

Behavior Policy

Updated 3/10/2021

At SteppingStone, we value each young person's unique skills and ideas. We strive to meet young people where they are and empower them to problem solve and find solutions to their problems. Young people are at the center of our behavior policies and we believe they are individually and collectively responsible for their actions, words, and treatment of others.

At the start of each program, Teaching Artists will communicate expectations for participation. If expectations are not met, SteppingStone uses a three-step process to address issues with young artists.

1. Young Artists take an in-class break from activities and have a conversation with the teaching artist or assistant.

2. Young Artists take an out-of-class break from activities and participate in an extended conversation with the teaching artist, assistant, or education staff.

3. Education staff notifies the young artist's caregiver to discuss the concern and initiates an action plan for the following day(s) of class.

Action plans will be created in conversation with the young artist, caregiver, and SST staff. All parties will agree to the plan and reassess as necessary. If concerns persist, continued participation in class will be addressed.

We make every effort to work through and resolve conflicts in our programs so young people can be successful. If a young person needs a specific kind of support structure or tactic for class, please contact us prior to the program at education@steppingstonetheatre.org or include the info on your registration form. We are familiar with IEPs and similar support plans used in the school system. We are happy to discuss support tactics with you directly so your young artist can be successful in SteppingStone programs.

Zero Tolerance Policy

SteppingStone Theatre has a zero-tolerance policy for acts of violence against other young people or staff. This could include hitting, punching, kicking, verbal threats of violence, or discriminatory language. The safety and well-being of our community is a top priority and we take acts of violence and threats very seriously. Young Artists will be immediately asked to leave the program and caregivers will be notified.

SteppingStone will take into account developmentally-appropriate actions & behaviors. Regardless, any acts of violence will be taken very seriously and mediated appropriately.