

## **Indian Rock Summer Camp Behavior Policy**

At Indian Rock Summer Camp, our goal is to provide every camper with a safe, educational, fun, and memorable summer experience. Creating a positive camp environment requires teamwork between campers, families, and staff. This behavior policy helps set clear expectations so all campers can learn, grow, and enjoy their time at camp.

We believe in guiding campers with positive behavior practices, clear communication, and supportive interventions. However, Indian Rock reserves the right to deny continued attendance at the discretion of the Camp Director if a camper's behavior jeopardizes the safety or well-being of themselves or others. **If a camper is suspended or expelled from camp for behavior, no refund will be provided.**

If your child has a condition that may affect their behavior at camp, you must inform the Camp Director prior to attendance and complete an Individual Camper Care Plan.

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### **Camp Expectations**

All campers are expected to:

1. Stay with their group and counselor at all times
  2. Walk safely and do not throw objects or carry sticks
  3. Keep hands and feet to themselves (no fighting or roughhousing)
  4. Use kind words. Teasing or negative comments towards fellow campers and staff will not be tolerated.
  5. Follow directions and participate cooperatively
  6. Help keep camp clean (no littering)
  7. Always treat staff, peers, and visitors with respect
  8. Respect nature and animals
  9. Respect equipment and property
  10. Use appropriate language
  11. Respect others' personal space and belongings
  12. Not bring toys, playing/trading cards, and sports balls
  13. Not bring prohibited items including knives (unless authorized for specific sessions), fireworks, tobacco, vapes, alcohol, drugs, firearms, or replicas of weapons
  14. Electronic devices are not to be used and must be stored away during camp hours (8:30am–4:15pm). Camp is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. Campers will be given one warning to put devices away. If camper has their device out again it will be confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian at the end of the camp day.
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### **Consequences for Failure to Follow Camp Expectations**

**Minor Misbehaviors:** Minor misbehaviors will be handled by the counselor using positive behavioral practices (e.g. creating group rules/setting expectations, using positive reinforcement, redirecting attention, having camper take a break from the group). Examples of minor misbehaviors are not listening to counselors, being disruptive to the group, wandering from the group, and other minor issues. If minor misbehaviors occur repeatedly the consequences will move to the 1<sup>st</sup> offense level.

**1st Offense:** When there is a repeated occurrence of undesirable behavior the counselor will communicate the problem to the Assistant Camp Director. The Assistant Camp Director will provide the counselor with

guidance on how to handle the camper and/or if necessary, assist the counselor by having a conversation in person with the camper. At the counselor's discretion and Assistant Camp Director's guidance, the camper may be asked to take a break or change their role in the activity. An Initial Behavior Report will be completed. The Initial Behavior Report will include a description of the camper's behavior that has been reported to the Assistant Camp Director.

**2nd Offense:** Repeated negative behavior persists or additional problems arise. Counselor will immediately inform the Assistant Camp Director. The Assistant Camp Director will remove the camper from the group to have a conversation about the behavior and discuss the following;

- The parents/guardians will be contacted and informed about the behavior(s)
- The behavior needs to be changed immediately
- Camper may be asked to take a "cool off" break to allow the camper to decompress away from the group to collect their thoughts and settle down

Assistant Camp Director will call home to discuss behavior and possible solutions including ways to help in camp and at home. A Behavior Report will be completed and emailed to the parent/guardian. The report will describe the camper's negative behavior, the conversation had with the parent/guardian, and actions to be taken by staff to improve the camper's behavior.

**3rd Offense:** Camper's behavior has continued and not improved, is negatively affecting the camp experience of other campers, and/or is becoming dangerous to self or others. Camper will be removed from the activity to have a conversation with the Assistant Camp Director and Camp Director. Assistant Camp Director/Camp Director will make another phone call home to inform parents/guardians of continued negative behavior and to set up a Parent Meeting. The Parent Meeting will take place at camp and include the camper, parent(s)/guardian(s), Assistant Camp Director, and possibly Camp Director. The primary topics of conversation at the meeting will be why the negative behavior is happening, how to fix the negative behavior at camp/home, and what needs to happen moving forward for the camper to continue to be at camp. A Behavior Report will be completed and emailed to the parent/guardian.

**4th Offense:** No changes in behavior have happened since the Parent Meeting. Camper will be removed from all activities and arrangements will be made for the camper to be picked up for the day. Parent/Guardian will have a 2nd meeting with the Assistant Camp Director and Camp Director to have a conversation about the future of their camper at camp. Possible consequences: suspension from camp for a period of time or expulsion from camp. A Behavior Report will be completed and emailed to the parent/guardian.

**Zero Tolerance Behaviors:** Any negative behaviors determined to jeopardize the health and safety of the camper, another camper, or staff are unacceptable and will be cause for more immediate consequences. Zero tolerance behaviors will require the camper to be picked up by parent/guardian upon receiving knowledge of the behavior and a Parent Meeting with the Assistant Camp Director and Camp Director. A Behavior Report will be completed and emailed to the parent/guardian.

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Please understand that all behavioral situations are very different from one another and may require more specific actions or earlier consequences based on the severity of the behavior(s).

We appreciate your partnership in helping us create a respectful, supportive, and fun camp community for everyone.