

RULES & POLICIES

We have worked with the students to create a basic set of rules for our time together, these include things like: being respectful of the space (we are fortunate to run out of a local school!), being respectful of each other, informing a leader where you are going (washrooms, water fountain etc.) and communicating any concerns ASAP so that they may be addressed immediately.

The 2 policies that are NEW to our program and we wish for you and your student to know upfront:

Bullying of any kind will be handled immediately and by Pastor Noah or Pastor Keanna. We have a 3 strike policy in place.

1. The student will be issued a verbal warning (this will not be done publicly)
2. A guardian will be contacted via phone or in person to discuss the behaviour.
3. The student will be required to take a 1 week break from the program, following which they will be welcome back wholeheartedly. If the behaviour persists the team will contact a guardian to sit down and make a plan of action. This may result in a longer break, as we make every attempt to create a safe space.

When bullying takes place without a Volunteer/Adult present we ask that it be reported immediately so that we can gather information and handle it appropriately. Situations that happened “days ago” or “even weeks ago” are much harder to address.

The Path: Unplugged In an effort to be both present and to prevent bullying we will be taking a stance on cell phones at our program. Cell phones will be collected when your student signs in. They will be placed in a labeled bag and then in a sealed container and monitored by Pastor Keanna (or in her absence, another designated leader). If your student needs their phone to contact someone or if it is very clear that someone is trying to get ahold of the student the phone will be returned to the student for a period of time - but not unmonitored. This will be a technology free zone for our students and leaders alike. Leaders will have their cell phones on them for emergencies and taking the occasional picture for our social media. The 3 strike rule will apply to this policy as well should a student not turn in their phone or by abusing our trust when it is returned for communication purposes. If a student or guardian has a concern with this policy please give Pastor Keanna a call - we would love to have an open discussion with you and find a solution.

PLEASE NOTE:

Many times a student arrives for their first night without a guardian at drop off - we will not turn a student away in that situation (we will confirm that a guardian knows their whereabouts), however they will be sent home with a form. If they return without the form completed they will not be permitted to attend until we have it on file. On night 1 we will collect an emergency contact number from the student in case it should be needed.

The program ends at 9:30 unless otherwise stated for an event. We ask that guardians/ students be prompt in leaving the program as our team has clean up to do (we rent the space and school resumes in the morning.) Sometimes a conversation with a leader is taking place and we do not wish to interrupt (and we get that!), however that is the exception. Several of our leaders have to get home to tuck little ones into bed & we thank you for your help in respecting our time. We will also make every effort to dismiss on time to respect your time. Should we not hear from the student's ride by 9:40 one of our leaders will place a call to ensure a ride is covered.

Please be aware that this is not a “Drop in Centre” When a student arrives they will not be permitted to leave until 9:30 without written consent from their guardian (not even to do a Timmie's run!)

This is also a participation space: we do encourage and ask that the students be fully present and engaged. We will expect students to participate in the program unless a valid reason is presented to excuse themselves. Should it be a sport based event (we understand that is not everyone's thing!), we will provide an alternative activity.

These rules and policies have been put into place by our leadership team to ensure the safety of all participants and we thank you for your help in creating a successful program for our community .