

# YMCA EARLY LEARNING BEHAVIOR POLICY

## Siouxland YMCA



Our Early Learning 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
- Developmentally inappropriate biting or aggression
- Difficulty taking turns or staying in line

#### 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
- Positive Reinforcement
- Parent communication through Dojo, folders, or at pickup

#### Level 2 Behaviors:

- Prolonged active noncompliance, resulting in safety concerns and refusal to respond to any/all Level 1 interventions
- Disruptive behavior requiring one-on-one intervention for a prolonged period of time
- Destruction of property
- Serious physical harm, resulting in injury
- Inappropriate touching
- Leaving program property / supervised setting

#### Level 2 Interventions:

- Parent will be contacted, and student will be sent home.
- Child will sit in a Safe Spot or Break Spot until picked up
- Child may receive an additional day of suspension for repeat Level 2 behaviors
- Parents may need to meet with Program Director and Lead Teacher prior to their child's return to develop a behavior support and safety plan

### Individualized Behavior Support Plan:

An individualized Behavior Support Plan is developed in collaboration with both parents and the teachers 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.

At our Early Learning Center, 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.