cooperation.