

Parent Responsibilities

1. Parents and Guardians are required to be in the building while their child(ren) is in babysitting.
2. The first time you use the babysitting program we ask that you fill out an informational sheet about your child including emergency information. This information must be updated annually.
3. You must sign your child(ren) in and out of Kids' Club each time you visit as well as list where you are in the building. Once signed in to babysitting, children of any age are not permitted to leave the program until a parent/guardian signs the child out of the program.
4. If your child is unable to toilet him/herself, we will alert you to come change a diaper or accompany to the bathroom.
5. If ever there is a problem or issue relating to your child, a Y staff member will notify you ASAP.
6. The child will only be released to either the parent who dropped him/her off in the room or to someone who was designated for pick-up on the child's informational sheet. Please be aware that staff will be asking for a picture ID if they have not met the person picking up your child.
7. To parents of children with food allergies: please be advised that we cannot guarantee that the babysitting room is completely peanut and allergy free due to shared space. *Please inform our staff of your child's allergy so we can take extra precautions!*

Cape Ann YMCA Babysitting

Give your children a safe place to play while you make use of the YMCA!



Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00am - 1:00pm

3:30pm - 7:00pm

(till 8:00pm on Tuesdays)

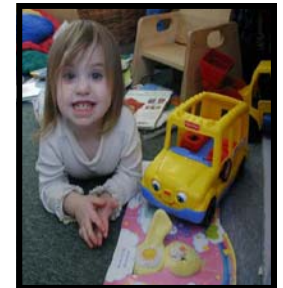
Friday

8:00am - 1:00pm

Saturday

8:00am - 11:30am

Designed to accommodate children 6 weeks old to 8 years. Older children may attend but should bring appropriate activities to do.



Welcome to babysitting at the Cape Ann YMCA — we're excited you decided to come and play with us! This handbook outlines our guidelines for a safe, respectful and fun time for all.

Why do we offer a babysitting service?

We offer a safe place for our members and participants to leave their children while they participate in activities at this YMCA. Your children will be in a safe and fun environment while you make use of all the YMCA has to offer.

Who is the babysitting program designed for?

The minimum age is 6 weeks old. The babysitting program is designed for temporary care of children, so we do ask that a **two hour daily maximum** be respected. In addition, we do ask that older children please understand that the room has limited "entertainment" for children 9 years and up, and they should bring a safe and appropriate activity with them.

Who are the staff in the babysitting program?

The babysitting program is supervised by the Membership Director. Generally we attempt to maintain an 8:1 ratio in the room itself. We do attempt to meet the needs of all those members and participants that drop in for babysitting services. At least one staff will be CPR and First Aid Certified. All staff and volunteers have background checks before they began work at the YMCA.

Fees

Babysitting service is **free** to all persons who hold a **Family Membership**. If you have an adult-only or youth-only membership, then you will be charged the \$2.50/hour fee. If a YMCA Family Member brings children that are not their own, those children must be a part of a YMCA Family Membership or they will be charged the \$2.50/hour fee per child. YMCA staff may utilize the babysitting room for their child(ren) during their shift. However, if YMCA staff want to use the babysitting room at a time when they are not working, they must hold a Family Membership or pay the \$2.50/hour fee.

Food in the Babysitting Room

The YMCA is aware that many children who make use of the babysitting program have allergies to food, some of them potentially life-threatening. *We ask that parents please refrain from bringing any peanuts or peanut products into the babysitting room.* We understand this may be an inconvenience, but the safety of every child is our primary concern. **To parents of children with food allergies:** The YMCA will do everything possible to keep the babysitting room free of products. Please be advised, however, that because we are a drop-in program with shared space, it is not possible to guarantee that the room is completely peanut free. Please inform our babysitters of your child's allergy so we can take extra precautions to ensure his or her safety!

Sick Policy

The YMCA is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment, and to that end, we would like to remind parents/guardians that if their child (ren) are ill or have been ill within the past 24 hours to please refrain from bringing them to the babysitting room.

Types of illness include: common cold with runny nose and/or cough, Flu, chicken pox, high fever of 100 degrees or more, head lice, poison ivy, and any other contagious disease

In the event that a child becomes ill during a visit at the YMCA, we ask that parents/guardians adhere to our guidelines regarding illness, and remove their child(ren) from the facility. If any parent/guardian arrives at the babysitting room with a child(ren) that are clearly sick, the child (ren) will not be permitted into the room. This will help to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all.

Closed Days

Memorial Day	Christmas Eve (closed at 1pm)
July 4 th	Christmas
Labor Day	New Year's Eve (closed at 1pm)
Halloween (No evening babysitting)	New Year's Day
Thanksgiving	

Inclement Weather Policies

All inclement weather updates will be posted on www.northshoreymca.org. Generally, when Gloucester Public Schools are closed, &/or a city-wide parking ban is in effect, babysitting will be closed, but please be sure to call or check the website!