

The physical and emotional safety of each and every camper and staff member is paramount to Riverfront Summer Day Camp. We try to identify critical concerns that affect our campers and staff and we take bullying and violence in our culture very seriously.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Bullying happens when a person or group of people want to have power over another and use their power to get their way, at the expense of someone else. Bullying can also happen through cyberspace: through the use of e-mails, text messaging, social media, instant messaging, and other less direct methods.

BULLYING is any intentional hurtful act, committed by one or more persons against another. Bullying occurs when there is an imbalance of power between a bully and a victim. The main types of bullying include:

- punching, hitting, shoving, stealing personal things, or getting into someone's personal space when asked not to.
- name calling, hurtful teasing, taunting, unwanted nicknames, gossiping
- exclusion, humiliation, blackmailing, manipulating friendships

Why Is It A Problem?

Campers who are bullied may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience. Our leadership team addresses all incidents of bullying seriously and trains staff to promote communication with their staff and their campers so both staff and campers will be comfortable alerting us to any problems that may arise during their camp experience. Every person has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all campers and staff have a great session at Riverfront.

What Are We Doing About It?

Riverfront Summer Day Camp runs an anti-bullying program that is aimed at taking appropriate steps towards managing this problem. Although we have always made a conscious effort to prevent bullying in our camp community, bullying itself has transformed into more than its traditional definition. We now try to stop bullying behavior with different tools and techniques that will help us prevent such behavior.

At Riverfront Summer Day Camp, bullying is inexcusable, and we have a firm policy against all types of bullying. Our Camp philosophy is based on our mission statement which ensures that every camper has the opportunity to develop socialization skills in a natural environment by accepting themselves and others. We work together as a team to ensure that campers gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great memories.

How Can Parents Help?

We encourage parents to let us know about any bullying concerns you may have for your child either in person or in any off-season, camp-related emails, instant messages, or text-messages that may have led to exclusion or meanness towards your child by somebody else from camp. We want to ensure that this problem can be managed by a strong partnership between our camp and you. If you have any feedback for us that you think would be helpful, we would appreciate hearing from you.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Riverfront Anti-Bullying policy.

SIGNATURE _____ PRINT NAME _____ DATE _____