

Woods Summer Wonders Camps

Camper Policies



Woods Charter School

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ABCs of Camp Life

At Woods Summer Wonders Camps we seek to provide safe, fun, creative, challenging camping opportunities that foster individual and family growth in areas of self-worth, responsibility, self-expression, independence, leadership, environmental awareness and values. It is important that all campers and staff strive to teach, practice, and model the values ***Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility*** each day.

Behavior Management Policy

We believe that every child has the right to experience camp and all it has to offer. We believe in setting limits and explaining the boundaries for all participants. When these boundaries are tested, we use specific procedures to help the camper continue his/her experience at camp. All of our staff receives significant training in these procedures. On the first day of camp our staff will go over the expectations and ground rules of camp life. Campers have the opportunity to ask questions about policies and rules, so that everyone is clear about expectations.

Procedures We Follow

1. The camper's instructor will speak with the camper and check whether the camper understands why the behavior is unacceptable and knows what the consequences are. The instructor then restates the desired behavior, with clear consequences given for not following the desired behavior. The removal of a camper from a problem situation will be a consequence in this first stage; removal gives the camper time to calm down, reflect on his/her actions, and the camp director or administrative lead time to discuss with the camper what has happened.
2. If the behavior is repeated the instructor will let the camper know that this behavior is still unacceptable and then advise the camp director or administrative lead, who will contact the parent or guardian to advise them of the situation and ask them to come in for a meeting.
3. If the behavior persists, or is of such a serious nature as to warrant it, the camper will be sent home. **In this case, parents will need to make transportation arrangements and there are *no* refunds made for campers who are sent home for behavioral reasons.**

Removal from Camp

1. Some actions will warrant immediate removal from camp. These actions include, but are not limited to:
2. Smoking or other use of tobacco products at camp;
3. Use of alcohol or illegal drugs at camp, or coming to camp under the influence of either;
4. Stealing, vandalism, or other threats against the property of others or of the Woods Charter School;
5. Violent acts against self or others while at camp;
6. Endangering their own safety, or the safety of camp instructors or staff, or other campers.

Severe Behavior

WSWC is not equipped to handle, and the instructors and staff do not have the training to deal with, campers with chemical dependency, severe emotional disturbances, or violent behavior. If your child has severe behavioral or emotional problems, or is unable to live a chemical-free life during their camp attendance, we will not be able to accommodate your child and ask that you not register him/her for these camps.

Bullying

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Bullying happens when a person or group of people want to have power over another and use their power to get their way, at the expense of someone else. Bullying can also happen through cyberspace -- through the use of emails, text messaging, instant messaging, weblogs, personal web sites and other less direct methods. This type of bullying can also lead to persons being hurt during or between the camp seasons and be especially hurtful when persons are targeted with meanness and exclusion.

At WSWC, bullying is inexcusable and unacceptable. Each camper is expected to treat all other campers with respect, and to help each other achieve the best possible experience. If a camper has difficulty meeting this expectation, parents may be called upon to assist. We work together as a team to ensure that campers gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great camp memories. Unfortunately, campers who are bullied may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience.

Our leadership team addresses all incidents of bullying seriously and trains staff to promote communication with their campers so both staff and campers are comfortable alerting us to any problems during their camp experience. We can't manage an incident if we don't know about it. Every person has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all campers and staff have a great experience at WSWC.

Camper Dress

Campers' clothing should reflect good taste and concern for the values and standards of other campers. Inappropriate dress includes but is not limited to the following: Hats worn backwards or to the side, short shorts, clothing promoting alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products, provocative clothing, and bare midriffs. Campers may be asked to change their clothes if the director deems attire to be inappropriate.

Chronic Health Conditions

Any camper with a chronic health condition must note that fact on the Camp Registration form. We strongly suggest that parents of campers with chronic health conditions meet with the Nurse Consultant and Camp Director prior to the camp start date. All medication must be given to the nurse consultant or her designee in its original container with physicians' instructions for dosage on the label. Camp Instructors will be notified of the camper's health condition by the health officer or camp director. All medical information shall be kept confidential and stored in the camper's health file at the health center.

Civil Disobedience or Camper Disruption

Any camper conduct (either individually or in a group) that is intentionally disruptive to or designed to be disruptive to the normal operation of the camp program may result in the camper being sent home from camp. Such conduct includes but is not limited to the following: destruction of camp property, or advocating such disruption or destruction, refusing to cooperate with camp staff attempting to maintain or restore order in the group, and/or program activity, starting fights or arguments in a group and/ or harming another camper. These campers are disciplined and parents are contacted by the camp director.

Corporal Punishment

WSWC **DOES NOT** subscribe to corporal punishment as a means to discipline campers.

Dangerous Weapons

Items designed to cause bodily harm or deemed potentially harmful are confiscated, and law enforcement authorities are contacted. The parents/guardians are contacted. Bringing such items to camp will result in campers being sent home early from camp. All kinds of knives and dangerous items **MUST** be kept off school property. Once any item is confiscated by the camp director, it is not returned to the camper but is turned over to law enforcement authorities if deemed appropriate.

Deceitful Activity

Any camper involved in lying or attempting to deceive a camp staff person will be subject to disciplinary action.

Diversity

At WSWC we are a community made up of a diverse population. The camper population is comprised of a diverse population consisting of campers from all races, faiths, socioeconomic backgrounds, family structures, etc. A unique quality of WSWC is that we all come together as ONE community and have a fun, safe time together. It's important for everyone to feel important and have a positive day camp experience.

Drinking and Drugs

WSWC has a "Zero Tolerance Policy" which means that the camper is automatically sent home if using drugs or alcohol, or under the influence while at camp. Alcohol and drugs absolutely have no place at camp! Positively no alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances are to be carried onto the camp property--this includes cigarettes or any other tobacco product. Any camper in possession of alcohol, drugs, or a controlled substance is sent home immediately, and law enforcement authorities are contacted.

Falsely Reported Emergency Calls and Fire Alarms

Any camper setting off a fire alarm, or tampering with a fire extinguisher, smoke detector or AED, or using the school phone or any phone on any off-site camp function to falsely report an emergency to 911 will be subject to disciplinary action.

Fighting

WSWC does not tolerate campers who harm other campers; whether it is physical or verbal fighting, including degrading, demanding, threatening other campers or staff, or making fun of others. Any camper involved in fighting is subject to discipline and will be sent home. The local law enforcement agency will be contacted if the circumstances warrant. In this event, the parent/guardian will be contacted by the camp director and no refund of camp tuition or fees will be made.

Gambling

No games of chance may be played on the camp property or at any off-site camp function. Playing cards for money or exchange of personal items, dice playing, or any other form of gambling is not allowed at camp. Campers who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action.

Gangs

Campers must refrain from any gang related activity while at camp. No campers shall;

1. Wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation with a gang.
2. Commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang. Any camper who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action and parent/guardian is contacted.

Gum Chewing

Gum chewing contributes to higher maintenance costs, creates unsanitary conditions and has a negative affect on camp decorum, other people's clothes, shoes, and hair. For these reasons, gum chewing at camp is not allowed at any time.

Intimidation

Any camper found to be harassing, making fun of, or intimidating another camper is subject to disciplinary actions, including immediate removal from camp.

Laser Pens/Pointers

The use of laser pens/pointers by campers is not permitted. If a camper brings a laser pen/pointer, it is confiscated and kept in a locked drawer in the camp director's office until the last day of camp.

Lost and Found

When sending your campers to camp please be sure to mark all clothing and items with his/her full name. Please do not use your camper's initials; use your camper's full name. All lost and found at camp is put in the lost and found box located in the cabinet outside the camp director's office. If parents inquire about lost and found, the camp will search through the lost and found for the lost items and then arrange for pick up of the items with the parent.

At the end of each session, campers and parents are given an opportunity to claim lost and found items. Parents can claim lost and found items up to one week after their session. Lost and found items not claimed and/or without names are given to the thrift store or other charitable organizations.

Obscenity

Obscene, profane, or vulgar language, whether written, oral, or expressed by symbols is not tolerated. Being respectful to staff and other campers is important and expected. Any camper who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Search and Seizure

Woods Charter staff reserve the right to search a staff or camper's property, either by themselves or with the aid of law enforcement officials, if the camp staff deem the search is necessary to maintain the integrity of the camp's environment and or the protection of the other staff or campers. These searches may or may not include the use of specially trained dogs.

Social Conduct

At camp, camper conduct should reflect concern for others. Camp is the wrong place for any kind of public display of affection. Intimacy and physical contact is treated as a disciplinary matter.

Stealing

Stealing is a violation of North Carolina law. A camper who becomes involved in a theft of camp property, another camper's belongings, or a staff person's belongings is subject to disciplinary action. Stealing may result in a camper being sent home early from camp. The camp director contacts parents/guardians immediately.

Vandalism

Campers involved in vandalism or malicious mischief either against the camp property or against another camper or staff are disciplined. Vandalism includes any kind of graffiti on camp walls, beds, bathroom stalls, etc. The parent/guardian is contacted by the camp director. Violation of this policy may result in the camper being sent home early from camp. Payment to repair any damage accrued as result of the vandalism is the responsibility of the camper's parent/guardian.

Visitors

WSWC prohibits camper's friends "dropping by" to visit the camper, because other campers and the camp program are disrupted.