

YFHS Policy 5: Boundaries and Behaviours

Agreed On: 18.04.26 (last updated by Alex)

To be reviewed by: Final staff meeting before YFHS 2027

YFHS strives to be a safe and inclusive community and in order to maintain this some boundaries and expected behaviours are outlined to participants in advance of the week when they apply. Participants are asked to sign and agree to abide by the holiday school boundaries at the point of application.

Due to the age of participants and the presence of staff members' young children everyone is encouraged to use appropriate language.

We respect that during the social dances and games not everyone will want to take part, but encourage people to get involved as much as possible.

Exclusive relationships are discouraged at YFHS to ensure everybody feels involved and included in the wider community. Participants will form strong bonds with their peers, but it is explained that prolonged physical touch is not allowed as this creates exclusivity and may make other participants uncomfortable. Staff and student helpers will identify any participants they feel may be forming exclusive relationships and a conversation will be had with them.

Participants should only ever be in the dormitory block they have been assigned to.

Physical or verbal abuse is not tolerated. If a participant is acting in an abusive way every effort will be made to mediate the situation using a restorative approach. If staff feel the participant is continuing to be physically or verbally abusive, they may be asked to leave.

Where possible games that involve strong physical contact, or contact that may be misunderstood, are avoided.

Participants are told not to take photographs in their bedrooms and to keep phones off during timetabled activities. The whole YFHS community is reminded that in order to make the most of the time with each other, we should avoid using our phones and accessing social media.

Any instances of disruptive or challenging behaviour will be dealt with bearing in mind the needs of all the individuals. Parents/guardians may be contacted and advice sought.

The Holiday School rules and expectations are communicated clearly with participants in the information pack sent prior to the event, are relayed verbally at the beginning of the event, and are displayed prominently (e.g. in the hall) throughout the week of HS.