Updated May 2026

14 & Chestnut's Student Expectations & Behavior Policy

Expectations of Students in our Program: Our program aims to provide a safe, fun, and enriching environment for students in our program. To ensure all participants have a positive experience, it is important to maintain clear guidelines for behavior. The following behavior expectations and policy applies to ALL students participating in our program.

- **Respect Others:** Treat all participants, staff, and volunteers with kindness and respect. This includes listening when others speak, using polite language, and being considerate of personal space.
- **Follow Instructions:** Listen to and follow the directions of after-school staff and volunteers promptly. This ensures safety and helps the program run smoothly.
- **Stay Safe:** Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Avoid rough play and other activities that might cause harm to yourself or others. (While we understand there are many relatives within each group, behaviors that may be okay at home, such as wrestling and name calling are not appropriate Center behaviors and we ask students to not engage in such behaviors because they often escalate quickly.)
- **Participate Actively:** Be engaged in the program's activities. This includes contributing to group tasks, being attentive during lessons, and participating in recreational activities.
- **Use Technology Responsibly:** If technology is provided or allowed, students should use it for program-related purposes only and follow the specific guidelines set for its use.
- **Maintain a Positive Attitude:** Stay positive, even when activities are challenging or not going as expected. Encourage and support your peers.
- **Help Maintain Cleanliness:** Keep the area clean and put away materials after use. Help out with cleaning up when asked.
- **Report Problems:** If you feel unsafe or experience bullying, harassment, or any inappropriate behavior, report it to a staff member immediately.

Chapel Time Expectations: Chapel time is the most important part of our program, and we take this time seriously. To manage disruptive behavior in this setting, we started keeping track of students who are being disruptive.

- **Respectful Listening:** Listen quietly when others are speaking and give your full attention to the speaker.
- **Active Participation:** Try to follow along with prayers, songs, and activities. Raise your hand if you have something to share or ask.
- **Being Present and Focused:** Stay in chapel for the entire time, unless you have a reason to step out. Limit distractions for self and others.
- **Appropriate Behavior**: Show respect to God and the chapel space by staying in your seat and being calm.

The following behaviors are not permitted in the after-school or summer program:

- **Disrespectful Language or Actions:** This includes verbal abuse, profanity, name-calling, threats, and physical aggression.
- **Bullying or Harassment:** Any form of bullying, including physical, verbal, or cyberbullying, is not tolerated.
- **Vandalism or Destruction of Property:** Damaging any property, belonging to another student or program-related, will not be allowed.
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Behaviors that interfere with the enjoyment or safety of others, such as constant talking, refusing to follow instructions, or making it difficult for others to participate, will be addressed.
- **Unsafe Behavior:** This includes running in the hallways or sanctuary, fighting, or engaging in activities that could cause injury to oneself or others
- **Substance Use:** The possession or use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products is prohibited.