



Behavior Policy (Children)

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Thyateira Youth Camps <https://thyateirayouthcamps.org.uk/>

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Thyateira Youth Camps operate with the Blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain. These include Camp Saint Sophrony and Camp Saint Bega.

The aim of the Camps are for the members to:

- Strengthen their Orthodox Faith and identity
- Learn more about their Faith
- Make friendships with others of the same Faith
- Increase their active participation in the life of the Church
- Cope better as an orthodox Christian with the challenges of daily life
- Experience living in a loving, Orthodox community

It is the Church of Christ that unites us, and Camp takes place in the spirit of the verse in Matthew's Gospel:

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matt 18:20).

The camps should have an atmosphere that is "in the world, but not of the world"; catechism and prayer play a key role in the life of camp. In order to achieve this, it is helpful and necessary to have guidelines for leaders and participants.

Behavioural Expectations

Participants will ...

1. Follow instructions of the Camp Priest, the Coordinators and the Leaders,
2. Take part in all activities
3. Complete their daily duties with the rest of their team
4. Always be punctual
5. Be respectful and kind to everyone at Camp
6. Have inclusive not exclusive relationships
 - (i) Everyone will be made to feel welcome and exclusive cliques will be discouraged
 - (ii) Romantic relationships will not be pursued at camp
7. Dress modestly (no bums and tums on show please) you will be told to change
8. Hand in medicines at the start of camp or coach journey
9. Not bring forbidden items
10. Go to bed on time when their leader asks them to
11. Hand in any electronic equipment (e.g. mobile phones, tablets) on arrival at camp/ at the coach which will be stored securely and returned at the end of camp.

Participants will not ...

1. Go into rooms of participants of the opposite sex
2. Leave the site without permission and accompaniment of a leader
3. Go into any of the kitchens or take anything from the kitchens without explicit permission or as part of a daily duty
4. Swear or use foul language
5. Bring to camp or use any forbidden items (see forbidden items list). Forbidden items will be confiscated
6. Have food in their rooms
7. Be unkind to anyone of any age

8. Bully anyone
9. Exclude anyone
10. Threaten anyone
11. Use physical violence
12. Self administer any medication except for extenuating circumstances or where this has been agreed in advance with the Camp Director.
13. Use any item that is prohibited at camp, including a mobile phone that is in a child's possession for medical reasons, whether it belongs to them or to another participant.

Behaviour Escalation Procedures

Each situation will be treated individually but in general the following procedure applies:-

Step 1- Warning. Participants will be alerted to their unacceptable behaviour by their room leader.

Step 2- Escalation-If the behaviour persists, escalation to co-ordinator. To include Camp Director and Camp priest as required. The team will discuss with the participant an appropriate consequence.

Step 3: Suspension - Miss out on some or all of the activities of the day. This includes offsite activities.

Note, it is up to the discretion of the co-ordinators as to the length of the detention - this may mean missing some or all of an activity.

Step 4: Exclusion - from Camp. Child will be sent home by appropriate means or collected by parents.

Please note: if a child does not adhere to behavioural expectations of Camp and they are suspended or excluded, it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to make travel arrangements for the child.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile phones and electronic devices are not allowed at camp except in exceptional circumstances when the child's parents and Leadership Team will have a plan in place eg. CGM for Type 1 diabetes.

It is best that your child leaves their phone at home. Any communication that needs to happen will be through the Camp Director, Zoe Bates, Tel 07816859812. If we need to talk to you about your child, we will contact me- no news is good news!

Room Inspections

Camp Saint Sophrony conducts a room inspection every day when the children are busy with activities and not in their rooms.

The aims of room inspection is to:

1. Keep rooms tidy and free of hazards
2. Ensure children are storing their wet and dry clothes safely
3. Ensure children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate
4. Ensure children do not have any forbidden items hidden in their rooms

Medication

If a child has regular medication it needs to be handed to a leader either at the coach before travelling to camp if travelling by coach or to a leader on site if being dropped off directly to camp. This needs to be in a sealable plastic bag and clearly labelled with the child's name, date of birth and instructions for administration.

We have our own over the counter medications eg. Sting/bite relief, paracetamol, ibuprofen. We do not need your child to bring their own. If they feel unwell they need to speak to a leader to get help or be administered medicine.

Forbidden Items

If it's not on the Kit List, it shouldn't be at camp.

1. Mobile phones
2. Electronic devices
3. Illegal drugs
4. Alcohol
5. Knives, including pen knives, Swiss army knives and bushcraft knives
6. Fire starting materials or key attachments eg. Flint and steel
7. Medication for self administration (except in exceptional circumstances, when agreed with the Camp Director)
8. Weapons of any kind
9. Cigarettes
10. Vapes
11. Fireworks
12. Food
13. Toys including water guns (1 small cuddly toy for bedtime is allowed)

Forbidden Items Escalation

Step 1: On arrival all children will be asked to hand in the item. It will be labelled and stored in a safe place and will be given to the adult that collects the child from the camp or from the coach.

Step 2: If the child doesn't hand it in when asked, it will be confiscated and will only be returned to the adult collecting them from onsite or the coach.

Step 3: If the child is seen using a forbidden item during camp, the child will be sanctioned as per the behavior escalation policy above.

Bedtimes

We understand that children are excited about being at camp with their friends and want to stay up all night chatting.

However, they also need to sleep and so do their leaders! Children must be in their rooms and not disturbing anyone else from bedtime until wake up time unless they have a genuine reason eg. If they are unwell, need water, medication or help with something.

Anyone disturbing sleep times or coming out of their rooms in the middle of the night will be sanctioned as per the behaviour escalation policy.

Agreement

If you send your child to Camp Saint Sophrony you are agreeing to our Policies which outline our expectations. This includes searching bags for forbidden items.

Camp Saint Sophrony accepts no responsibility for any lost or damaged items.

We DO NOT tolerate any form of physical violence.

We DO NOT tolerate any sort of gang/cliques/exclusive behaviour. If we see this happening, the children involved will be sanctioned as per the behaviour escalation policy.

We DO NOT tolerate any rudeness, bad language or unkindness.

NOBODY should feel isolated, threatened or scared at Camp!