



Rural Municipality of WEST RIVER

Behavior Management and Guidance Plan

For

Afton Imagination Program

Program: Afton Imagination – After School Care Program

Purpose

The purpose of this Behavior Management and Guidance Plan is to promote a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all children attending our after-school program. We aim to support the social and emotional development of each child by fostering positive behavior through clear expectations, consistent guidance, and proactive strategies.

Philosophy

Our program believes in a positive, child-centered approach to behavior management that emphasizes:

- Mutual respect
- Clear and consistent expectations
- Encouragement and support
- Teaching appropriate social skills and conflict resolution
- Developmentally appropriate responses

We understand that children are learning how to manage emotions and behavior. We see every situation as an opportunity to guide, model, and support this learning process.

Behavior Expectations

Children are expected to:

- Treat peers, staff, and property with respect
- Follow program rules and routines
- Use kind words and actions
- Stay within designated program areas
- Ask for help when needed

Guidance Strategies

Staff will use the following proactive and supportive strategies to guide behavior:



Rural Municipality of WEST RIVER

1. Modeling – Demonstrate respectful, calm, and kind behavior always.
2. Positive Reinforcement – Acknowledge and celebrate appropriate behavior.
3. Clear Expectations – Provide simple, consistent rules and reminders.
4. Redirection – Gently steer children away from inappropriate behavior and toward a more acceptable option.
5. Offering Choices – Provide structured choices to empower children and avoid power struggles.
6. Logical Consequences – Help children understand the impact of their actions and experience age-appropriate consequences.

Steps for Managing Challenging Behavior

If a child engages in behavior that is disruptive or unsafe, the following steps may be taken:

1. Verbal Reminder – A calm reminder of expectations.
2. Redirection or Break – Offer time to reset or redirect the child to a different activity or space.
3. Private Discussion – Discuss what happened, how it made others feel, and better choices for the future.
4. Documentation – An incident report will be completed if behavior continues or poses a risk.
5. Parent Communication – Parents/guardians will be informed of ongoing behavioral concerns.
6. Individual Support Plan – In collaboration with the family, we may develop a behavior support plan to guide consistent strategies.

*Physical punishment, isolation, threats, or demeaning language are never used in our program. *

Suspension and Termination

In rare cases where behavior jeopardizes the safety or well-being of others, temporary suspension or termination from the program may be considered. These decisions are made in consultation with parents/guardians and only after reasonable efforts have been made to support the child.

Parent Involvement

We believe behavior guidance works best when there is a strong partnership with families. Parents are encouraged to:

- Share any behavioral concerns or strategies that work well at home
- Work collaboratively with staff to support their child's development



Rural Municipality of
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- Review and support the behavior expectations outlined in this plan

Review and Updates

This plan is reviewed annually and updated as needed based on the needs of the children, staff training, and best practices in child guidance.