



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA OF MONTCLAIR CHILD WATCH/KIDS CLUB HANDBOOK

Welcome to Child Watch/Kids Club! We want your child's stay to be a safe and positive experience. Each child is regarded as a unique individual who needs to be understood, guided, encouraged, and appreciated. This program provides opportunities for socialization and engaging, age-appropriate recreational activities. Child Watch is available for members and participants ages 6 months to 7 years, while Kids Club is for those ages 8 to 12. Children can remain in our care for a maximum of 2 hours, and parents/guardians must stay on YMCA premises while their child is in the program.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedure:

Parents/guardians are required to personally drop off their children and stay within the Park Street YMCA facility while their children are in Child Watch/Kids Club. Parents/guardians are required to pre-register through MotionVibe and check in with a staff member upon arrival. Parents may check on their child at any time. To ensure the safety of all children in Child Watch/Kids Club, only YMCA staff are allowed to enter the space during regular operating hours; parents and other non-staff individuals are not permitted.

Capacity:

Child Watch/Kids Club is not licensed by the Office for Childcare Services; however, the adult-to-child ratio is carefully monitored to ensure safety. The YMCA of Montclair reserves the right to limit the number of children in the room at any given time.

Child Watch Hours* (as of September, 2024):

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 8am-12pm
Monday-Thursday from 4pm-8pm
Friday and Saturday CLOSED

Kids Club Hours* (as of September, 2024):

Tuesday and Thursday from 4pm- 8pm
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday CLOSED

*PLEASE NOTE: Hours and availability are subject to change on holidays and special events.

Pricing:

FREE for Family Members

\$10/hour per child for Individual Members

Limit of 2 hours, register by hour time blocks

(\$1.00 per minute after the 2-hour limit or after closing time, due immediately).

Illnesses/Contagious Conditions:

To maintain the health and safety of all children in our care, any child showing signs of illness or a contagious condition—such as coughing, diarrhea, vomiting, discolored nasal discharge, fever, or head lice—will not be permitted to remain in Child Watch/Kids Club.

Dress:

Appropriate clothing and footwear must be worn at all times in the Child Watch/Kids Club areas.

Child Watch Bathroom/Diaper Policy:

Staff do not change diapers and are not permitted to assist children while using the restroom. If your young child is not potty-trained or unable to use the restroom independently, please ensure they are dressed in a pull-up upon arrival. Staff will locate parents/guardians immediately to change soiled diapers and/or clothing. A changing table will be available.

Kids Club Bathroom Policy:

Parents must ensure children use the bathroom upon arrival. If a child needs to use the bathroom during programming, a staff member will escort them to the nearest restroom.

Play and Activity Time:

During programming, children are encouraged to participate in enriching and engaging activities featuring a variety of age-appropriate toys, equipment, and materials. If your child requires specific accommodations due to diverse abilities, please contact staff.

Snacks and Drinks:

Small snacks are permitted in Child Watch/Kids Club. If a child needs a snack during their time there, they may sit at a table to eat. Water is allowed and encouraged, provided it is in a labeled water bottle.

Personal Items:

For safety reasons, the use of electronics, including cellphones, iPads, and other devices is strongly discouraged. If your child requires accommodations due to diverse abilities, please contact staff.

Behavior:

Child Watch/Kids Club is designed to create a pleasant and memorable experience for all children. Staff use redirection and positive reinforcement when working with all children in their care. If these methods are ineffective and a child poses a risk to themselves or others, staff will promptly notify parents/guardians in person or by telephone. Behavioral concerns will be shared with parents/guardians upon request. Biting, hitting, running, climbing, or pushing are not permitted in Child Watch/Kids Club. If a child struggles to adjust for 15 minutes, staff will ask parents/guardians to pick them up for their comfort and well-being. In the event of a second incident, staff will develop an action plan with parents/guardians. The YMCA of Montclair reserves the right to limit Child Watch/Kids Club access due to behavioral concerns.

We appreciate your careful review and consideration of this protocol. Your children are special to us, and we want to provide a fun, healthy, and safe place for them to play, learn, and connect.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Nina Reyes, Membership Coordinator at nreyes@montclairymca.org or 973-744-3400 EXT. 112.