

WELCOME!

Welcome to the East Communities 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 insure program quality, we would appreciate your adherence to our guidelines and policies. These were established with the help of caring parents whose children participate in Child Watch. Our goal is to offer you and your child the best care possible.



HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday - Friday.....	8:00am - 1:00pm
	4:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturday.....	8:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday.....	2:00pm - 6:00pm

ACTIVITIES

Our Child Watch has a daily rotation schedule of centers, crafts, outdoor, and indoor games and activities. We also have special break out activities that children can sign up for. Check out our Youth and Family schedule or ask a staffer for details!



SAFETY

You're child's safety is our #1 priority. We have the following rules in place to keep everyone safe and healthy:

Health & Illnesses: A child may not participate in Child Watch if they have shown symptoms of illness in the past 24 hours, such as: fever, vomiting, diarrhea, mumps, chicken pox, unexplained rashes, common cold, sore throat, coughing, skin infection, yellow or green nasal discharge, pink eye, or lice. Children too sick to go to school are too sick to come to the YMCA. We reserve the right to refuse Child Watch care to children our staff deems ill.

Emergency Evacuations: Y staff will assist caregivers in taking the children out of assigned emergency exit. During evacuation, parents will not be allowed to check children out until all children are accounted for.

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

The YMCA is for your enjoyment. Members and their guests use the facility and equipment at their own risk. Parents assume all liability for children and their behavior.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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HAPPY KIDS, HEALTHY FAMILY

CHILD WATCH GUIDELINES

EAST COMMUNITIES YMCA

5315 Ed Bluestein Blvd.
Austin, TX 78723
512.933.9622

THE BASICS

WHO CAN USE CHILDWATCH?

We happily accept children from ages 3 months to 11 years old, that are part of a One Adult or full Family YMCA membership.

Parents may only use Child Watch if they are on the YMCA's premises at all times.

Registration: All Parents must fill out an information form to use Child Watch for the first time. This form is available at our Welcome Center or Child Watch and should be completed and returned to a Child Watch staff member.

Time Limits: Children **younger than 18 months** can stay in Child Watch for up to **1 & 1/2 hours a day**. Children **18 months and older** can stay in Child Watch for up to **2 hours a day**.

TIPS 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.



CHECK IN & CHECK OUT PROCEDURES

Checking in: Parent must provide their name or key card to be scanned in. Once your account is found, the staff will note who is dropping off the child, which children are being dropped off as well as where the parent will be in the facility.

Checking Out: Child Watch staff **MUST** check out your children before they are released back into your care. When picking up, please give the employee your name as well as your child's. Until they get to know you well, they will be able to look on the screen and see that the child and parent match up before checking out the child.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Please keep updated pictures on record of all the adults and children on the account for your child's safety. No picture = no check in.
- Only active guardians on the account will be allowed to pick up the children.

Checking in Another Member's Child: If you would like to bring another member's child, you must have a **signed** permission letter from their parent/guardian that includes their member I.D. number.

CHILD EXPECTATIONS:

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



THE DETAILS

Personal Items:

- Pacifiers must always be on a clip and labeled for sanitation reasons.
- Please keep personal toys at home. We encourage the sharing of toys and don't want toys accidentally going home with the wrong family!

Food and Drinks: To avoid potential allergic reactions, we ask that you **please do not bring any snacks**. We have water available, or you can bring your own milk or water bottle for your child. Please be sure to label your containers.

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, let us know so we can encourage them to use the restroom!
- We strongly recommend pull-ups until a child is fully potty-trained since we cannot attend to the children in the bathroom.
- **Our policy is to never be one on one with a child.**

15 Minute Rule: We want every child to feel safe in our program. If a child is inconsolable for more than 15 minutes, we may ask the parent to pick up the child and try again tomorrow.

Conscious Discipline: Our Child Watch program practices Conscious Discipline. Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive social- emotional and classroom management program that uses everyday life events to teach children and adults self-control, conflict resolution, character development and social skills. Through Conscious Discipline, our goal is to create family environment within our Child Care programs at the Y.

Special Needs & Accommodations: We strive to make every possible reasonable accommodation for children with special needs. It is best you contact Erin Douglas (Membership Director) in advance so the staff is aware of your child's needs and you can discuss with her what needs to be accomplished in order to accommodate your child.