



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Before & After School Enrichment Program

PARENT POLICY BOOK 2026-2027

KENOSHA YMCA

Quality Care When You Can't Be There



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2026-2027 School Year

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you for your interest in the Kenosha YMCA Before & After School Enrichment (BASE) Programs! Our programs focus on YMCA Character Development Values: honesty, respect, responsibility, and caring. Our mission comes to life through the emphasis of these values.

We have a wonderful school year planned for K-5th grades. Your child can look forward to specialty days that include art, cooking, group games, sports, and gym activities while parents can be assured homework help is available if needed. We believe children need the opportunity to play, have time to explore and discover, create, and develop all while making new friends and deepening relationships with others.

This is what the YMCA is all about!

We look forward to working for and with you and your family.

Sincerely,

Amy Marie Ewaldt, MAT
Youth & Family Childcare Director
awaldt@kenoshaymca.org
(262) 654-9622 Ext. 207

Lisa Eckardt
Youth & Family Assistant Director
leckardt@kenoshaymca.org

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MISSION

To put Christian principals into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

GOALS

To provide a before and after school program where the needs of the children, families and school community are supported.

PURPOSE

The Y believes all kids have great potential and deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. Through the Y, children and youth cultivate the values, skills and relationships that lead to positive behaviors, better health, and educational achievement.

PHILOSOPHY

YMCA Before and After school programs foster cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development through play and planned opportunities and experiences focused on achievement, relationships, and belonging: We deliver activities in a physically and emotionally safe space We encourage children to develop at their own unique pace. We encourage skills development. We offer youth service and leadership opportunities. At the Y, we consider ourselves allies of families in the development of youth, committed to providing opportunities to strengthen the family unit and learn, grow, and thrive and thrive together.

CORE VALUES OF CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

To accomplish our mission, the programming of the Kenosha YMCA Youth and Family Department teaches the 4 Core Values. Building character in young people to help them form positive values has always been the focus of the YMCA Mission. Here at the YMCA, we strive to help kids develop the following character traits in our before and after school programs:

Caring: The importance of putting others before yourself; of building more responsive communities.

Honesty: The importance of integrity; of telling the truth and keeping promises to yourself and others.

Respect: The importance of treating others as you would want them to treat you; of acknowledging and accepting others regardless of differences.

Responsibility: The importance of doing what you should; of accepting accountability, pursuing excellence and following through on personal commitments.

CURRICULUM

The YMCA has a strong proven curriculum that include the following components:

- Character Development (Four Core Values) / Social Emotional Learning
- Service Learning (Helping Others)
- Global Learning (Appreciation & Understanding of Others)
- Healthy Eating Physical Activity
- Academic Assistance (Homework Help & Tutoring)
- STEM
- Arts & Humanities
- Language/Literacy

The YMCA seeks to help children develop a healthy spirit, mind, and body; to build relationships; and experience and explore an array of activities that give them the opportunity to grow and develop as individuals and learn to appreciate others.

PROGRAM HOURS

6:30 a.m. – Start of School

End of School – 6:00 p.m.

PROGRAM DATES

Our Programs follow the school schedule. We are closed on Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Good Friday, and Memorial Day. If schools delay programs for inclement weather, we will not offer a morning program.

STATE LICENSING

The Kenosha YMCA Before and After School Program is a Wisconsin State Licensed program. We invite parents to review the State Licensing Policy book located with the Parent Board.

FULL DAY PROGRAMMING / KIDS DAY OUTS

When schools are closed for winter and spring breaks, teacher workdays etc., we offer child care for an additional fee at Kenosha YMCA. Parents will need to pre-register their children by the close of the Registration date (TBD). We provide breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack. Children may have the opportunity to swim. Please send a swimsuit and towel. Our program runs from 6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. located in the Community Room (second level of the YMCA; up the stairs at the back of the building and across the track). Look for flyers and registration opportunities. First come, first served program. Registration is online for our currently enrolled children.

SNOW DAYS

When school is closed due to a Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) closure, Kenosha YMCA child care programs are also closed. We will use Brightwheel for communication. No credits will be issued.

TRANSPORTATION FROM SCHOOL

We are proud to offer transportation from selected schools that do not offer YMCA programs. Our program location is in the Community Room at the Kenosha YMCA. Space is limited according to our shuttle bus availability, be sure to register as soon as possible. Transportation agreements are included in the enrollment packet.

Children will be transported using the YMCA shuttles. Attendance will be taken as the children are boarding the bus and again upon arrival. After children have exited the bus, the driver will then do a walk through to make sure that all children have departed and turn off the alarm to indicate that all is well.

A copy of each child's enrollment papers will be kept on the bus which includes information concerning emergency contact numbers and medical status and consent for emergency medical treatment. First Aid Kits and other emergency materials are located on each bus.

A binder with routes, directions, and scheduled stops shall also be kept on each bus.

GROUP SIZE

Our programs will keep a 10-child minimum to 15 child maximum group size per staff member. A typical ratio is 1:15 for our school age programs.

STAFF

The Kenosha YMCA takes pride in the staff we hire. We look for people with a strong character, background in education and teaching, motivation to learn new things, and a love of children. All of our staff are fully trained to deal with all aspects of child care including being CPR & First Aid certified.

PARENT INVITATION

We invite parents to visit our programs at any time. Each site has a parent board with an itinerary and weekly activities posted. Our license is posted giving information about our program as well. Feel free to join in the fun or ask questions about our programming.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – JOHN & JUDY WAVRO SCHOLARSHIPS

The John & Judy Wavro Scholarships are available for families with low income who have been declined from the Kenosha County Job Center's Wisconsin Works (W-2) Program. Parents will be asked to submit two income verification statements and a letter verifying the W-2 Program declined services with the scholarship application. Scholarships are processed within 1–2 weeks by the Youth & Family Office.

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

Parents can register their child for additional Kenosha YMCA programs while attending the Kenosha YMCA site during program hours: dance instruction, youth sports, etc. Please see staff for more information. We'll be happy to walk them to and from the program area.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Kenosha YMCA teams up with other complimentary organizations to work in our programs. The Kenosha library system, museums, and local businesses all help to contribute to the mission of providing quality programming for the children.

KENOSHA YMCA MEMBERSHIP

Each child enrolled receives a free YMCA youth membership for a value of \$30/month. The value of the youth membership can be applied to the family membership for those wishing to join. Membership must be activated at our Member Service Desk.

TOYS FROM HOME

We encourage children not to bring valuable items from home for fear that they may become lost or damaged. The YMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen items. However, we understand that some children need items of comfort and security. Children may bring such items with them to be used in times of distress or challenge. Items are to remain in their backpacks/cubbies/or another location agreed upon by the Site Director/Teacher until needed.

CHRISTIANITY IN PROGRAMS

The YMCA has a foundation in Christian beliefs. Although the Kenosha YMCA does not directly teach Christianity, there may be occasions where Bible verses may appear on artwork and posters throughout our facilities.

GRIEVANCES

In a spirit of kindness and respect, we are open to productive conversations regarding any needs or questions from our families. First, contact your Site Director on-site and ask to engage in a respectful conversation. If that does not meet your needs, contact the Youth & Family Childcare Director, Amy Marie Ewaldt, MAT to discuss next steps. With regard to financial concerns, contact Assistant Director, Lisa Eckardt.

CONTACTS

Site Director: Located on-site at each location.
 Oversees children, site staff, lesson plans, scheduling.

Forest Park YMCA
 Genevieve Voss
gvoss@kenoshaymca.org
 262-515-1805

Prairie Lane YMCA
 Danielle Trinidad
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Lisa Eckardt
 Youth & Family Assistant Director
leckardt@kenoshaymca.org
 (262) 654-9622 Ext. 236
Oversees Registration/Enrollments, Billing & Payments

Amy Marie Ewaldt, MAT
 Youth & Family Childcare Director
aewaldt@kenoshaymca.org
 (262) 654-9622 Ext. 207
Oversees the Youth and Family Department including but not limited to policies, procedures, staffing, and programming.

BASE HOURS & LOCATIONS

*SITE	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	HOURS OF OPERATION		
			Before	After	Friday
Forest Park Elementary	6810 45th Avenue	654-7415	6:30-7:50	3:11-6:00	12:04-6:00
Prairie Lane Elementary	10717 47th Avenue	942-7304	6:30-8:55	4:01-6:00	12:54-6:00

*Other schools may use our services, but are not listed. Contact us to get more information!

***FEES**

Program	Rate
AM	\$10.00
PM	\$15.00
*PM First Hour Only	\$10.00
* Friday and Half Days	\$30.00
Full Day / Kids Day Out (KDO)	\$50.00 (Separate Registration)

***Fees should not prevent families from being able to utilize the program. We will work with families to set up payment arrangements, offer the John and Judy Wavro Scholarship, and discuss other possibilities to enable care to take place.

*Based on the above school hours.

**Multiple Child Discount – First child full price; each additional child 10% off

TYPICAL WEEK / EXAMPLE

Before School Program

TIME (approximation)	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
6:30 – 7:00	Arrival of Children, Board Games, Reading Corner, Free Art & Exploration, Homework				
7:00 – 7:30	Gym Time				
7:45	Dismissal to Breakfast				
7:45 – 8:00	Play Games, Clean-up, Departure of Children from Program				

After School Program

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11:30 – 12:30					Arrival of Children/ Attendance/ Centers & Homework Outside Play Time
2:00 – 2:30					
2:30 – 3:00	Arrival of Children/ Attendance/ Centers, Upbeat Game/Dance & Homework	Arrival of Children/ Attendance/ Centers, Upbeat Game/Dance & Homework	YMCA Character Development Activities: Come Over For Dinner	Arrival of Children/ Attendance/ Centers, Upbeat Game/Dance & Homework	Arrival of Children/ Attendance/ Centers, Upbeat Game/Dance & Homework
3:00 – 3:15	Use Restrooms, Wash Hands & Prepare for Snack				
3:15 – 3:30	PM Snack				
3:30 – 4:00	Outside or Gym Time				
4:00 – 4:30	Community Service Clubs Meet Work on Projects	Site Newspaper & Journals Work on Projects	Choose: Paper Bag Family OR Let's Get Together Relays	Choose: My favorite food collages OR Fitness Dodge ball	Create Newspaper Hats AND Wacky Hat Contest
4:30 – 5:00	Choose: Mailbox Mania OR 4 Corners	Choose: Create Pop-Up Books OR Book S.P.U.D.	Choose: Core Value Skits OR Clean Up Your Room	Choose: Fruit Mobile OR Veggie Tag	Choose: Funky Masks -OR- Backwards Kickball
5:00 – 5:30	Reading Corner, Board Games, Free Art & Expression, Homework Time				
5:30 – 6:00	Departure of Children from Program, General Clean-up and Free Time				

NOTE: Not all programs start and end times are the same time as the schedule. Please see your school to confirm exact times.

HOMEWORK POLICY & TUTORING PROGRAM

We understand the significance of homework assistance for children and parents. It allows greater quality time at home with the children. Partnering with the parents, each site has a Homework Center located in a quiet area where

staff can assist children as needed with their assignments. Upon request by the parent, YMCA staff help the students complete their 30 minutes of daily reading time. A parent has the option of completing a "Homework Contract" which helps communicate to the YMCA teachers and staff the expectation and need for homework to be completed and subjects/areas needing focus. It is an agreement between the parent, child, and YMCA staff.

CORE VALUE OF CARE

One of the qualities of the YMCA curriculum in our School Age programs is the emphasis (requirement) of applying the Core Value of Care. Learning to be givers shapes children's values and provides opportunities to develop kindness, a virtue that improves lives and reduces violence and bullying. Empathy is our ability to recognize and respond to the needs and suffering of others. We can see empathy-in-action all around us and we, the YMCA Youth and Family Staff, intentionally make a way for the kids to take part in that action. Authentic projects and activities are developed and facilitated that give children the opportunity and experience of coming alongside others whether that is those of their friends, classmates, teachers & counselors, community, and/or friends yet to be made globally. Projects/activities have included but have not been limited to writing cards/letters to those ill or lonely, making "goodie baskets" as a way to show gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of others, collecting items such as shoes and can goods for local shelters, and raising money for our "adopted" school in India. This is just the beginning and as needs are brought to our attention, together, with the children, we shall set out on the privilege and adventure of caring.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS

OVERVIEW

Before & After School programming is a first come, first served program. Enrollment/Registration is through our on-line system, located on our Kenosha YMCA website (www.kenoshaymca.org) under *Childcare & Camps*. All parents/guardians must read the parent policy book and agree to follow all policies and procedures as outlined. The policy book is sent via the confirmation email upon completing the on-line registration and is available in hard-copy at each Before and After School site.

ADMISSION

The YMCA does not discriminate enrollment on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, national origin, ancestry or ability to pay.

The YMCA Before and After School Enrichment (BASE) programs are licensed and therefore, we abide by Wisconsin state licensing meeting capacity, age, and hours of operation requirements. We strive to meet every child's needs; however, all children must be able to work in a 1:18 maximum group size.

REGISTRATION

Parents may register at any time, but there are deadlines for each program (Before and After School, Summer Day Camp) for children to attend the first week. Information concerning deadlines are posted on the YMCA website, listed in the YMCA Program Guide, notices at the sites, and via email from the Site Directors.

The deadline to attend the Before and After School Enrichment programs the first week of school is the week before the school's Open House. YMCA staff attend the Open House at each school site to meet parents and families and introduce the YMCA staff.

CUSTODIAL CONCERNS & REGISTRATION/ACCOUNTS

The YMCA is sensitive to the needs and desires of those in situations of divorce or separation. There are 2 options concerning setting up registration and accounts. The decision of which option to choose is based on the divorce decree and that of the custodial parent(s).

Option 1 – Separate Accounts “Mom Account” “Dad Account”

This option gives each party control of and the ability to schedule and pay for the days they have care of the child(ren). The accounts are private. Access cannot be provided without the permission of the parent who has set up the account.

Option 2 – Joint Account

Both parents have access to the same account. Only the parent designated as “Head of Household” has the ability to schedule and pay. The “Head of Household” may grant permission to the other parent to schedule and pay; otherwise one has control and the other has access.

The YMCA works with parents to help assure that the child(ren) can attend. It is the sole responsibility of the parents to make the decision(s) as to the best option concerning setting up the account. Court documentation must be provided to assure that the decree is being upheld.

The YMCA cannot deny access to the non-custodial parent unless court documentation states explicitly that there is to be no contact. In the case that the non-custodial parent arrives on site to see the child(ren) when such an order states that there is to be no contact, the custodial parent will be notified in real time.

PAYMENT POLICY

The Youth & Family Department requires a pre-payment of services before services are rendered.

REGISTRATION FEE

A non-refundable deposit of \$30 is due at the time of registration for each child enrolled.

TRANSPORTATION FEE

CFB Location only) For schools the YMCA transports from, a non-refundable deposit of \$50 is due at the time of registration. The transportation fee is \$50 per family. If you enroll more than one child in the same transaction, only one transportation fee will be charged.

PAYMENT DUE DATE

Payments are due prior to service or if emergency care, the day of service. Payments are set up at the time the parent/guardian completes the on-line registration creating a payment plan. Site Directors and the Youth and Family Assistant Director work with families to make sure that the payment plan is feasible for them. All tuition fees must be kept current in order to continue scheduling days of attendance. Child care will be declined if payments have not been met and arrangements have not been made in print with either the Assistant Director, Site Director, or Youth and Family Department Director.

PAYMENT ACCEPTED

Payment options include On-line and EPay. Consideration is given for unusual and extenuating circumstances. The Site Directors, Youth and Family Assistant Director and Youth and Family Director work with families to help them meet their responsibilities of paying for services.

PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Payments are completed on-line. For extenuating circumstances, arrangements can be made to accept cash, or check at the Member Services Desk at the Kenosha YMCA.

W-2 PAYMENTS

We accept all Wisconsin Works (W-2) payments for childcare. An authorization is required from a Kenosha County Childcare Case Worker. The Youth and Family Assistant Director is notified by mail that a family has been approved for subsidies.

CO-PAYMENTS

If the W-2 program does not cover all charges, each parent will be responsible for the co-payments. Fees must be kept current for a child(ren) to continue to attend. Discontinuation of care and late fees may apply when there are past due balances that have not been addressed.

Process* (As sited from the W2 Policies)

There are 2 steps to receive WI Shares payments to help pay for childcare costs.

Step 1 is to be determined eligible.

This is completed by contacting the W2 office located in the Kenosha County Job Center and filling out the initial paperwork. W2 will then contact you to communicate the decision as to whether or not one qualifies for assistance.

Step 2 is to receive authorization whereby reimbursement will begin.

Parents/guardians to contact the W2 office within a given amount of time to request an authorization. *It is possible to be determined eligible and to be notified of such eligibility, but NOT receive the assistance because one has not contacted the W2 office requesting authorization. Should such an event occur where the parents/guardians have not called the W2 office to make such a request, the Child Care Manual states, "if a family that has been determined eligible for child care assistance does not request an authorization for child care reimbursement (request for authorization) until several months from the time that initial eligibility has been determined, the authorization may be backdated to only the first of the month of the request for authorization."

Parent/Guardians who intend to pay for childcare utilizing W2 assistance must have received not only eligibility, but authorization. Parent/Guardians are responsible for all fees not covered by subsidies.

CREDITS

Credits are issued under the following circumstances:

UNEXPECTED EMERGENCY SITUATION

The YMCA cares about you and your family. We want to be there to support and encourage you and your family. One of the ways in which we can live out the core values is to care for you by offering credits in times of trouble. When life events occur such as an unexpected death, illness, job loss, etc., please know that we are here to work with you. Please let either your Site Director, the Youth & Family Department Director, and/or the Youth & Family Assistant Director know of your situation in print so that we can discuss a plan that will help ease the burden during the time of challenge.

WHEN OVER PAYMENT OCCURS

Refunds: Annual Attendance Schedule families, with a 2 week notice, will be issued a refund for the remaining days of the school year should they need to discontinue care.

For Wisconsin Shares Families, a credit/refund will be issued to the parent if the parent made a payment towards their childcare fees before the state payment has been applied.

FEES

\$10.00 late payment fee per child

\$30.00 fee for all returned checks

\$5.00 per minute fee for pick-up after 6:00 p.m. After 6:15pm, if no parent or legal guardian has communicated changes to their child's schedule through Brightwheel, and no adult can be reached, YMCA reserves the right to contact DCF.

ADDITIONAL ENROLLMENT FORMS

Additional forms as listed below are available to download on-line.

The required forms include:

- Enrollment Form dated 2026-2027
- Emergency Care and Health Form
- Arrival/Departure Permission Form
- Household Income Statement
- Immunization Record-Required upon registration
- Media Release
- Payment Contract
- Liability Waiver

TAXES

Tax documentation and receipts are available on-line under the parent/guardian's account. The Kenosha YMCA FEIN is #39-0826296.

ATTENDANCE

OVERVIEW

Each parent is responsible for turning in the appropriate paperwork on time which notifies the Site Director of their child's attendance.

ATTENDANCE

Parents have great flexibility when scheduling their child(ren). Through the use of the on-line system, parents may schedule their children for the whole school year (Annual Attendance Scheduling) or may choose based on their need to schedule their child(ren) monthly, weekly, or with 24 hours advance notice, daily if utilizing "drop in care". A 2-week notice is required if circumstances change and there is a need to make a scheduling change; consideration and accommodation is given when an emergency situation has taken place (family tragedy, called into work, etc.) Accommodations are based on space availability. A 2-week notice is required if circumstances have changed and there is the need to dis-enroll.

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE

If your schedule of childcare needs does not change, parents may schedule their child for the school year. Simply mark the days of the week your child will be using the program for the year using the on-line registration. You will be responsible for notifying the Site Director for any schedule changes. Only the Youth and Family Assistant Director

and the Youth and Family Department Director can modify a schedule once it has been completed and submitted. If continual changes to the schedule are made, parents will be asked to use another option of on-going scheduling. Fees are based on the schedule that parents have submitted. If a child does not attend on a scheduled day, the parents are still responsible to pay the fees.

The benefits to an annual schedule are that your child's placement is secured for the full school year and the convenience of not having to continually submit a schedule for Flexible Scheduling.

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING

If schedule of childcare needs fluctuations, then Flexible Scheduling is your best option. This allows you to indicate your scheduling needs a week, two weeks, or month at a time. Flexible scheduling is due 2 weeks prior to service. Services may be declined if scheduling is not submitted 2 weeks from the day of needed service. Flexible scheduling is based on availability, and you can schedule online as soon as you know your needs.

"On Call" is for those who work in professions whereby they are "called in" to work such as substitute teachers, firefighters, medical professionals. Please make sure to submit your needs with your Site Director through Brightwheel so that they are aware that there may be times when you will not know until the night before that you will need care in the morning or afternoon of the next day.

Families utilizing either Annual Attendance Scheduling or Flexible Scheduling are offered 3 "sick" days. To activate the credit for sick days, the parent must either: 1) Provide a doctor's note, 2) Prove in print that the child was sent home from school because of illness. Your Site Director will pass this documentation on to Youth & Family Services on your behalf. Credits may take up to 14 business days.

BEFORE SCHOOL PROGRAM PROCEDURE

Parents are responsible for walking their child into the program area and signing in on the app. Please notify a YMCA staff member when arriving with your child. Please be sure you are signing in with your own unique code and providing your digital signature for accuracy. At no time should a child be dropped off and allowed to walk into the program area alone.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM PROCEDURE

Children are expected to walk to the program area as soon as the bell rings. If a scheduled child does not come to the program immediately after school, our staff will inquire with the school office for further information. If the child is still not located, a parent or other authorized adult from the enrollment form will be contacted by the school. If no parent or authorized adult can be reached, we will report a missing child to the police. The Kenosha YMCA is not responsible for the child if he/she takes the bus instead of reporting to the program.

CALLAHAN FAMILY BRANCH SPECIFIC

We will use Kenosha YMCA vehicles to pick children up at selected schools we don't have a BASE program directly in. Staff will have the Brightwheel app in addition to cell phones to contact the school if a scheduled child does not show up. See paragraph above for policy.

FIRST DAY OF BASE / AFTER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Your child's school will work with YMCA site director to teach safety protocol and where to meet for the start of programming.

PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIAN PICK UP

When departing, the pick-up person will need to use the Brightwheel App and scan a QR Code then enter their 4-digit unique family code and digitally sign OUT. Be prepared to show a photo I.D. each day, corresponding with the

authorized names listed on the Brightwheel account. Parents can add people to their pick-up list on their account and let the Site Director know as well. Those attending Kenosha YMCA will stop at the Membership Desk upon entering the Y to identify themselves with their Youth & Family Pickup Pass to pick up their child(ren) before proceeding through the YMCA to the Before and After School site located in the Community Room.

**KDO's and Camps (Winter, Spring, Summer) – a Youth and Family Pick Up Pass will be issued the first time entering the YMCA. This pass card will be used for entry into the YMCA building at time of drop off and pick up during KDO's and Camps.*

ABSENCE POLICY

Please message on Brightwheel if your child will be absent from a scheduled day. Fees apply if the Site Director is not notified of the absence. If a child is absent for two consecutive weeks without communication from a parent or guardian, they will automatically be dis-enrolled.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

If your child will be participating in after school activities such as assisting a teacher, choir, Girls on the Run etc., you must let us know all details in Brightwheel. Parents must also sign a release waiver prior to child attending other after school activities. **WE MUST KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILD IS IF THEY PLAN TO COME LATE TO BASE, IN PRINT, THROUGH BRIGHTWHEEL**

LATE POLICY

Our Wisconsin State License requires all children to be picked up by 6:00 p.m. In an emergency, please contact the site before 6:00 p.m. to make other arrangements. \$5/minute after 6pm. Parents that cannot be reached and do not pick up their child by 6:15 p.m. may result in the child being escorted by the sheriff or police to: Kenosha Human Development Services, 5407 8th Avenue, Kenosha. 262.657.7188.

COMMUNICATION

Depending on the type of information that needs to be communicated the staff and parents have options.

- Brightwheel: Used to communicate CRITICAL information, observations, concerns, unscheduled situations that may change program format, or to remind parents of irregular program activities, (i.e., Tomorrow is a swim day, do not forget to send a swimsuit & towel with your child), Monthly Site Newsletters (including lesson plans, special recognitions, upcoming events, etc.)
- Email: Site and supporting staff have email access they utilize to communicate information, observations, concerns, and/or any other correspondence.
- Daily Personal Contact

UNDER THE INFLUENCE POLICY

The Kenosha YMCA has a No Tolerance policy in regard to drugs or alcohol on-site or individuals that are inebriated on-site. Police will be notified if staff suspects anyone is under the influence including parents, family, etc. picking children up.

HEALTH & SAFETY

PARTICIPATION

All children and staff in Kenosha YMCA programs will be free of illness and able to participate in all activities.

UNWELLNESS / ILL CHILD

Any UNWELL / ill child will be isolated from healthy participants and provided with a sleeping bag or mat while a parent is contacted to pick up their child. Parents are responsible for picking up any sick child from the program immediately.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Any child with a communicable disease, such as, but not limited to whooping cough, diphtheria, meningitis, chicken pox, will be reported to the local public health officer by the Youth & Family Director as the state requires. Parents will be notified of possible exposure through a letter in their child's message thread on Brightwheel.

Condition for Exclusion (not limited to)	Condition for Return
Temperature 100 degrees or greater	Fever free for 24 hours without aid of fever reducing medication
Symptoms of possible severe illness and/or known contagious disease while still in communicable stage	Until medical evaluation allows inclusion (doctor's written approval for return)
Abnormally loose, uncontrolled diarrhea	Diarrhea free for 24 hours
Vomiting	Vomit free for 24 hours and able to eat solid foods or until a health care provider determines the illness to be non-communicable and the child is not in danger of dehydration
Untreated scabies, head lice, or other infestation	After treatment and free of infestation such as lice and nits
Purulent conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	Until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated

HAND WASHING

Children and staff are expected to wash their hands before and after snacks/meals, after toileting, before and after the use of common "art" materials (crayons, play-doh, etc.), and after wiping a nose, coughing, etc.

The Stop Disease Method of Washing Hands:

- Turn on water and wet hands
- Soap for at least 20 seconds (length of time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday") outside the stream of water (scrub backs of hands, wrists, between fingers and under fingernails)
- Rinse
- Towel dry (or place hands under electric hands-free dryer)
- Turn off faucet with paper towel (if faucet is not hands-free)

HEAD LICE

We adhere to a 'no nit' (eggs) policy. If a child is sent home with lice, the child must be rechecked upon re-entry into program by Youth & Family staff.

MEDICATION

Parents who would like their child to have prescription medication must:

- Fill out a Medication Authorization form. (See Staff)
- Provide medication in its original container with clear instructions.
- Give medication to Youth & Family staff to put out of reach of children. (Inhalers can be kept with child).

INJURIES

Parents will be notified of all injuries via Brightwheel Incident Report. Any injury to the head or face will also be communicated via phone call. More serious injuries will require a parent's signature on an accident report at the end of the day to verify notification. Staff will keep a First Aid kit with them and wear gloves to treat injuries.

EMERGENCY CARE

In the event that 911 is called for an injured child, parents will be contacted immediately. Staff will accompany the child in the ambulance and meet the parents at the hospital IF possible. The enrollment form gives authorization for emergency care.

SAFETY DRILLS

All programs do emergency drills the first Friday of each month. Tornado drills will be conducted during tornado season. Our parent board shows a written record of drills, exit plans and a designated safe location. Flashlights & radios are on-site for such emergencies.

In the event of a fire at the YMCA building, the children will exit the building through the nearest exit and will meet at the Miracle Field. In the event of a fire at the school sites the children will exit the building through the nearest exit and follow the guidelines of the school.

In the event of a tornado, whether at the YMCA site or the school sites, the students will gather in the closest restroom areas.

In cases where children must evacuate the YMCA building and in need of shelter, children and staff will walk to Mahone Middle School where parents will be contacted and given information and instruction as to how to pick-up their child, if the situation warrants it.

MANDATORY REPORTER

The Kenosha YMCA is an advocate for children. Wisconsin State Licensing require that staff contact social services if there is any suspicion of child abuse, which includes physical or sexual abuse and/or neglect.

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION

MEALS

The YMCA provides a healthy afternoon snack during our regular after care programs. During our Kids Day Out (KDO) and Full-Day Camps we provide a healthy and delicious breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. All snacks and meals follow the Wisconsin State Licensing guidelines and the nutrition standards based on the guidelines of the Institute of Medicine's Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy Standards for Healthy Eating and Physical Activity In & Out of School Time Programs, and the "Let's Move" program. These standards include fruits and/or vegetables to be served at every meal/snack, water as the primary beverage during snack times, whole grains, low-fat protein, limited sugar, and no fried foods. These standards exceed state licensing guidelines. Our menu is posted on the Parent Board. Although we try to follow the menu, due to circumstances beyond our control, we may need to make daily changes to it. If this occurs, the changes will be noted on the menu. All food is stored and prepared according to State Licensing guidelines.

Staff in charge of the preparation of meals are trained under the guidelines of the USDA/CACFP program and the National YMCA Healthy Eating and Physical Activity standards (HEPA).

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

If a parent provides a documented special dietary need by the child's doctor stating a required change in diet, we are more than happy to make the necessary accommodations.

BEFORE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The YMCA Before School Program does not serve breakfast at the school sites. However, the parent may request that their child be released to eat breakfast in the school cafeteria provided by KUSD.

HALF DAYS

During half day's programs when school is released early, if the school does not run their lunch program, parents are asked to pack a lunch for their child following Wisconsin State Licensing guidelines and HEPA standards.

Wisconsin State Licensing Requires:

- Snacks: 2 food groups' choices
- Breakfast: 1 choice from grain and fruit/vegetable
- Lunch: 1 choice from each food group including either a fruit/vegetable or 2 vegetables.

*1% Milk and water is served with every meal

Food Group Options

Grain	Meat/Meat Alternative	Milk	Fruit/Vegetable
Whole Grain Bread, Whole Grain Bagel, Crackers, Cereal	Soy Butter, Ham, Turkey, Beans, Egg Yogurt, String Cheese, Sliced Cheese	1% or Skim	Apple, Bananas, Grapes, Carrots, Broccoli

For example

Breakfast: Whole Grain Muffin, Low-Fat yogurt, and Orange; 1% Milk

Lunch: Deli chicken sandwich, carrot sticks with dip, cheese stick, and banana;

1% Milk

Afternoon Snack: Apple & cheese slices; 1% Milk

NUT FREE FACILITY / SPECIAL TREATS / HOLIDAYS

We love to celebrate! Birthdays, special events, holidays, etc. We understand and can relate to the role that food plays in such activities. Families are more than welcome, and encouraged, to send in individually wrapped, "nut free treats" for their children to share, however, we ask that the treats follow our healthy eating guidelines. Please reach out to your teacher or other YMCA staff working on behalf of your children for ideas and suggestions.

CAFFEINE

We ask that parents refrain from sending their child to the program with soda, energy drinks, coffee and other products that contain caffeine. Any caffeine products will be stored in the child's backpack.

VENDING MACHINES

Children will not have access to vending machines. (YMCA campus)

CLEANLINESS

Children and staff are required to wash their hands before and after mealtime and after using the restroom. (See Hand Washing Procedures under "Health" section)

GUIDANCE AND DISCIPLINE

OVERVIEW

We believe that children are to be guided and taught how to manage their own behaviors with the support and encouragement of the adults in their lives. We use our YMCA character values for behavior expectations. At each location, children and staff will define these values.

We model and expect:

- Responsibility
- Respect
- Caring
- Honesty

The YMCA Before and After School behavior management plan is based on extending grace and accountability whereby the children grow in their ability to understand and appropriately deal with their emotions and come to realize that their actions have consequences. Staff gain respect and trust of students by developing relationships. YMCA staff guide students to grow in wisdom and give them the tools they need to think for themselves and rely on internal controls rather than be dependent upon external controls. Within our behavior management plan is the essence of our belief in the core values (respect, honesty, responsibility, and caring).

The Youth & Family Department believes children act out and misbehave as a way to communicate a need that is not being met. Our goal is to keep all children safe and understand what each child's needs are in order to prevent misbehavior while teaching communication skills so children can find other ways to express their needs. Therefore, we utilize a plan that effectively helps children grow in their ability to understand and control their emotions

PREVENTION

Our staff and the structure of our programs is set up to help prevent behavioral challenges. If a child's basic needs of physical comfort (food, warmth, personal space...) and emotional security are not met, they may communicate through ways that are unacceptable. Therefore, we make sure that when a child arrives on-site, they are welcomed with acceptance and caring. Snack is offered within the first 30 minutes (and earlier for those who express hunger). We offer the requirements of the state regarding the nutritional guidelines, but if a child is still hungry after eating the "required serving size" they may have more. If a child is tired in the morning arriving early at 6:30 am; then why not let them rest a bit? Our purpose is to treat each child as an individual with care and respect. We have a "set schedule", yet it is flexible because needs come first; not the "rules". If it is on the schedule that the kids are to play a certain game; but the teacher sees that they are tired, or in need of a different type of interaction; then they adjust and find something that the kids will enjoy.

Children want to know what is happening. It gives them a sense of security and control; much like adults. Therefore, we post their schedule and give five to ten-minute warnings when activities are going to change. This enables them to get ready for the change. Our four core values (honesty, respect, responsibility, and caring) are posted in the program area, encouraging positive behavior as behavior expectations are set. Each site and group of children define what the core values mean and what behaviors they reflect. This makes boundaries and expectations clearer and easier for children in the program. At the beginning of the school year, during the first week, the children take part in

activities that help them recognize, understand, and apply the core values and principles. Fun interactions such as role playing, brainstorming, and making plans as to how the year should go for everyone helps them to get excited, internalize, and encourage others to grow in the areas of self-control and caring for others.

We offer the kids jobs such as Snack Helper, Center Helper, etc. to give them status, responsibility, and a way to tangibly care for others in their group. Older children may apply to be a Junior Counselor who are assigned to assist staff during announcements/activities and assigned to a younger child to teach them a new game or other additional jobs.

Each site has a place for kids just to spend time alone if they feel the need. "Quiet Boxes" in these areas contain "de-stress" items such as squeeze balls, fidgets, and other small items that enable calmness. Kids are invited to create their own "Quiet Boxes" and have access to them when they feel a need for them. Bean bag chairs, large pillows, etc. are also available just for comfort where one can sit and read or simply think undisturbed.

The YMCA staff are willing to learn about the varying emotional and behavioral needs of the children in the program. It is not unusual for them to work with parents and specialists in cases of special needs to provide an environment that supports and offers consistency between the home, school and Before and After School program.

GUIDING BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES

Our intent is to help every child succeed in being part of the "YMCA Family". When times of challenge come, and they struggle to live out the four core values; then the Site Director and staff take the time to help them understand the appropriateness of their choices. Strategies are developed together with the child to help them get on track. We believe that each child is an individual, can take responsibility for their behavior, and are worth, what it takes to help them be successful. We do not practice, the "three strikes you're out" rule. We go the extra mile to help kids succeed.

REWARDS AND CONSEQUENCE

We understand that some may need support to change through external rewards and consequences. They need something tangible to work towards. One of the options is using the Y Store where the child(ren) earns "Y Dollars" to celebrate meeting their behavioral goals of living out the four core values of respect, honesty, caring, and responsibility. When others have observed them meeting their goals, they earn "Y Dollars". At an appropriate time of the week, the staff "open the store" so that students can purchase various items through the "Y Dollars" that they have earned.

For children that do not show respect, take responsibility, show care, and exercises honesty; the staff guide the child through natural consequences. For example, if one takes something from someone, then they must return it and then give something else in return (this is not limited to tangible items) and possibly a loss of something significant to them (i.e. free time, choice of the next activity, etc.). If one hurts a friend with their words, they must acknowledge and apologize for their words and communicate in a kinder way the message that they were attempting to express.

PARENT NOTIFICATION AND FOLLOW-UP

We believe in working in partnership with parents. Communication regarding how their child is doing is vital. Parents are kept informed through personal conversations, Brightwheel messages, phone calls, email and other methods. Depending on the age/development of the child; we utilize different "Reflection/Problem Solving" forms. These are given to and signed by the parent, child, and staff before being sent to the Youth and Family Director. If a child continually finds it challenging to make wise choices regarding their behavior; then a meeting with the parent, Site Director, child, and Youth and Family Director will take place. Working as a team we devise a plan for success.

VIOLENCE AND SUSPENSION POLICY

Violence is not tolerated. If a child engages in behavior that causes physical or emotional harm to others—including hitting, attacking, or bullying (verbal or emotional abuse)—the parent/guardian will be contacted immediately. If the situation escalates or involves a threat of violence, particularly when a weapon is named or implied, it may result in an immediate suspension of 1–3 days. During such incidents, parents may be called while the situation is unfolding. Removal from the group or site may be necessary, and a parent conference will be scheduled to develop an action plan that supports the child and ensures the safety of the group. Suspension may be used to allow time for information gathering, reflection, or creation of a behavior support plan. It is at the discretion of the Youth & Family Director whether and when the child may return. Our goal is to work closely with families and help each child build the skills needed to manage their feelings and behavior successfully.

TERMINATION OR DIS-ENROLLMENT

A YMCA Kid uses positive, uplifting words – not profanity; a YMCA participant uses positive ways to express their emotions – does not lash out physically or verbally at others; a YMCA Kid respects the property of others and shares – they do not take what is not their own; a YMCA Kid seeks to make friends and help those in need – they do not bully or make fun of others.

Children can be terminated from the program, and their place as YMCA participant, based on the student or parent’s behavior if violent or abusive behavior continues after a plan has been put in place and no positive change has been observed. A timed notice will be given to determine whether the YMCA is able to meet the needs of the child while at the same time being able to effectively meet the needs of the other children in the program. If it is found that needs are not being met a consultation with the parent(s) will take place to decide the time frame whereby the child will not later attend the program. Because all cases are different, and the YMCA upholds the value of respect, the decision for disenrollment will be determined based on the given situation and needs.

We are committed to providing an environment that allows your child opportunities to grow and learn. Our staff is always available to discuss your child’s specific needs. We are so glad that you are here!

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form.

To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____

RECEIPT of ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read, understand, and have had an opportunity to ask questions regarding the policies and procedures within the Kenosha YMCA Before & After School Enrichment Parent Policy Book.

Date: _____

Name(s) (Print): _____

By checking this box and typing my name below, I am electronically signing this Receipt of Acknowledgment

Signature(s): _____