



YSO Policy: General Code of Conduct for Youth

This is a policy from an independent public school district for high school and middle school-aged youth. For this policy, BE SAFE recommends the following:

- Supplement the *Code of Conduct* with a policy for appropriate behavior, or use the *Code of Conduct* as a supplement for such a policy;
- Include a policy regarding active bystanders as part of treating others with respect;
- Suggest a systematic procedure for youth to professionally raise questions about policies with which they disagree;
- Refer to other policies within this *Code of Conduct* when appropriate;
- Draft a “safe space” contract with youth before beginning the program, and develop a *Code of Conduct* with youth and staff.

Policy:

Students are to conduct themselves properly and must comply with the applicable rules and policies of the Program. Students are expected to:

- Develop good habits, such as:
 - attending the program daily.
 - arriving to the program punctually.
 - working well independently.
 - using appropriate language.
 - maintaining good health habits.
- Assume responsibility for their actions by:
 - keeping their parents/guardians informed of program activities, of supplies needed, and of communications sent home.
 - being self- disciplined.
 - making their own decisions despite peer pressure.
 - accepting the consequences for their behavior including penalties for inappropriate behavior.
 - using time wisely.
 - completing work on time.
 - practicing neatness.
 - doing all assigned work.
- Maintain a positive attitude by:
 - being proud of personal accomplishments.
 - being trustworthy.
 - having integrity.
- Respect the rights of others by:
 - allowing others to concentrate on their work.
 - allowing others to assume responsibility for their own actions.
 - learning to resolve differences in appropriate ways.
 - realizing that their behavior will directly affect others.





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- respecting others' property.
- Treat others with respect by:
 - working and interacting well with others.
 - being courteous.
 - being polite and helpful.
 - caring for others.
 - displaying affection appropriately.
 - appreciating others' accomplishments.
 - expressing opinions and ideas in a respectful manner so as not to slander others.
- Treat peers and staff with respect by:
 - being cooperative.
 - being attentive.
 - listening to staff and peers.
 - being polite.
- Respect the authority of staff by:
 - listening to them.
 - following their directions.
 - questioning the classroom teacher appropriately.
 - seeking changes in school rules and policies in an appropriate and responsible manner through approved channels.
- Obey all program rules and procedures, such as:
 - being in the appropriate place when the program begins.
 - being prepared for each session with appropriate materials and assignments.
- Participate in assigned activities, such as:
 - attending all program sessions.
 - bringing supplies as required for work.
 - talking when it is appropriate.
 - following instructions.
 - doing all assignments.
- Take care of the program facilities, such as:
 - helping keep it clean.
 - keeping it free from destruction.
 - helping keep the program a safe place to be.

