

# Genesee Country Village & Museum



## 2023 Camp Culture & Behavior Expectations

These expectations have been defined in the best interest of your child, and will help ensure a successful experience for you and your child during GCV&M Camps, including bus and extended care services. Our goal is to provide an environment of safety, support, respect, and care.

**Please be certain that both you and your child have read and agree to follow GCV&M Camp behavior expectations and rules of conduct.**

At GCV&M Camp we foster a **culture of respect** and care for each other and our surroundings.

- We keep each other healthy and safe.
- We help each other participate.
- We use kind words.
- We are gentle with plants and animals.
- We are respectful and take care of Museum property and each other's belongings.

**The following conduct by campers will lead to immediate intervention and discipline by camp staff:**

- Failure to follow GCV&M health and safety precautions including: wearing face masks as needed, washing/ sanitizing hands frequently; and maintaining physical distance as directed by camp staff.
- Communicating (verbal and non-verbal) with staff in a rude, insubordinate, and defiant manner.
- Using profanity or abusive, discriminatory, or vulgar language or engaging in conversation that causes distress for peers.
- Leaving the group without approval from staff and going into unauthorized areas without permission.
- Damaging or stealing property from anywhere within the Museum, participants, and staff.
- Intimidating, harassing, threatening, or fighting staff or fellow campers by any means of physical or verbal aggression, including persistent provoking.
- Deliberately injuring another child or staff member, including causing anger or emotional distress.

- Failure to follow GCV&M drug- and smoke-free policy prohibiting the possession, supply, and use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal substances and misuse of prescription medication.

## **Intervention and Discipline Procedures**

Our response to campers' failure to follow the Rules of Conduct and support Camp Culture will first be focused on safety, followed by setting goals and establishing supports that foster behavior improvement. Camper discipline procedures will only be carried out by camp staff; at no time may a parent/ caregiver confront or discipline a camper other than their own child. GCV&M Camp will support children and family privacy and will not share details of intervention and discipline with other campers and families.

### **Threat to Safety**

- First incident -- If staff determine a camper's behavior causes or may cause immediate or imminent harm (physical or emotional) to themselves or others, staff will remove the camper from the group temporarily and call a parent/ caregiver to discuss the incident. Staff, parent, and camper will agree to a plan for the camper to return to the group that addresses misconduct and supports camp behavior expectations. Camp staff may, at their sole discretion, decide to dismiss the camper from the camp program.
- Second incident in which staff determine a camper's behavior causes or may cause immediate or imminent harm (physical or emotional), or persistent failure to follow other rules of conduct and support camp culture, will prompt dismissal from the Camp program. Staff will remove the camper from the group and call the parent/ guardian to come pick up the camper.

### **Failure to follow Rules of Conduct and Support Camp Culture**

For camper misconduct that does not pose an immediate or imminent safety threat, staff will apply intervention and discipline steps based on the severity and frequency of misconduct by:

- Verbally reinforcing rules and supporting camp culture with camper within the course of group activities; Staff will report camper misconduct at the end of the day to the parent/ caregiver.
- Redirecting behavior, and when possible, providing alternative activities to support camper success while camper remains with the group; Staff will report camper misconduct at the end of the day to the parent/ caregiver.
- Removing the camper from the group and calling parent/ caregiver. Staff, parent, and camper will agree to a plan for the camper to return to the group that addresses misconduct and supports camp behavior expectations. Camp staff may, at their sole discretion, decide to dismiss the camper from the camp program.
- There will be NO REFUND for missed days due to disciplinary infractions.

## **Expectations for Parent/ Caregiver Conduct**

Our goal is to partner with parents and caregivers to support our culture of respect and care and provide campers with a positive camp experience. We expect parents/ caregivers to:

- Provide clear, complete, honest information about their child in the camper application, including the child health history report, and throughout their time at camp.
- Drop off and pick up at designated times and always accompany their child to camp sign-in and sign out.
- Be available to speak with camp staff; promptly respond to discuss health, safety, and discipline matters; and, upon our request, come to camp to sign out and pick up their child.
- Support camp illness, rules of conduct, and discipline policies.

### **Parent/ Caregiver & Child Agreement**

I have read this with my child and acknowledge and agree to abide by the camp program camp culture, behavior expectations, rules of conduct; and intervention and discipline procedures, and expectations for parent/ caregiver conduct outlined above. I understand that the GCV&M camp program staff and administrators can, at any time, dismiss my child temporarily or permanently from camp activities and the camp program.