



First Unitarian Society of Westchester Youth Sleepover Policy

We come together for worship, community, learning and fun. We are a group of individuals with diverse backgrounds, opinions and interpersonal skills. As part of the First Unitarian Society of Westchester community, we are called to behave well toward one another, to care for and protect one another as much as possible, and to express ourselves in healthy ways that respect others' boundaries. Toward that end, a common understanding of behavior in specific situations can be helpful. This document provides guidelines to ensure that youth sleepovers at the Society are as safe as they are fun by encouraging the well-being, safety and best interests of everyone attending the event.

1. The class or youth group covenant will serve as a guide for respectful interaction.
2. There will be a ratio of at least one adult per every eight youth. A minimum of two adults must be present at all times. Adults who are married or in domestic partnership may only chaperon at the same time if there is a third adult.
3. Adults supervising youth sleepovers must be active participants at First U for at least one year or after six months if they have had previous youth group experience in a Metro New York congregation. This does not apply to parents who are staying over with their own youth.
4. Adult chaperons will maintain a list of attendees and emergency contact phone numbers.
5. All external doors will remain locked during the duration of overnight events and youth are required to stay inside the building during sleeping hours.
6. Matches and chalices will only be lit in the context of a group activity or worship.
7. All attendees (youth and adults) will refrain from use of alcohol and illegal drugs during events.
8. All attendees (youth and adults) will refrain from sexual encounters during events.
9. All participants agree to respectful and responsible use of the Society building.
10. Youth participants must have a current signed RE participation and authorization forms on record with medical and emergency contact information.
11. No outside guests.

This document remains in effect during the 2017-2018 Fellowship year for _____.
(youth name)

Youth Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Phone Numbers