

HEARTLAND FOREST NATURE EXPERIENCE

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

Policy

Every child has the right to feel safe in our program environment. The staff we employ are well trained, and the program we deliver is inclusive and non-threatening. As challenges present themselves, a problem-solving format will be utilized to support all those involved. In the case of a child/youth who is behaving in an unsafe and excessively disruptive manner, the Leaders have the authority to request that the camper not return to camp.

Ongoing problems in discipline are to be brought to the attention of the Program Supervisor. The Supervisor (or designate) will work with the program's team and parent/caregiver to resolve the discipline issue.

Procedures & Guidelines

It is our expectation that children attending Heartland Forest programs and camps experience a safe, exciting and positive environment of outdoor learning and fun. With this in mind, it is important to set behavior guidelines that we ask all attendees to adhere to.

Leaders will follow a three-strike system:

- **Strike one:** The child/youth is given an official verbal warning, the Leader talks privately to the child about their behavior and what is expected of them. The child is asked to correct the behavior and provided with problem solving solutions. The Leader informs the parent/guardian of the challenge upon pick-up at the end of the day/program. The warning and confirmation of parent/guardian communication is recorded in the incident binder.
- **Strike two:** The child/youth is given a second official verbal warning. They may be asked to sit out of an activity for a period of time and is informed that one more incident may result in them no longer being able to attend the program. The Leader then follows the same procedures as in strike one. Parents/guardians are advised of the incident and informed that another incident will result in their child no longer being allowed to attend the remainder of the program. A phone call or email is provided to the Program Supervisor or designate with an incident report.
- **Strike three:** Same procedures as above. The child/youth is asked to sit out of the group, while remaining under supervision until the parent or guardian arrives to pick up their child. An incident report is provided to the Program Supervisor or designate.

* Please note: This discipline procedure is not appropriate for all children, especially those with intellectual, developmental or communication delays.