



# School Age Child Care Family Handbook

Revised September 2024

**Welcome to My Place:**

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612 S Decatur Street  
Watkins Glen, New York 14891  
(607) 535-8908

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 2:15PM to 6:00 PM

Established February 2012 to serve families throughout Schuyler County, My Place, A *Play and Learning Center* is a not-for-profit organization that provides high quality care and education for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school age children (ages 6 weeks to 12 years). In 2017, we partnered with Watkins Glen Elementary School to provide wrap around care and continued to grow our partnership.

**Mission Statement:**

To be the pillar of childcare in Schuyler County by providing children and families with quality care and educational experiences.

**Vision:**

To provide a sustainable model of care that promotes family and community partnerships and quality childhood learning experiences through play.

**Educational Philosophy:**

We believe each and every child has the potential to bring something unique and special to the world. We provide quality early childhood experiences to help develop and foster children's potential by believing in them as capable individuals. We assist children in discovering who they are, so they can express their own opinions, nurture their own ideas and develop a life-long love of learning. We are particularly committed to engaging children in learning through play to embrace the natural joy of childhood. We acknowledge that all children grow and develop at different rates and respond uniquely to different types of learning experiences. Together, staff and families agree to honor our center as an equitable environment where people learn to respect, accept, and embrace the differences between us, as the core of what makes the future we are shaping so fascinating.

**Values:**

Play  
Welcoming Environment  
Nurturing Relationships inside and outside of the organization  
Accessibility  
Continuous Learning  
Promote a culture of diversity and inclusion

**Goals:**

Providing a sustainable model of care

Contribute to local economy  
Promote a culture of learning through play

### **Who We Serve:**

My Place serves approximately 100 children, from six weeks to twelve years of age. We are open to the public and give priority placement to:

- Siblings of children currently enrolled
- Children of our staff
- Children in the Foster Care System

### **Hours of Operation:**

2:15 PM – 6 PM Monday through Friday, 7 AM – 6 PM Summer and School Breaks

### **New York State Licensing:**

My Place follows all regulations as listed in the New York State Social Service Law 390 & OCFS Regulations. A copy of these regulations can be found in each first aid bag and in room 404 (office), or you may request a copy from the Program Director. Families have the right to report any licensing regulation violation to the Regional Licensing Division of OCFS (585-238-8531). They will investigate the claim and take action if warranted. Their website is [Office of Children and Family Services | Home | Office of Children and Family Services \(ny.gov\)](#) Electronic access to the regulations can be found at [414-SACC.pdf \(ny.gov\)](#)

### **Holidays My Place will be closed to families:**

My place after school program does not have access to the WGES on Federal Holidays. The following days My Place after school program will be **CLOSED** so staff can attend professional development trainings or enjoy time to themselves with family.

Martin Luther King Day  
President's Day  
Memorial Day  
Juneteenth  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Grand Prix In Watkins Glen  
Columbus Day  
Veteran's Day

Thanksgiving Holiday (Thursday and Friday)  
Christmas Holiday (Eve and Day)  
New Year's (Day)

**Weather-related closing or delay:**

We make every effort to keep our after-school program open to provide consistency for families, and especially children. **If Watkins Glen Central School District closes school for the day, we will not have access to the building and cannot provide care.** In other rare instances, if school is canceled due to inclement weather, we are closed. If school is closed early, there will be no after school care. If after school activities are canceled, we would make the decision to hold the program based on if a State of Emergency has been issued or not. All of this will be communicated on Procare and also sent as an SMS Alert via text message to the phone numbers listed as primary contacts in Procare. A post will also be put on our My Place Facebook page.

**Enrollment:**

*My Place, A Play and Learning Center* will be open to all children regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability.

My Place does offer families the option of part-time enrollment on the limited basis of availability and does not guarantee continued part-time enrollment. Part time is considered less than 5 days a week. If a child's classroom develops a wait list for full enrollment, the Director will work with families and do the best to accommodate.

Typically, enrollment will begin with a welcome letter from the Director that entails specific details about the program. If families wish to set up a tour, we can ensure that it occurs. During the tour, families will view the cafeteria and/ or classroom, and be given information about our daily operations. If families don't wish to do a tour, please ensure to send in documentation to the school about your child's alternate plan of dismissal, and the My Place staff will meet them in the auditorium at 2:15 to pick them up on their first day.

In order to enroll, guardians are responsible for completing an application for enrollment plus a non-refundable enrollment fee: \$25 for the first child/\$40 per family, as well as, emergency contact cards, and medical clearance and

current immunizations that state that the child is healthy enough to attend the program.

Once enrollment forms are received and there is an appropriate opening in a classroom, families will be contacted by a director and a day will be determined for care to start. Enrollment is secured when the Director affirms classroom availability and payment of deposit by family.

### **Special Enrollment Considerations:**

Changes in a family's life, due to maternity leaves, temporary job lay-offs or extended illness are stressful enough without having childcare added to your stress. Maintaining consistency is important to young children during times of change at home. To assist families through these life disruptions, My Place allows a family to temporarily reduce enrollment to part-time (minimum 2 days per week) without the risk of losing the child's full-time position during these periods of unusual need. Families who have been enrolled full-time for at least six weeks prior to the change may reduce their schedule to part-time for up to eight weeks before the full-time slot is forfeited. If unable to return to full-time care after the temporary part-time period ends, you may go on the waiting list for priority placement for the next full-time availability. Continued part-time enrollment cannot be assumed and will only be available if there is not a waiting list. Families may avail themselves of this privilege only under unusual circumstances and once per year upon application with the Director.

### **Confidentiality of Records:**

All information pertaining to your child's educational and health records are kept in locked files. We do not release any information from our files without person legally responsible's written consent.

### **Capacity:**

- School-age located at Watkins Glen Elementary School: 60 children maximum

Each group is also staffed in accordance to state licensing mandates. The minimum ratios that the SACC program adheres to are:

- Children enrolled in Elementary School
  - 1 staff: 7 children for 3-year-olds
  - 1 staff: 8 children for 4-year-olds
  - 1 staff: 10 children for K+

### **Our Staff:**

When considering a new employee, each candidate goes through an extensive hiring process which includes; an interview by the director, a working interview in the classrooms, reference checks, a health screening, a child abuse screening, and a criminal record check. During the first six months of employment each employee is expected to complete 15 hours of training.

All teachers have education and training in Early Childhood. We require that our Group Leaders have at minimum either an Associate's Degree or Child Development Credentials or a plan of study approved by the Executive Director and OCFS licensor.

For our Assistants, we require at least a High School Diploma/GED and prefer additional course work or experience working with children.

All staff must complete a minimum of 30 hours of training every two years. Staff must establish professional development goals.

#### **Procure Software:**

My Place utilizes Procure Software for tracking, billing, attendance, and the **primary means for communication**. Families are encouraged to utilize the online account access and payment option via Procure app. To access the Procure system, parents must have an email address in use with billing.

Daily communication will take place on our Procure application downloadable at Google Play Store and Apple Store. You will receive a code to authenticate your account.

#### **Daily Communication:**

Program staff uses Procure to document the numerous activities children engage in throughout the day. The messaging feature is our primary means of communication and can be seen by all classroom staff. Sensitive communication should be emailed directly to the classroom teacher or administration. Phone calls are welcome but can be distracting in the classroom and in-depth conversations will often need to be returned at an agreed time with the family or caregivers.

Administration encourages professional boundaries in all teaching staff. Calls and texts to staff's personal phones or through social media are discouraged to discuss classroom concerns or center communication. If you have questions or concerns, please contact a member of the leadership team.

#### **Family and Staff Communication:**

In order to maintain our partnership with families, we encourage open communication with families on a daily basis. Information is recorded in Procure that details what the child ate, how long they slept, and the activities that they participated in throughout their day. You can also message staff in the app to share information during the day. At times there may be a delay in documenting activities or returning messages as direct supervision and engagement of children will always take priority.

We look to families to share information with staff about the happenings of the child outside of the program and to keep staff informed about changes the child may be experiencing. Other than in unforeseen emergencies, families will be given two weeks' notice in writing of staffing changes.

### **Family Responsibilities:**

- 1. Complete and keep current all required enrollment documentation and requirements.**
- 2. Keep the Center informed of any changes relating to information provided on original enrollment forms, such as address and phone number change, custody and order of protection, emergency contacts, and other. PLEASE EMAIL A COPY OF ANY CUSTODY ORDER or ORDERS OF PROTECTION, REFRAIN FROM OR RESTRAINT DIRECTLY TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR AS SOON AS CHANGES ARE MADE.**
- 3. Inform the staff of any concerns or changes regarding your child since your child was last at the Center.**
- 4. Notify the Center if your child currently has, or has been exposed to, a contagious illness. Follow all initiatives put in place during a public health crisis as stated in our Pandemic Response Plan.**
- 6. If contacted by the Center to pick up your child regarding possible contagious illness or rash, fever and secondary symptoms, or other, make arrangements for your child to be picked up in a timely manner.**
- 7. Provide any specific or special instructions for the day in writing or through Procure and give them to the staff who is in charge of your child.**
- 8. Inform the classroom staff when a person other than parent/guardian, or regular person, is picking up your child. Please make sure that the person picking up your child is listed on the emergency contact form, listed as a**

**authorized pick up person for your child in Procure, and ensure that the person has a valid photo identification. If the child in program is over 5 years old, per our OCFS Licenser, we may allow the child to identify the person picking up in addition to the guardian sending written permission, or a Procure message.**

**9. For children under 5, please have photograph identification available, as you and others may be asked to present it at time of pick up. This is done when a staff member is not familiar with the person picking up to assure the safety of your child.**

**10. Practice caution while in the parking lot. Drive slowly and cautiously when entering/exiting the lot. Have children remain with you at all times. For the safety of your children, please do not leave any children unattended in the car. NYS law prohibits children being left alone in a car without adult supervision.**

**11. Vehicles must be turned off when unattended for the safety of the children and Center.**

**12. Bring items needed for your child to the Center. Replenish the items as needed.**

**13. Label personal items to help the staff keep track of your child's things.**

**14. Take bottles and/or soiled clothing home at the end of the day.**

**15. Pay tuition for the childcare services as agreed.**

## Adult Conduct Expectations

"To Provide A Safe, Comfortable And Healthy Environment For Children And Adults"

As a family member/visitor, we ask for your responsibility in making sure our sites are a safe, comfortable and healthy environment for children and adults. To support our mission the following list of expectations, include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Adults must follow center procedures and policies.
- Threatening, intimidating, harassing staff, volunteers, consultants, other parents/guardians or children will not be tolerated.
- Physical or verbal punishment of a child will not be tolerated.
- Physical violence or displays of anger will not be tolerated.



- Swearing, arguing, shouting or verbal fighting will not be tolerated.
- Use social media to bully, harass, or intimidate staff, volunteers, or consultants will not be tolerated.
- Possession or use of a weapon will not be tolerated.
- Possession or under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be tolerated.

We have a responsibility to all our families to provide a safe environment. Any situation that threatens anyone in the center will be reported to the authorities.

### **Tuition:**

Tuition is charged on a weekly OR monthly basis (including when My Place is closed for holidays, staff training, unexpected closings, or weather closings). Fees are determined according to My Place's sliding fee scale and are given to families at the time of enrollment. Financial data must be provided annually to base tuition rates in sliding fee scale. One week's tuition is required as a non-refundable deposit to secure your slot for care. We reserve the right to change tuition fees at any time with a minimum of six weeks' notice.

- Tuition is to be paid before the week/month begins
- Tuition can be paid on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis in advance
- Tuition will be accepted in cash, check, cashier's check, money order, or through an ACH payment to Chemung Canal via the Procure app.
  - Checks returned to the Center for insufficient funds will be assessed a \$40.00 service fee.
  - A pattern of receiving bad checks may require that all future payments be made by the other means identified above.
- **Tuition is based on enrollment, not attendance** and is due in instances of absences, holidays, vacations, staff training, unexpected or weather closings.
- Payments overdue by 30 days will be assessed a late payment fee of 16% annually, 1.33% monthly.
- Childcare services will be discontinued for any payments 60 days or more overdue.
- If a financial problem arises, please contact the Assistant Director to work out a solution before payments are missed. My Place will make efforts to offer payment plans or other means to continue service.
- Part time children only: If your child's group has the availability to offer to a make-up day for a center-related closing, we will make every effort to do so the week of the closure.

### **Tuition Assistance:**

Tuition assistance may be available for families who are income eligible. For information on eligibility for subsidized childcare assistance, contact the Department of Social Services in the county in which you reside.

For more information:

Chemung County: Chemung County Childcare Connection: (607) 737-5411

Steuben County: Child Care Aware: (607) 776-2126

Schuyler County: Department of Social Services (607) 535-8303

### **Extended Care and Late Fees:**

My Place does not offer extended care. Our program is open from 2:15-6:00 pm. Parents who arrive late, after 6:00 pm, will be assessed a late fee. This fee will be \$5.00 per child for the first 5 minutes and \$1.00 every minute after.

**\*\*\* If this policy is violated three times within 6 months, My Place has the right to terminate your enrollment.**

### **Withdrawing from the Center:**

If a family decides to withdraw its child from the program, a minimum of **two weeks written notice** is required. If a child is withdrawn without adequate notice, two weeks tuition beyond the date that we received notification will be required. Clients leaving the program owing money will be promptly turned over to a collection agency.

### **Programming:**

My Place after school program provides an environment that supports academic learning, social emotional development, and healthy activities for the mind and body. We make health and safety in combination with playful learning our top priority throughout our programming.

### **Evacuation Drills:**

Evacuation drills are conducted on a monthly basis. The time of drill is varied so that we have experience evacuating under all possible circumstances. All drills are unannounced. If you are ever at My Place during an evacuation drill, please stay with your child and evacuate as directed by the classroom staff. This will eliminate confusion and ensure a safe evacuation.

Twice per year we conduct shelter in place drills as required by OCFS. Families will be notified in advance of these drills. These drills help us prepare for events that would prohibit us from leaving the center.

Our emergency plan and evacuation diagrams are reviewed with families and staff annually and at enrollment/new hire. In the event of full evacuation our primary meeting location is Holy Cow Deli (410 S Franklin St, Watkins Glen, NY.) Our secondary meeting location is St. Mary's of the Lake (905 N Decatur St, Watkins Glen, NY.) Parents will be contacted by the Director or designated classroom staff if immediate pick-up is required. This communication will come through ProCare with a SMS push notification primarily, then phone call if no response is received.

### **Outings and Outdoor Play:**

Per OCFS regulations, the SACC Program is required to provide periods of supervised outdoor play for all children daily except during inclement weather. Children need to be dressed accordingly. Please understand that if a child is too ill to go outside, he/she is probably not well enough to be at the program and would be more comfortable at home. Only in the event of inclement weather do we omit this essential element of our daily routine.

The program follows linked guidelines which define excessive heat and cold for children in care.

[Child Care Weather Watch \(c-uphd.org\)](http://c-uphd.org)

Staff are trained to use good judgment in evaluating how long to have children out in hot or cold weather. Staff pay close attention to children's skin tone, activity level and body language. To protect children from the sun's direct rays, scheduled time outside may vary.

The Center is proud to include outings to the bank, lake, fire station, park, library, and other neighborhood establishments as part of our curriculum. These everyday trips for children are much like the one they take with their families. Being in the community fosters language development, expands sensory motor development, helps children become familiarized with different people and activities, and helps them to patch together an understanding of how the world around them functions and how they are a part of it.

At time of enrollment, you are asked to sign a permission slip (blue card) for these local walking trips. Your child will not be able to participate without a signed blue card. If permission is not granted, your child will need to stay behind as a guest in another classroom if space is available or be kept home if space is not available.

### **Meals at My Place:**

My Place after school program provides afternoon snacks for all children. Our menus are approved by a registered dietician and meet the USDA requirements for a well-balanced diet. Mealtimes are times when staff and children can sit together and have conversations about their day. Staff sit and eat with the children to model healthy eating habits and proper table manners.

Menus are posted in the cafeteria and in our Procure app. Please make sure you notify your child's teacher of any food allergies. For all allergies, we will have you complete an individual allergy plan.

On full program days, we provide the children with a nutritious breakfast, in addition to an afternoon snack. We ask that your child packs lunch on full days. We will have extra lunch supplies on hand if your child doesn't pack one or needs one.

### **Outside Food and Beverage**

Children who have a medical dietary restriction need to provide the center with documentation from their health care provider on the OCFS form provided.

Children have unlimited access to water throughout the day. Guardians are encouraged to provide a water bottle for their child's backpack. The center cannot use food/beverage as a form of discipline or reward.

Although we make every effort to partner with families, we have found it difficult to accommodate outside food and beverage in the program. It often causes unnecessary conflict between children. Our menu provides a variety of healthy choices. If you bring food from home, your teacher will ask that your choices be comparable with our center menu. We will also encourage children not to share their food from home, due to allergies and other dietary restrictions.

### **Drop off and Pick Up Procedures:**

On full days, when dropping off your child at the beginning of their day, it is the families responsibility to make sure that their child is signed into the program and done so by our Procure app. During drop off, it is expected that parents will alert staff to their arrival and any changes to the normal routine the child may be experiencing.

When picking up, it is the guardian's responsibility to make sure that their child is signed out of the program and so by our Procure app. Parents can authorize others to pick up their child. This authorization must be made in writing. The Center will not release children to persons not authorized for pick up. It is expected that individuals authorized to pick up children will show valid photo identification prior to being allowed to take children from the Center. Children over 5 years old can identify people to be released to, with parental consent in writing. In cases of custodial disputes, the Center must have a copy of any paperwork that outlines court ordered custody agreements.

It is your responsibility to supervise your child when you are dropping off or picking up. To avoid children becoming lost or injured please be sure that your child and his or her siblings stay with you at all times and that they do not run ahead into another part of the building or into the parking lot unattended.

### **Accidents and Injuries:**

Bumps and bruises are a big part of childhood. In our program, our first line of defense against accidents and injuries is staff supervision. We structure our days to offer developmentally appropriate activities that allow the children to build new skills in an environment that minimizes the risks of accidents.

Unfortunately, despite all the effort we put forth, accidents and injuries will more than likely occur. Our procedure for responding to accidents and injuries is to first, provide first-aid and care to the injured child. Secondly, guardians will be notified by a staff person who witnessed the incident. A report will be input into Procure by the staff member before the parent arrives for pick up, further detailing the accident along with what happened leading up to the event, what staff were doing at the time, and any changes in environment that can be made to hopefully prevent the same thing from happening again. Families will be asked to review the report and offer any comments or suggestions for staff. The Director will be made aware of the incident and will monitor along with others, for specific patterns that can be fixed and avoided. Should an injury require additional medical attention, a report must be made to OCFS immediately.

### **Behavior Management:**

My Place After School Program recognizes that children are learning how to behave, display good citizenship, and communicate their needs among peers and with adults. My Place After School Programs role is to support, guide, and assist children with developing good interpersonal skills while in the program.

We believe in fostering a positive learning environment where children can develop social skills, emotional well-being, and respect for others. We expect all children to treat each other and staff with kindness and respect.

We utilize a positive behavior management approach, focusing on the following:

- **Redirection:** We will gently redirect children's attention to another activity when disruptive behavior occurs.
- **Environmental Adjustments:** We strive to create a stimulating and organized environment that minimizes opportunities for disruptive behavior. We may adjust the environment based on needs.
- **Addressing Children's Needs:** We recognize that children's behavior can be influenced by hunger, tiredness, or emotional needs. We will address these needs to help children regulate their behavior.
- **Quiet Area:** We will provide a supervised, quiet area in the cafeteria where children can calm down or rest if needed.

### **Unsafe Behaviors:**

A child may be advised to take a break from an activity if their behavior is causing disruption to the point that other children are unable to complete the scheduled activity. This time period should be brief but time enough for a child to regain their composure and discuss a recovery plan with staff. Children will be permitted to rejoin the activity when ready.

If a child is unable to regain their composure and discuss a recovery plan with staff and the behavior continues, the child may be directed to an alternate activity in another area of the program. Within a short timeframe and when the child is ready, staff will discuss behavior expectations and develop a recovery plan with the child. If needed, family member may be contacted to form a plan of success with their child for the remainder of the day.

While we understand some behaviors are developmentally expected, in the event that a child's behavior is disruptive and the child is non-responsive to staff, the guardian will be called to make arrangements to have the child removed from the program for that day. In the event that a child's behavior is chronically disruptive to daily programming, a conference will be held with the child's guardians and designated program staff. A

behavior plan will be developed in which expresses the expectation of the program staff, guardian and child in resolving the chronic behavior.

Behavior having a high frequency, duration, or intensity may result in suspension/dismissal from the program. These behaviors may include, but are not limited to:

- Intentionally hurting/endangering others or self (physically or emotionally)
- Willful destruction of property
- Behavior that causes disruption to the program schedule
- Repeatedly disrespecting staff or other children
- Exhibiting behavior that could be characterized as harassment or bullying
- Threatening violence against another child, staff or school personnel
- Leaving the designated room, group, or building without permission
- Possessing illegal substances or weapons

### **Consequence System**

We utilize a progressive consequence system to address unsafe behaviors.

- **1st Incident:** Verbal Warning - Staff will discuss the incident with the child and inform the guardian at pick-up. Guardians will sign an incident report via Procure and behavioral incident form and schedule a conference to discuss further strategies for supporting the child's behavior.
- **2nd Incident:** Written Warning - Staff will have a more in-depth conversation with the child and Guardians at pick-up. Guardians will sign an incident report via Procure, behavioral incident form, schedule a conference and potentially have school personnel involved.
- **3rd Incident:** Dismissal from Program - If the unacceptable behavior continues, the child will be dismissed from the program. Guardians will be notified immediately via phone and will be asked to sign an incident report and the final, conclusive behavioral incident form.

### **Physical Intervention**

We prioritize the safety of all children. Physical intervention may be used in rare instances to prevent immediate harm to a child or others. This includes:

- Picking a child up to remove them from danger or conflict
- Holding a child's hands or gently guiding their movement to ensure safety
- Rocking a child to calm them
- Blocking a child's path when they are about to injure themselves or damage property.

Corporal punishment is strictly prohibited in our program. Regulation 414.9(j) states: Corporal punishment is prohibited. For the purposes of this part, the term corporal punishment means punishment inflicted directly on the body including, but not limited to, physical restraint, spanking, biting, shaking, slapping, twisting or squeezing; demanding excessive physical exercise, prolonged lack of movement or motion, or strenuous or bizarre postures; and compelling a child to eat or have in the child's mouth soap, foods, hot spices, irritants or the like. Regulation 414.9(m) states: any methods of discipline or interaction which frighten, demean, or humiliate a child are prohibited.

**Please take a moment to review the responsibilities of the My Place staff, guardians and children.**

**Prior to the first day of the program, please review and discuss the “Child Responsibilities” portion with your child. Please talk about what each responsibility looks like for your child during their time in the program.**

#### **Staff Responsibilities**

- Staff will receive ongoing Behavior Management training.
- Staff will implement behavior management tools.
- Staff will be open to suggestions from parents/guardians.
- Staff will document concerns as required by program policies and procedures.
- Staff will communicate with their Site Directors when they need additional tools for managing behaviors.

#### **Guardian Responsibilities**

- Parents/Guardians are expected to be responsive when the program is contacting them during program hours. If they are not generally available at that time, it is expected that they have an alternate person that can discuss and address behavior concerns during program hours.
- Parents/Guardians will be expected to work with staff to encourage appropriate behavior and the learning of new skills.
- Parents/Guardians must be willing to meet and communicate with the Program Director, if the need arises.
- Each family's child-rearing values and their right to make decisions for their child will be taken into consideration; however, My Place staff are required to follow all NYS Office of Child and Family Services School-Age Child Care Regulations.

#### **Child Responsibilities:**

- Make safe choices.
- Be responsible for your actions.
- Respect the rights of others--keep hands and body parts to self!
- Respect program/school property and property of others.



- Use acceptable language.
- Listen and follow directions of staff.
- Remain with a staff person at all times.

**I have received, reviewed and understand how My Place After School Program will manage behavior while my child is in the program. I have received and reviewed the OCFS Plan for Behavior Management. If I have any questions, I can contact the Program Director by calling 607-301-0399 or email the director at [cassandra.ball@myplace-aplc.org](mailto:cassandra.ball@myplace-aplc.org).**

Guardian 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian 2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Supervision

To ensure the safety and well-being of all children, My Place After School Program adheres to providing competent supervision at all times to all children in attendance in the program; competent supervision will occur in all designated program spaces indoors or outdoors.

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6120 BOCAIR STREET  
Watkins Glen, New York 14891  
(607) 535-8908

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 2:15PM to 6:00 PM

Regulation 414.8(a) Children cannot be left without competent direct supervision at any time. Competent supervision includes the awareness of and responsibility for the ongoing activity of each child. It requires that all children be within a teacher's range of vision and that the teacher be near enough to respond when redirection or intervention strategies are needed. Competent supervision must take into account the child's age, emotional, physical, and cognitive development.

- **Roving Staff:** At all times, one staff member must be actively roving the program area, ensuring a clear line of sight for all children, as well as be close enough to intervene if needed.
- **Name to Face Checks:** Using the tracking system procedure, staff will conduct Name to Face checks of all children every 15 minutes. This involves visually verifying each child's presence and well-being.
- **Procure App Usage:** When a staff member needs to use the Procure App to log information, an additional staff member must be present to actively supervise the children. Regulation 414.8(n) states: the use of any type of device for social or entertainment purposes, listening to music on headphones, playing screen games, using the internet, or making personal calls while supervising children is prohibited. The use of mobile phones is permitted as necessary to promote the children's safety and ensure the orderly operation of the program.

### **Tracking System Procedure**

Using the tracking system procedure, staff will conduct Name to Face checks of all children every 15 minutes. This involves visually verifying each child's presence and well-being by using the face tracking cards.

- The picture will be a headshot with the child's name printed on the white portion of the picture.
- Any allergies or important information will be on the back of the card for confidentiality.
- Lost cards will be reported to the Program Director and replaced immediately.
- Cards will be stored on the "signed-out" board when the program is not in session.

### **Usage**

- When staff arrive, they will confirm (group) attendance for the day.
- Program Director or Next In Command will review absences, and staff will note the information on a group attendance/ Procure.
- Staff will retrieve the cards of the children expected to attend each day and put them in their lanyard based on appropriate ratios.

- The staff will confirm that all children have arrived. If an expected child does not arrive, the staff will immediately report it to the Program Director Next in Command,
- All staff assigned to the group are expected to know who is present for the day. Staff will communicate with each other when a child leaves/returns to (the group).
- Staff will use the board in conjunction with a group list throughout program as a tool in maintaining appropriate supervision by:
  - Having the board placed in a conspicuous manner.
  - Using the cards to help identify children by the picture.
  - Taking attendance throughout the program including but not limited to when the group moves from one area of program to another.
  - Tracking the number of children present throughout the program.
- Staff members are to communicate with all other staff directly when it is time for a child to enter or leave the program for the day.

### **Child Responsibilities**

- Children inform staff of bathroom usage. Staff will make note on the white board, and communicate whereabouts to other staff on team.
- Children will ask staff when they need to leave the group area and report their return to the group area.

### **Responsibility to the School**

My Place After School Program is housed in the Watkins Glen Elementary school building, therefore; the Watkins Glen Central School District's Student and Family Handbook applies to all My Place's staff, parents, children, and other visitors while on school property. Refer to Watkins Glen Central School District Student and Family Handbook at [Student Handbook | Watkins Glen Elementary School \(wgcsd.org\)](http://StudentHandbook|WatkinsGlenElementarySchool(wgcsd.org)).

My Place After School Program is obligated to report when a serious violation of the Student and Family Handbook occurs. If this occurs, the parent/guardian and child may be required to meet with the Program Director and School Personnel regarding the offense.

### **Medications:**

Some My Place staff has been trained to administer medication to children as prescribed by a physician. If a child becomes ill and needs medication, it is the responsibility of the parent to come and administer it. Please refer to our health care plan for further information.

All My Place staff are able to administer over the counter, non-medicated items such as lotions, sunscreen, triple antibiotic ointment, diaper rash cream, and lip balm, all of over-the-counter medication needs to be labeled with the child's full name and requires written parent permission. Please see classroom teacher for this nonmedication consent form.

### **Health Care and Sick Children:**

Any child who has any of the following **must** be excluded from the Center:

- A suspected or diagnosed communicable disease as defined by the New York State Department of Health until evaluated and approved for inclusion by a health care provider to participate in the program.
- A fever is defined as the following by the American Academy of Pediatrics as:
  - Ear or Temporal Artery (TA) temperature: 100.4 F° (38.0° C) or higher
  - Oral or Pacifier temperature: 100° F (37.8° C) or higher
  - Under the arm (Axillary or Armpit) temperature: 99° F (37.2° C) or higher
  - Limitation: Ear (Tympanic Membrane) temperatures are not reliable before 6 months of age
- A child six months or older with a fever which is accompanied by a behavior change, stiff neck, rash, unusual irritability, poor feeding, vomiting or excessive crying
- Head lice: The Center has a "Nit Free" policy. This means that a child cannot return until they are completely free of all nits
- Less than four months of age – forceful vomiting more than once
- Neck pain when the child's head is moved or touched
- A stiff neck or severe headache and looking very sick
- A seizure for the first time
- Vomiting not associated with crying/coughing/gag
- Acting unusually confused
- Unequal pupils (black centers of the eyes)
- A blood-red or purple rash made up of pinhead-sized spots or bruises that are not associated with injury
- A rash of hives or welts that appears and spreads quickly
- Breathing so fast or hard that the child cannot play, talk, cry or drink
- A severe stomachache that causes the child to double up and scream
- A stomachache without vomiting or diarrhea after a recent injury, blow to the abdomen or hard fall
- Stools that are black or have blood mixed through them
- Stools that cannot be contained by a diaper or pull up
- Not urinating at least once in 8 hours, dry mouth, no tears or sunken eyes
- Continuous clear drainage from the nose after a hard blow to the head

- Open blisters caused by Hand, Foot and Mouth virus

Children may return to care under the following conditions:

- Are symptom free and fever free without fever reducing medication for **24 hours** and can participate in care

OR

- With a note from a licensed health care provider giving permission to return to care

Children can return 24 hours after they have begun medication if diagnosed with:

- Conjunctivitis
- Impetigo
- Scabies
- Ringworm
- Strep Throat

Additional guidance will be provided as needed during times of national health crisis. This information will be published on our website [www.myplace-aplc.org](http://www.myplace-aplc.org) and emailed to families.

### **FAMILY HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I/we, the undersigned, agree to enroll my/our child, \_\_\_\_\_, at My Place. I/we understand that My Place assumes responsibility for my/our child's well-being during the hours he/she is in care and that Center staff will make every effort to reach me/us should any accident or illness arise.

I acknowledge that I/we can access the Family Handbook at [www.myplace-aplc.com](http://www.myplace-aplc.com). My/Our signature(s) constitutes my/our understanding of and agreement to abide by the policies described in the Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Noel Wheaton, Assistant Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## PHOTO PERMISSION

I/WE grant permission for my child to have his/her photograph taken, if the photographer is approved by the director. Use of the photo could be used in center related promotional materials and social media posts.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

I/WE grant permission for the center staff to email me/us at the following address:

\_\_\_\_\_