



Cabin Leader Guidelines

Thank you for your desire to partner with us in ministry! At Calvin Crest, we collaborate with churches and leaders and give you the tools you need to assist young people in coming into relationship with Jesus in an emotionally, physically, and spiritually safe environment. During the application process, please do not hesitate to ask us if you have any questions about the camp, the program, or what is or isn't appropriate as a cabin leader. Here are some of the things we expect from you as a cabin leader at Calvin Crest:

As you work with campers this week, it is our expectation that:

- **You would know them**
 - By learning faces and names, participating in activities with them, leading cabin discussion times, and spending time with each of your campers.
 - TIP: Set up one-on-ones during free-time in a public place like at the pool, lawn or craft condo area. Calvin Crest's policy is that a camper and cabin leader should never be alone together to help protect both the camper and cabin leader.
- **They would know and trust you**
 - Be available to your campers, and a good listener. Accept campers for their uniqueness. Be positive and be yourself, but remember to act as a leader - not another camper!
- **They would increase their relationship with Jesus in areas of trust, faith, and knowledge**
 - For all to feel welcome, included and accepted we need to be purposeful about creating an environment of spiritual safety. This type of environment encourages questions, exploration, thought, understanding, openness, growth, sharing, interaction, and inclusion.
 - Never make up an answer. If you don't know, let the camper know you're excited to find out the answer together. (Then find out the answer - there are many resources available to you!)
- **We would be safe**
 - Know where your campers are at all times - you are always responsible for them. Sit with your campers at meals and campfires. Join them on hikes and during games.
 - Campers and cabin leaders are not to leave Calvin Crest grounds without prior permission. In case of emergency, we need to be able to account for all staff, campers, and cabin leaders.
 - Weapons of all kinds, drugs, and alcohol are prohibited. If you are of legal smoking age, the designated smoking area is in the main parking lot by the luggage platform when campers are not present. Please do not smoke or use lighters/matches in the forest.
- **We would have fun**
 - Model acceptable camp behavior. Speak in a way that builds others up (avoid sarcasm and jokes that embarrass others). Pranks of any kind are unacceptable.
 - Encourage campers to try new things and conquer their fears. Enjoy activities, games, and events alongside them.
 - Tell stories that make campers think and laugh - scary stories and crude humor are not appropriate.