



NEWPORT COUNTY YMCA CHILD WATCH POLICIES



Why do we offer a Child Watch service?

We offer a safe place for children to engage in fun and enriching activities, while their parents/guardians have the opportunity to utilize the amenities offered at the Newport County YMCA. Child Watch is not licensed by DHS or any other state agency.

Who is Child Watch Designed for?

Our Child Watch ages are 6 months to 12 years old. The Child Watch program is designed for temporary care of children, so we do ask that a 2-hour daily maximum be respected. In addition, we do ask that older children please understand that the room has limited “entertainment” for children 6 and up, they can bring a safe and appropriate activity with them. Personal items are not our responsibility.

Who are the staff in the Child Watch program?

All staff and volunteers undergo background checks prior to employment at the YMCA. Child Watch is staffed by caring individuals who attempt to meet the needs of all members and participants that drop in for Child Watch services.

Is food/drink in the Child Watch area?

The YMCA is aware that many children who make use of the Child Watch program have allergies to food, and some of them are potentially life threatening. Please refrain from bringing any food into the room. We understand this may be an inconvenience, but the safety of every child is our primary concern. To parents of children with food allergies: the YMCA will do everything possible to keep this area free of allergens. Please be advised, however, that because we are a drop-in program with shared space, it is not possible to guarantee that the room is completely peanut free. Please inform our staff of your child’s allergy so we can take extra precautions to ensure his/her safety!

Fees

Child Watch is a free amenity for Members of the Newport County YMCA.

Sick Policy

The YMCA is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment, and to that end, we would like to remind parents and guardians that if their child(ren) are ill or have been ill within the past 24 hours to please refrain from bringing them to the Child Watch area. Types of illness include common cold with runny nose and/or cough, Flu, chicken pox, high fever of 100 degrees or more, head lice, poison ivy, and any other contagious disease. In the event that a child becomes ill during a visit at the YMCA, we ask that parents/guardians adhere to our guidelines regarding illness and remove their child(ren) from the facility. If any parent/guardian arrives at the Child Watch room with a child(ren) that are clearly sick, the child(ren) will not be permitted into the room. This will help to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all.

Inclement Weather Policy

The safety of our staff and participants is our number one priority. In the event of inclement weather, the Newport YMCA will do its best to open Child Watch services, but please be sure to call ahead, check our website, or follow us on Facebook for the most current weather updates!

Parent/Guardian Guidelines:

- 1. Parents/Guardians are required to be in the building while their child(ren) are in Child Watch.**
- 2. You must sign your child(ren) in and out of Child Watch each time you visit as well as list where you are in the building. Once signed into Child Watch, children of any age are not permitted to leave the program until a parent/guardian signs the child out of the program.**
- 3. The child will only be released to either the parent/guardian who dropped him/her off in the room or to someone who was specified at the time of drop off. Please be aware that a picture ID is required for every pickup and drop off.**
- 4. If your child is unable to toilet him/herself, we will alert you to come change a diaper or accompany to the bathroom.**
- 5. A parent/guardian will be asked to sign their child out if he/she is upset/inconsolable after 10 consecutive minutes.**
- 6. Personal items/toys are not our responsibility in the Child Watch area.**

Child Watch Hours

Weekdays:

8:00am-12:30pm

4:00pm-7:30pm

Saturdays:

8:00am-12:00pm