



YMCA KIDS' CLUB

PARENT HANDBOOK

www.ymcade.org/kids-club



WELCOME TO KIDS' CLUB!

We know how busy life can be for parents, and we're here to help! While you enjoy classes, group activities, or workouts at the Y, your kids will have a safe, fun, and enriching environment to thrive in. Kids' Club is where children build healthy, trusting relationships with peers and caring adults under the supervision of trained YMCA staff.

HOW KIDS' CLUB WORKS

- Children are grouped into two age-specific rooms, 6 weeks to 6 years and 6 to 11 years. This allows us to provide age-appropriate activities that keep children engaged while you enjoy all the Y has to offer. See Branch for specific ages.
- Kids' Club is free of charge for children whose parents have an active Adult Plus Children Membership.
- Parents may leave children in Kids' Club for a maximum of two hours per day and must remain within the YMCA of Delaware facility during this time. The two-hour time limit will be strictly enforced and cannot be split due to capacity.

SAFETY FIRST

Your child's safety is our top priority.

Check-In Procedure

When arriving at Kids' Club, please:

- Scan your child's membership card.
- Let us know where you'll be in the facility.
- Confirm your current contact information and phone number.

For everyone's safety, both guardians and children must have a photo on file. If a photo hasn't been added yet, please stop by the front desk to complete this step before drop-off.

Pick-Up Policy

- Only adults (18+) listed on your child's membership account or registration form may pick up. A valid photo ID is required.
- If someone other than a listed guardian will be picking up your child, please inform Kids' Club staff ahead of time to ensure a smooth and secure hand-off.

Extensive Staff Training

All Y staff members receive training annually in child abuse prevention, first aid, CPR and workplace safety. They are dedicated to creating a nurturing, developmentally appropriate environment and embody the YMCA core values.

KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY

We work hard to maintain a clean and healthy space for your children. Please keep these guidelines in mind:

- **Keep Sick Kids Home:** Children displaying signs of illness, such as fever (100° or higher), vomiting, sore throat, diarrhea, rashes, or other symptoms, should stay home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours. Doctor clearance may be required for contagious illnesses.
- **Cleanliness:** All children must wear socks and are encouraged to sanitize their hands before and after entering Kids' Club.
- **Crying Children:** If your child becomes inconsolable for more than 10-15 minutes, we will page or text you. Pacifiers are encouraged for infants and should be secured with clips.
- **Diapers:** Please ensure your child arrives in a clean diaper or pull-up. Provide enough diapers and wipes for the time they'll be in our care.
- **Safe Sleep:** Infants will not be permitted to sleep in car seats to ensure safe sleep practices.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

- **Food & Drinks:** Snacks are not permitted in Kids' Club. Infants may have bottles. Closed water containers are allowed. Be sure to label all personal items with your child's first and last name.

ALLERGIES & SPECIAL NEEDS

Your child's comfort and well-being are our priorities. If your child has any allergies, special circumstances, or requires accommodations, please communicate these needs to our staff prior to leaving them in Kids' Club. We will make every effort to provide the necessary support.





BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

Our goal is to create a positive and supportive environment for all children. Kids' Club staff use positive guidance methods such as reminders, distractions, logical consequences, and redirection to encourage appropriate behavior.

If a staff member spends more than 10-15 minutes using these methods with a child, the parent or guardian will be contacted to pick them up immediately. A behavior report will also be completed.

STEPS FOR ADDRESSING BEHAVIOR

Redirection & Discussion:

Staff will guide the child toward more appropriate behavior and engage in a discussion to help them understand their choices.

Personal Time:

The child may be encouraged to take time to regain composure and explore alternative behavioral choices.

Behavior Report:

After a third reminder, staff will complete a behavior report and share it with the parent or guardian at pick-up.

Ongoing Behavioral Concerns:

If a child receives three written behavior reports within a specific time period, they may be temporarily suspended from the program. The duration of this suspension will be determined by the program director.

Exclusion Policy:

In certain situations, children may be excluded from Kids' Club at the discretion of the Child Care Director.