

## **SALT LAKE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION CHILD CARE BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES**

### **PURPOSE**

These guidelines have been established and adopted by the Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation Division as its procedure for addressing behavioral matters governing the conduct, safety, and welfare of children, staff, and patrons participating in division child care & day camp programs. These guidelines prescribe the division's response to inappropriate and disruptive child behavior in the child care setting; behavior that might subject students, staff, or patrons to verbal abuse or even place them in imminent physical danger.

### **POLICY**

It is policy of the Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation Division that all children participating in division child care/ day camp programs have the right to attend and enjoy a safe, healthy, educational and recreational environment, where personal safety is assured, social development is offered, and a sense of self-esteem can flourish.

### **ARTICLES**

- 1.0** Division childcare programs have a responsibility of teaching children self-discipline and the fundamental principles of social behavior.
- 2.0** Children, while under the supervision of the division's child care/ day camp program, are to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to a productive atmosphere for themselves and their classmates.
- 3.0** Disruptive behavior creating imminent danger includes, but is not limited to:
  - 3.1** Fighting, spitting, verbal aggression, inappropriate use of language, destruction of property, or other similar threatening or out-of-control behavior.
  - 3.2** Cognitively choosing not to follow directions and/or established rules.
  - 3.3** Instigating or participating in gang activity; wearing gang-related clothing; displaying gang colors; or, having gang paraphernalia on their person or in their possession.
  - 3.4** Possession of weapons, or look-alike weapons, of any kind, to include, but not be limited to: firearms, knives, chemical devices, or any instrument that may represent a danger to him/herself or another person.
  - 3.5** Sexual inappropriateness.
  - 3.6** Possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, and controlled drugs or substances.
  - 3.7** Running away from the childcare facility, a sponsored activity, or program supervisory staff.
- 4.0** Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation reserves the right to suspend or terminate a student from the child care/ camp program by reason of continual violations of acceptable behavioral conduct.

## **GUIDELINES FOR PARENTAL NOTIFICATION AND CONFERENCING**

- 5.0** In order to protect and safeguard all childcare/ camp patrons, participants, and staff, the division will implement these behavioral guidelines according to the following standard:
- 5.1** First Behavioral Offense- When a student's behavior becomes disruptive to the extent that it interferes with the child care/ camp program learning or teaching process, the counselor / program supervisor will send a written incident report to the student's parent(s) or guardian.
- 5.2** Second Behavioral Offense - When a student's behavior continues to be disruptive or immediate measures must be taken to avoid personal abuse or injury, a second written incident report will be sent to the student's parent(s) or guardian. At this time a parent / guardian and staff consultation is required to discuss the student's behavior.
- 5.3** Third Behavioral Offense - When a student continues to demonstrate severe disruptive or inappropriate behavior - exemplified by the first and second behavioral offenses - a third written incident report will be sent to the student's parent(s) or guardian. At this point the child will not be allowed to return to the childcare/ camp program until a mandatory parent/guardian conference is held with the childcare supervisor and program specialist(s). A decision will be made at that time whether or not to suspend or terminate the child
- 6.0** A suspension will be for a minimum of a day, but no longer than three. The beginning and length of the suspension will be determined according to agreement with the parent(s)/guardian at the time of the conference. If the parent(s)/guardian fail to meet with division staff, the suspension will begin the day following the third written incident report and be served consecutively for a maximum of three days.

I have read the childcare behavioral guidelines and discussed all issues of concern with the childcare/ camp staff. I concur with the procedures and, should it become necessary, agree to abide by them.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date