

Princeton-Blairstown Center

Chaperone Information



Welcome to the Princeton-Blairstown Center.

We appreciate your dedication to the young people you are accompanying. We hope this presentation will be helpful in defining your role and responsibilities.



Participant safety is our primary concern. We need your help!





As a chaperone you will be asked to take on a number of assignments. Your role is critical to the group's success.

During non-program hours, you will be responsible for student supervision. Students should be supervised at all times.





There should be at least two adults in every cabin at night. Quiet hours are from 10:30 PM until 7:00 AM. Be prepared with strategies to settle your cabin down for the night. Sleep is important.

Suggested Evening Activities

- ▶ Group reading/Story time
- ▶ Storytelling
- ▶ Individual reading time
- ▶ Embers - guided reflection
- ▶ Journaling
- ▶ Meditation
- ▶ Board games

We have two modern wash houses. Students should be monitored while using them.





During programming, we will ask you to assume many roles:

Observer

Commentator

Cheerleader

Listener

Follower

Referee

Disciplinarian

But not team leader.





We will push your group to go outside their comfort zone. This may cause some conflict. You can help us watch for “teachable moments”.



We run programs rain or shine, so come prepared to be outdoors (bring a hat and weatherproof raingear) and role model a positive attitude.





Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing.

▶ It is typical for groups to go through stages of development. We will debrief and reflect on this at times. Please feel free to offer your pride, praise and insights in a supportive, growth focused manner like any group member as we debrief.

The Group is the Star

Your group may ask you to participate. If you do, please be a silent participant. Do not give the team hints, ideas or answers.



“A leader is best when people barely know he exists,
when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say:
we did it ourselves.”

- Lao Tzu



During High Ropes Activities...

- ▶ We will work with a climber and a belay team of four or five participants. Please encourage group members to take on belay team responsibilities.
- ▶ Please keep other participants –who are not directly involved - focused, supportive, and safe.



As a chaperone, you may have an opportunity to try a high element.

Please understand our goal is students first, and if time permits, staff second.



“Only those who
risk going too far
can possibly find
out how far one
can go.”

-TS Eliot





THANK YOU!

- ▶ We count on you to lead by example!
- ▶ Thank you for being a positive role model by staying with your group during PBC activities, by using your cell phone discreetly (if at all), by supporting our restoration efforts after meals, and by observing quiet hours after 10:30 PM.





“Success travels in the company of hard work. There is no trick, no easy way.”

-John Wooden

