

# Behavior Expectations

## Unite Youth Ministries @ Restored Church



**Our Mission:** Our desire is to help students know Jesus and walk with him for the rest of their lives.

**Our Goals:** We do this by studying the Bible with students, forming Christ-like relationships, empowering students for spiritual growth and student leadership, as well as mobilizing them for opportunities to serve others. We also have a lot of fun along the way too! We want to create an environment where students can engage Jesus with the least number of distractions possible. We want to do everything we can to set students up for success and teach them how to pursue God-honoring relationships! To accomplish our mission and goals, we have several behavior expectations:

**Partnering With Parents:** Here at Unite, our desire is to do everything we can to the best of our ability to help students worship, grow, and serve Jesus Christ with their entire lives. In doing so, we want to partner with parents as they fulfill their God-given role of being the primary one in their students life. If there is something going on in your student's life that might help us minister to them more effectively, please let us know! The primary ways we will connect with parents are through our regular parent emails and handouts.

**Unite Student Registration Forms:** All students must provide registration information annually. This information enables us to place your student in an appropriate small group, as well as respond appropriately in the case of an emergency. This information is kept private & confidential. If any of your information changes within the school year, please send us a note with your new contact information so that we may update our records. There is a parental consent form as well that is on the website that we ask parents to take the time to fill out for us to ensure that parents/guardians are aware of what we are doing and we can do so with their consent.

**Unite Check-in/ Check-out:** All students must check in upon arrival, and check out before leaving on Sunday nights at Unite. In order to keep students safe, we want to know what students are on the premises at all times. We ask that students check in and out at the door unless otherwise stated. Parents who must pick up their students before 8:00 must come into the lobby and notify the Check-in attendant there. Parents should alert us when someone other than a parent is picking up their student. Students may not leave early without parents permission. If however a student chooses to disobey and leaves the premises without parental or staff permission, our staff will try to notify the parent/guardian immediately via the contact numbers provided on the Registration form. This student will then be required to meet with the Unite Leadership to obtain permission to attend youth ministry events in the future.

**Guests:** Students are encouraged to invite their friends to Unite and other student ministry activities. Event information can be found in regular parent resource emails, handouts given at check-out periodically, and on our church website at [www.restoredchurch.org/](http://www.restoredchurch.org/) monthly. At Unite, please know we will have your guest fill out a registration form upon arrival.

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**Conduct & Language:** It is our desire to teach and model to our students how to live like Christ and behave with love, peace, and respect for others.

- No insubordinate or disrespectful behavior towards another student, staff, or visitors.
- No public displays of affection (ex: handholding, front hugging, inappropriate touch, kissing, etc.). Again, it is our goal to teach and model God-honoring relationships to our students.
- All electronic devices are to be silenced and kept away during youth ministry programs and events (unless otherwise stated) so that students' fullest attention can be devoted to the ministry activities.
- At no time may a student leave a ministry event/program early without parental permission expressed to the appropriate youth ministry leader.

Yet there are certain behaviors that will not be tolerated and require further action. In each of the situations below, the protocol action will be: 1) notify the parents and proper authorities, 2) remove the student(s) from Youth Ministry activities for an indefinite period to be determined by church leadership and 3) help parents/caregiver find appropriate help/counseling/assistance as needed.

- We have a zero-tolerance policy for: cigarettes/e-cigarettes/alcohol/illicit drugs and/or drugs delivered by, sold by, or found on any student in attendance at any church sanctioned Youth Ministry event, the action steps above will be implemented.
- Absolutely no sexual misconduct, innuendos, or inappropriate touching of any kind.
- Bullying, fighting, profanity, or violence of any kind, will also NOT be tolerated at any youth event. We will also not tolerate harassment be it physical, emotional, verbal, sexual or visual regardless of if it happens in person, on social media/technology, or in any other form.

**Equipment:** Equipment should only be used in the specific way that each item was designed for. Proper respect for all church equipment, furniture, appliances, property, etc. is expected. Failure to respect equipment may result in further follow-up with parents and affect involvement in future youth ministry events.

**Attire:** Our desire is to help students honor Jesus in everything they do, including what they wear. Although clothing is a personal expression, the freedom of these expressions MAY NOT impede our efforts to teach Biblical purity & morals. In order to practice and model purity, clothing should not be too revealing, too tight, or display vulgar words/pictures. No cleavage, midriffs, or undergarments should be visible. For our young ladies, one-piece bathing suits are required for any water-type events, or dark cover-ups, and for our young men, no speedos. Sneakers are suggested for gym & yard activities.

**Facilities:** While the church buildings, in general, will be open for Youth Ministry programs, not all areas are open to the students. Students are expected to remain in designated areas at each scheduled time, and nowhere else unless escorted by a staff member (except for restrooms). Students are not to be in areas where there is no adult supervision. When attending an outdoor events, please be considerate of our neighbors' property and privacy. Finally, all youth ministry activities are required to have at least one of their adult leaders in attendance to use any church facility.

**Food & Drinks:** We try to always have good food for the students and are grateful for parents who are at times willing to help provide it. We do ask for allergy information regarding the students but understand that most of our youth are able to navigate these issues well. If there is additional concern for your student please let us know and we will be happy to help. We do ask that when food/drinks are provided at any ministry event, students are expected to clean up after themselves and leave their environment as clean as they found it.

**Permission Slips:** Each youth ministry event will determine the need for such information. Generally, for off-site trips and events that require parental permission, a form will be sent home with each student or have required online registration for a parent/guardian to fill out, sign, and return accordingly. Students will only be allowed to participate in such events with signed and completed permission slips handed in on time with any fees paid in advance.

**Communication:** There are often any number of things that arise in the course of what we are doing. We ask that if the parents and/or guardians of students have any concerns or questions to reach out to us by email at [youth@restoredchurch.org](mailto:youth@restoredchurch.org).

As a ministry of Restored Church, the Unite Youth Ministry functions in full agreement and accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws, Statement of Faith, and policies of Restored Church. All that takes place within Unite Youth Ministries is considered a part of Restored Church as a whole. Those who serve and participate in therein are a part of Restored Church's overall mission, accountable to the authority of the leadership of the church. Therefore, the Youth Ministries of Restored Church and all of it's guidelines are under that authority and in full agreement to the statement of faith, constitution and bylaws of Restored Church. The specific youth policies and guidelines have been established with Christ-like character in mind for all Restored Youth Ministry programs. It is our intention to create an atmosphere that Jesus Christ himself would model and expect from His disciples.