

Cleaning Procedures

All toys in our Child Watch area are cleaned using a natural solution of vinegar and water. This is a non-chemical based formula used to maintain the safety of the children in our care. Cleaning is done daily during our off-peak hours.

Sick Children

We follow these guidelines in accordance with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics. A child may not participate in Child Watch if any of the following symptoms have existed within the past 24 hours:

- fever, vomiting, or diarrhea
- any symptoms of mumps or chicken pox including any unexplained rash
- common cold onset (through one week)
- sore throat, croup, sickly coughing
- any skin infection (e.g., ringworm, impetigo, boils)
- yellow or green nasal discharge
- pink eye
- lice

If children are not well enough to attend school they should not attend child watch

If your child has special circumstances, allergies, etc., we will keep a doctor's note on file detailing the non-contagious symptoms. It also the staff's discretion to decide if a child is well enough to attend Child Watch.

Safety

Your child's safety is our #1 priority! In the event of a building evacuation, the Y staff will assist Child Watch Staff in taking the children out to the assigned safe area. During evacuation, parents will not be allowed to check children out until a roll has been checked. Evacuation signs are posted in the Child Watch Rooms. The Southwest YMCA practices Fire and Emergency Drills.

Child Expectations

- Follow directions.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Use your inside voice.
- Take care of toys and equipment.
- Treat others the way YOU would like to be treated.
- Have FUN!

Behavior Guidelines

The YMCA reserves the right to refuse service to members whose children are disruptive to the Child Watch environment.

We have a three strike rule. If a child is being disruptive or aggressive towards staff or other children, they will be redirected. Staff will give children three warnings before asking the parent to come pick them up from our rooms. Parents assume all liability for children and their behavior.

Concerns:

If you have any concerns or comments regarding the YMCA Child Watch Program, please feel free to speak to the staff caring for your child or to the program coordinator.

Ana Araujo

Child Watch Coordinator
(512) 8919622 Ext. 405
aaraujo@austinyymca.org



SAFE, SECURE, FUN FOR KIDS!



Child Watch

Southwest Family YMCA

Welcome!

Welcome to the Southwest Family YMCA Child Watch Program! We want your children's time with us to be a fun and safe experience. In order to maintain our safety standards and ensure program quality, we would appreciate your adherence to our guidelines and policies. Our goal is to offer you and your child the best care possible.

Who can use Child Watch?

Child watch is a free service to our One Adult or Full Family memberships. Parents and guardians of children on one of these membership types may leave their children in the Child Watch program but they **must** remain on the premises. We allow children ages 2 months to 8 years old.

Child Watch Hours:

Mon – Thur	8:00am to 8:00pm
Friday	8:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday	9:00am to 1:00pm
Sunday	Closed

Parents MUST stay at the Y while their children are in Child Watch; no exceptions.

Checking In & Out

Each parent must sign in their own child.

Required information includes:

- Child's name and age
- Parent's name
- Time of check in and check out
- Parent's location on YMCA premises.
- Phone number in case staff is not able to locate parent.

Upon sign-in, our staff will issue a designated number, using an invisible ink marker (non-toxic), to parent and child's hand.

During sign out, staff will ask parent and child to show their "magic number" by using a flash light, to ensure a matching number is present. If number is not visible, parent will be asked to show a photo ID or staff will scan card at the Welcome Center. It is important for parents to check their children out on the signing sheet.

In order to keep everyone in our care safe from any hazards, our rooms are separated by ages. Babies Room ages are from 2 months to 35 months old. As soon as children turn 3 years old they should move to the Big Kids Room.

Helpful Hints for an Enjoyable Experience

- Make sure children have a full tummy!
- Diapers should be clean.
- Children should be taken to the bathroom prior to check-in.
- Please do not bring a child during their normal nap time.

Length of Visits & Crying Policy

Child Watch can be used up to an hour and a half per day. If a second visit is desired, we ask that there be a four hour gap from the time checked out of the first visit.

Our program has a 15 minute crying policy. Our staff will do their best to calm crying children down so that they can have an enjoyable experience. If, however, they are still inconsolable after 15 minutes, the parent will be located and notified to come pick up their child.

Proper Attire

- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Children must have on clothes.
- For the safety of the children. We discourage that children come in wearing necklaces and capes.

Personal Items

- Pacifiers are preferred to be on a clip and labeled for sanitary reasons.
- Please label all personal belongings.
- Toys **MUST** stay at home. We encourage the sharing of our toys and don't want toys accidentally going home with the wrong family.
- Electronics are not allowed in our Child Watch Rooms.

Food and Drinks

- Juice and milk are welcome.
- Due to allergies, **we don't allow any snacks in our rooms.**
- Fruit pouches are okay.
- We will feed babies a bottle as long as the bottle is pre-mixed.

Diapers and Toilet Training

- We do not change diapers or clothing; a staff member will locate you if a diaper needs to be changed.
- If your child is in the process of toilet training we ask that your child wears a pull up during his/her visit in Child Watch.
- Staff will assist children with clothing but if more assistance is needed, parent will be located for those purposes.

Special Needs & Accommodations

We strive to make every possible reasonable accommodation for children with special needs. Please contact the program coordinator in advance so the staff is aware of your child's needs and so you can discuss with her any information that might be helpful. Please let us know how we can help your child have a positive experience in our Child Watch Rooms.