

1:1 Camp/Program Attendant Policy

Last Updated: June 2018

Variety Village acknowledges that external Camp/Program Attendants are an important part of the Variety Village camp and program experience. A Camp/Program Attendant is defined as an individual responsible for assisting a participant who is not able to attend a Variety Village camp or program independently. The term Camp/Program Attendant, for the purposes of this policy, refers to an individual hired or engaged by the participant's parent or guardian. A Camp/Program Attendant may be a professional Personal Support Worker (PSW), friend, relative, or other individual chosen by the parent or guardian to support the participant. A Camp/Program Attendant is not an employee, volunteer, or representative of Variety Village.

To promote participant independence, social development, and successful inclusion within programs, Variety Village strongly encourages families to arrange for a Camp/Program Attendant who is not the participant's parent or guardian. While parents and guardians play a critical role in supporting their child, an external Camp/Program Attendant is often better positioned to facilitate peer interactions, participation in activities, and the development of independence skills. In situations where a parent or guardian wishes to act as the Camp/Program Attendant, Variety Village may review the arrangement and discuss alternative support options with the family to help ensure the best possible experience for the participant and the overall camp/program community.

There are a number of protocols that Variety Village requires all Camp/Program Attendants to follow in order to help ensure a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all participants. Camp/Program Attendant protocols include, but are not limited to:

- Remaining with their participant at all times while participating in Variety Village camps/programs and while in the facility
- Physically accompanying their participant into the pool and remaining with the participant while in the water. Supervising from the pool deck is not considered safe and is not permitted
- Being responsible for their participant's wellbeing, including toileting, feeding, medication administration, and any personal care needs
- Communicating with Variety Village staff, including reporting incidents, injuries, concerns, or behavioural challenges to the designated supervisor and requesting assistance when needed
- Supporting their participant's active participation while encouraging independence whenever possible
- Refraining from the use of Variety Village equipment, materials, or resources except when directly supporting their participant's participation
- Maintaining focus on their participant by refraining from excessive use of personal electronic devices or other distractions
- Conducting themselves in a respectful and professional manner toward Variety Village staff, participants, members, volunteers, and visitors
- Following all Variety Village policies, procedures, and safety requirements while participating in camps/programs

In the event that it is determined that a Camp/Program Attendant is conducting themselves in a manner that is not in the best interest of the participant, is preventing the participant from meaningfully participating in camps/programs, or is impacting the safety, wellbeing, or experience of others, the designated supervisor will contact the participant's parent or guardian to advise them of the concern and work collaboratively to resolve the



issue. Variety Village reserves the right to require alternative support arrangements if concerns cannot be adequately addressed.

The signatures below indicate that the signee has read, understands and agrees to the protocols outlined in this policy.

_____	_____	_____
Attendant Name	Parent/Guardian Name	Supervisor/Coordinator Name
_____	_____	_____
Attendant Signature	Parent/Guardian Signature	Supervisor/Coordinator Signature
_____	_____	_____
Attendant Date	Parent/Guardian Date	Supervisor/Coordinator Date