

KIRKLEES SUMMER **CAMP**

INCLUSION POLICY

Version 2.0

March 2022

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To be reviewed: June 2023

Replaces: Version 1.0

LOG OF VERSION CHANGES AND POLICY REVIEWS

Version	Date written	Date of review	Changes made
1.0		March 2022	
2.0	March 2022	June 2023	Introductory paragraph added Format and layout amended

1. Introduction

We want to give every child a very special experience when they come to camp. We want them to enjoy themselves, make new friends and feel safe. We know that some children need extra help to do this and we will do all we can to support them.

2. Before Camp

- a) Our booking process includes collecting information about a child's needs including SEND, social care involvement or gender identity
- b) We encourage parents to share as much information as they are able to in order to ensure that:
 - i. We can assess whether camp is suitable for their profile of need and whether we can keep them safe while at camp
 - ii. We can understand what adjustments we need to make to ensure the child's needs can be met whilst at camp
- c) We ask for EHCPs or other supporting documents to be shared with our SENCO and DSL
- d) We may arrange to speak further with parents/carers prior to camp
- e) We may, with parents' /carers' permission, speak with professionals working with a child to get more information
- f) We may arrange for children and their parents/carers to visit camp before they attend so that they can decide if camp is right for them

3. Once at camp

We have a great deal of experience in making adjustments to our provision so that children are able to come to camp and succeed.

Some of the adjustments we can make include:

- a) Matching children with a group leader with the personality, skills and experience to meet their needs

- b) Ensuring that information needed to support the child is shared with relevant staff
- c) Access to time out areas for when children are stressed or overwhelmed
- d) Access to more private areas to eat, wash and dress
- e) Alternative activities when the activities on offer do not work for the child
- f) Support with accessing activities, for example where a learning or physical need may be barrier to the child's involvement

4. After camp

- a) We aim to feedback to parents and carers of those children with additional needs about their child's experience at camp, especially where this has been particularly positive
- b) We may feedback, with parents' /carers' permission, to professionals working with children to share positive experiences or potential areas for concern

5. Additional considerations

We work hard to support children with a variety of additional needs and want to be as inclusive as possible. However, we are unable to offer constant supervision and 1 to 1 support so we will ask parents and carers to consider the following issues before sending their child to camp:

- a) If a child's needs manifest themselves in violent, dangerous or risky behaviour that mean their safety, or the safety of others, cannot be guaranteed, camp may need to send the child home or shorten their stay at camp, for example by offering day visits only.
- b) In exceptional circumstances, if leaders think a child cannot be kept from harming themselves or others, camp may not offer the child a place

- c) We are all volunteers at camp with a wide range of experience and skills. Some of our volunteers, in their working life, are teachers and some have a great deal of experience of working with children with additional needs but they will not be there on every camp as the volunteer group can be different on each camp. An early conversation will help Camp to find the best dates for the child if they need more experienced and skilled volunteers to work with them.
- d) The site is large and open. There are always volunteers on duty through day and night. During the night we have a security guard who checks the whole site and so they cannot watch all children at all times. This means that children need to be able to understand the boundaries and be able to stay within them.
- e) We need the children to be able to understand our code of conduct and follow the rules so that they can stay safe.
- f) We can offer some prompting to get dressed and washed and change clothes, but children do need to be able to wash and dress themselves and ask for help if they are struggling.
- g) The children sleep in tents of up to 4 children of the same sex and no child sleeps alone. Children who come with a friend settle more quickly.
- h) Where a child is questioning their gender identity, parents/carers need to talk to camp about how this can be appropriately and sensitively managed.