



Group Behaviour Agreement of Participants within the WAW Holiday Club

Policy statement

The WAW holiday sessions are created to;

- Build self-esteem, independence, motivation to learn whilst always maintaining a safe environment
- Promote awareness, respect and care for other individuals and for the natural environment
- Reinforce collaborative behaviour
- Develop awareness of acceptable behaviour and responsible behaviour in an outdoor environment
- Develop in both children and adults a pride in their achievements.

As part of this staff will;

- Have an understanding of the stages of development children and the common behaviours displayed by the age group.
- Strive to develop strong and positive relationships with the children in the session to ensure the children have a sense of attachment and security whilst the holiday club.
- Place the needs of the children at the centre of the holiday club to maximise individual success and raise self esteem.
- Create a positive environment which encourages and reinforces caring, nurturing and acceptable behaviour towards one another, the environment and equipment.
- Be mindful of the need to maintain safety at all times.
- Establish clear boundaries for the children and an understanding of acceptable behaviour .
- Provide a positive role model for all children

Procedures

A Wild About our Woods experience is all about child-centered experience and learning. However it is important to set ground rules with the group so that everyone is safe. We will endeavour to ensure that they are initiated in the first instant by the participants and add in one that we deem important.

The group agreement that should be included and that the children need to be aware of are:-

- ✚ Physical boundaries within the woods – how far they are allowed to go
- ✚ Acceptable behaviour towards each other (for example no bullying)
- ✚ Fire and Safety rules. These should be carried out even when there is no fire
- ✚ Of how to respond the whistle when blown three times (stop what you are doing and join the group asap)
- ✚ Of how to respond when the Wild About our Woods Leader calls ‘1,2,3 where are you?’ (to respond 1,2,3, I’m here)
- ✚ Any agreed new Covid 19 practices as per latest government guidance

The following things need to be discussed and be more like guidance for the participants to follow

- ✚ Avoiding putting their fingers in mouths
- ✚ Children need to know what they have to ask an adult, for example going to the toilet and use of tools
- ✚ As the experience grows it is important that the group is aware of acceptable behaviour that will help everyone enjoy their time in the woods
- ✚ Be aware of themselves and others at all times, especially when using tools or around the fire
- ✚ Hold, carry and use tools in a way that you have been shown and in no other way
- ✚ Tools are to be returned to the box or bag when not in use
- ✚ Be made aware to look above, below and around for hazards
- ✚ Check that no one is in the way before starting a task
- ✚ Think of the consequences of what they are doing
- ✚ No horseplay around the fire and tools
- ✚ If a leader asks you to stop, you must stop immediately
- ✚ Remain within the limits of the site where you are working

The Role of the Wild About our Woods Session Leader, helper and children in creating a positive Wild About our Woods environment.

The Wild About our Woods Session Leader and helper will:

- ✚ Create a positive environment which encourages and reinforces caring, nurturing and acceptable behaviour towards one another, the environment and equipment
- ✚ Promote effective relationships in which all are accepted, valued and treated equally
- ✚ Be mindful of the need to maintain safety at all times
- ✚ Establish clearly defined standards of behaviour
- ✚ Provide a positive role model for all children and volunteers
- ✚ Place the needs of the children, including needs linked to their preferred learning styles, social and behavioural needs at the centre of the Wild About our Woods curriculum to maximize individual success and raise self-esteem.

- ✚ Give verbal praise to children demonstrating good work and perseverance, good behaviour, cooperation and good group work.

The Role of the Children

The children, to the best of their abilities and with or without support will:

- ✚ Listen carefully and respond to instructions and requests, especially those concerning safety
- ✚ Develop and maintain an acceptable attitude towards one another, the environment and all equipment

Where behaviour is not deemed acceptable, the Wild About our Woods Leader will ensure the following steps are adhered to:

The Wild About our Woods Leader or assistant will try to use de-escalation strategies and re-engage the child in the first instance

- ✚ A verbal warning will be given by the Wild About our Woods Leader or supporter by taking the child to one side and reminding them of the importance of acceptable behaviour.
- ✚ The children will be given time out from the activity. They will be moved away from the activity to a designated area.
- ✚ Speak to the child and debrief after he/she has calmed down
- ✚ If three time-outs are given in one session, the child will miss the next Wild About our Woods session, the parents will be informed at pick up and a letter will be sent home to the child's parents/carers in relation to further sessions booked.
- ✚ Log incident.

However, if the child's actions are placing the group / individual at risk, the child will be dealt with in the following manner:

- ✚ The Wild About our Woods leader will be telephone the parent/carer and discuss with the other staff the next steps should be. If the child is presenting themselves as an ongoing danger then the whole group will be taken back to the café and picked up.
- ✚ In such cases a letter will be sent home to parents/ carers explaining the situation.
- ✚ Where the behaviour is deemed to have been very unsafe, the child will be excluded from the next Wild About our Woods session.
- ✚ In all of the above cases, the Wild About our Woods Leader will complete an incident report

Signed; <i>Janine Young</i>	date; 6/1/2020	review date;6/1/2022
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