

Child and Youth Covenant and Rules

Youth Religious Education Behavior Guidelines for First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio

The Youth Religious Education Committee encourages talking together to learn from each other in search of our own beliefs. We respect others and each person's right to speak. At the beginning of each church school session the teachers and students will discuss the Behavior Guidelines each family is required to sign as well as the following guidelines.

Behavior Guidelines based on our seven UU principles:

- 1. We believe that each and every person is important.**
Safety is our first concern! Children must remain in classrooms or supervised areas until picked up by parents. Only gentle play is appropriate on church grounds. Treat everyone with respect. Use caring language and behavior.
- 2. We believe that all people should be treated fairly and kindly.**
Listen and follow directions. Be polite. Take turns. Care about one another.
- 3. We believe that we should accept one another and keep on learning together.**
Make a commitment to regular attendance. Your friends and teachers depend upon you. Include everyone in activities and planning. Friends are welcome. Let them know our rules. Participate with enthusiasm.
- 4. We believe that each person is free to search for what is true and right in life.**
Share your ideas and respect the ideas of others.
- 5. We believe that all persons should have the right to speak out and have a vote about what concerns them.**
Express your opinions constructively. Respect the decision of the group.
- 6. We believe in working for a peaceful, fair and free world.**
Ask for help when you need it. Do your best to get along with others and to be helpful. Be willing to listen to reminders about your behavior.
- 7. We believe in caring for our planet earth, the home we share with all living things.**
Take good care of our church. Help clean up. Be careful with our space, furniture and materials. Use only what you need. Be gentle with the plants and animals.

Each class will then adapt them appropriately to their class and post in a conspicuous place in the classroom. All participants must agree to follow these guidelines. Teachers will remind students periodically of their agreement.

Safety Policy

The Children's Religious Education Program at First UU San Antonio provides a safe place for your child to grow and thrive physically, emotionally, and spiritually. The policy below helps us insure the physical safety of everyone.

To insure the safety of all participants the following are considered intolerable: possessing any of the following- weapons of any kind, materials for producing fire, fireworks including cherry and smoke bombs, illegal drugs, inappropriate materials for age, including cigarettes and sexually explicit materials not used as part of a curriculum. These are all strictly forbidden.

Intolerable behavior includes the following- violent behavior towards oneself or others, inappropriate sexual behavior, threats or threatening behavior, leaving supervised areas (classrooms, playground, church buildings, and patios) without approval from teacher or parent, and destruction of personal or church property.

Playground Rules:

- All children and volunteers will be respectful, in words and actions, of others, self and building.
- No form of aggression will be tolerated.
- For the safety of the children, there will be no climbing of the trees, fence, big cement pipes or playhouse.
- No toys or valuables from home

Blatant offences of aggression that cause physical harm (fighting, kicking, pinching...) will result in immediate removal from the playground. After a second blatant offence, the child loses all playground privileges for the next two weeks.

If behavior guidelines are not followed there is a three-part discipline procedure.

Part One- if a problem arises, teachers will refer to the class guidelines and specify which one(s) is/are not being followed. If the problem continues, give one verbal warning. If the problem still continues, remove the child from class or playground to the care of the DLRE or designated person. DLRE will discuss behavior with child and either the child will be returned to classroom or continue time with DLRE. DLRE will bring the behavior problem to the attention of the parent after the service.

Part Two- if a child is sent to the DLRE a second time; the DLRE will discuss the behavior problem with the parent and child.

Part Three- if problem continues a meeting will be scheduled with all parties to develop a partnership and plan for improvement.

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for First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio

Acknowledgment

Our family has reviewed the Children's Covenant and Rules for youth religious education at First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio, including the policies regarding violations, and we agree to support them. We understand that the complete text of our church's safety policy may be found on the church's web site at <http://www.firstuusanantonio.org/> and will be supplied in hard copy upon request.

Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian

Child

Child

Child

Child

