

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
- Children not well enough to attend school can not attend child watch.

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

We reserve the right to refuse Child Watch care to children our staff deems ill.

Safety

Your child's safety is our #1 priority.

In the event of a building evacuation, the 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 a roll has been checked. Evacuation signs are posted in the Child Watch room.

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 would like to be treated.
- Have FUN!

PLEASE NOTE: 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. Member and their guests use the facility and equipment at their own risk. Parents assume all liability for children and their behavior.



Concerns:

If you have any concerns, suggestions, or comments regarding the YMCA Child Watch Program, please feel free to speak to the staff caring for your child or to any of the directors listed below. For your convenience, suggestion cards are available at the Welcome Center.

Elaine West
Child Watch Coordinator
elaine.west@austinyymca.org

Jason Daniel
Executive Director
jason.daniel@austinyymca.org



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Child Watch

**For Youth Development
SAFE, SECURE, FUN**



The YMCA's Childwatch program is a fun and engaging environment that supports a child's development through supervised activities and play that emphasize the Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, & faith.

Springs Family YMCA

Child Watch Handbook

Welcome!

Welcome to the Springs 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 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.

Who can use Child Watch?

Child watch is *only* available as part of a One Adult Family or Family membership. Parents and guardians of children on one of these memberships may leave their children with the Child Watch program, but they *must* remain on the premises. We allow children ages 3 months to 11 years old.

Registration

All parents must fill out an information form to use Child Watch. Available at Welcome Center or Child Watch.

Checking in Another Member's Child

If you would like to bring another member's child, you must have a signed note that includes the parents membership I.D. number explaining the situation.



Checking In & Out

Each parent must scan in their own child with their YMCA card. Required information includes:

- Child's name and age
- Parent's name
- Photo of child
- **Parents MUST stay on the YMCA premises while their children are in Child Watch; NO exceptions.**

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

Children 3-12 months	1 hour limit per day
Children 1-11 years	2 hour limit per day

Our program has a 10-minute crying rule. Our staff is accustomed to comforting children. If, however, they are still inconsolable after 10 minutes, the parent will be asked to return for the child.

Child Watch Hours

Mon – Fri (AM)	7:45am – 1:00 pm
Mon – Thurs (PM)	3:45pm – 7:30 pm
Saturday	8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday	Closed

Personal Items

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

Proper Attire

- Shoes must be worn at all times. No cleats. No taps.
- Children must have on clothes; pajamas are not allowed.

Food and Drinks

- We always have water available.
- Due to allergies, please do not bring any snacks or beverages.

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.

Activities

Our Child Watch has a large room stocked with toys, books, and games. During peak hours, we separate older and younger children.

Special Needs & Accommodations

We strive to make every possible reasonable accommodation for children with special needs. It is best you contact Elaine West (*Child Watch Coordinator*) in advance, so the staff is aware of your child's needs and you can discuss with her what need to be accomplished in order to accommodate your child.