



## CHILD VERSION

### Safeguarding Children and Young People at the YMCA

We at the YMCA believe children who participate in our programs should:

1. **feel comfortable**
2. **be cared for**
3. **feel safe and be safe**

- ✓ Everyone who works at the YMCA does their best to make sure children are protected from any harm
- ✓ It is not okay for anyone to hurt your feelings or your body
- ✓ It is okay for you to say NO to an adult if they ask you to do something that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable
- ✓ If you ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable a YMCA staff member will listen to you and act to help you
- ✓ It is always okay to tell someone if you are not feeling comfortable or safe or if you have been hurt
- ✓ If you are unhappy with the way you are being treated please tell a staff member or a parent
- ✓ The YMCA welcomes all children into our programs. We know that being different is a good thing as this is what makes you unique

#### Rules for staff

We have rules for our staff (the people who work here) so that you are always safe at the YMCA.

Everyone who works at the YMCA:

- Looks out for children to make sure they are safe and comfortable
- Will check that you have an adult or other supervisor looking after you at all times
- Wears a uniform, a name tag or both
- Makes rules that are fair and that you can understand
- Is not allowed to yell at you in an angry way or be grumpy towards you
- Will explain to you if you have broken a rule
- Needs to get the permission of your parents or guardians to take you on an excursion
- Will help you if you ask for help
- Is not allowed to contact you when you are not at a YMCA program
- Is not allowed to give you lifts in their car
- Makes sure that everyone can enjoy the activities

#### Responsibilities of children

Children also have responsibilities when they come to a YMCA program. These are:

- Treat other children and adults with respect
- Listen to others and respect their opinions
- Children can choose their own friends but are not to stop other children from enjoying and participating in a program
- Don't tease or hurt other children
- Let a staff person or parent know if you are unhappy with the way you are being treated