

# Camper Discipline and Philosophy

## Winnwald Day Camp

Our goal is to establish a positive atmosphere that promotes self-discipline in order to provide a physically and emotionally safe environment for all campers. NO child should interfere with any other child's having a positive and enjoyable summer.

The Camp makes every effort to recognize campers who follow the rules and cooperate with peers and counselors. Examples of this recognition might include "camper of the week" awards, a positive call home, line leader, helper of the week, and verbal praise from the staff.

Counselors are coached to provide an interesting and varied program. Their groups' rules and expectations are compatible with the Camp's philosophy and relative to the campers' ages. Rules are reviewed every Monday and as necessary. The counselor's approach is to be firm, fair, friendly, and consistent.

Campers in all groups are made aware of the consequences of their actions. Junior counselors and Campers In Transition (CIT) do not administer discipline; this is the responsibility of Assistant and Head Counselors in a cooperative effort with the Program Directors.

Winnwald Day Camp does not condone acts of social cruelty, better known as bullying, a serious public health issue that affects countless young people everyday and can last well into adulthood. Campers participating in such acts will be disciplined accordingly and face dismissal from camp. When expectations are not met, there will be a consequence relative to the child's age and offense. In cases of a minor infraction (i.e., unwilling to take turns or participate, not following directions, or not listening) the counselor will issue a warning along with a camper conference, a time-out/Chill Break (10-13), and/or loss of recess. Counselors will inform their Program Director of warnings issued. Please review this information with your child/children.

**One Strike** Issues such as leaving the group without permission, lack of respect, or a pattern of warnings, results in one strike; the child is immediately referred to the Program Director who will inform the parents of the incident and the established consequences.

**Two Strikes** Social behaviors such as fighting, bullying (including cyber-bullying), biting, profanity, inappropriate sexual behavior, spreading rumors, teasing, or any other unsafe behaviors including a series of repeated offences are unacceptable, may result in a conference with the Camp Director, 2 Strikes and/or immediate loss of time or suspension from camp.

**Three Strikes** A continued pattern of negative or inappropriate behavior culminates with three strikes, a suspension from the Camp for one or two days or termination from camp, depending upon the situation. There may be a pro-rated refund if a child's enrollment is terminated by the camp director.

**Cell Phones, iPods, Digital Cameras** and other **Electronic Devices** are NOT to be brought to camp. If any of these items are found, they will be placed in the camp office; parents may retrieve items at the end of the day.

Parental cooperation and support is necessary in order for us to maintain this "envelope of safety" for our campers. All communications regarding your children will be handled through the Program Directors. Therefore, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's Program Director or the Camp Director and NOT the counselor.

By signing where indicated on the Health Form sheet you agree that your child is familiar with these rules and will obey them.