

# **VIRTUAL RAINBOW GANG RULES AND EXPECTATIONS**

(Updated 2021)

## **Welcome to The VIRTUAL Rainbow Gang RBG!**

**The Virtual Rainbow Gang is a free program enriching the lives of those with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Our unique program offers a wide variety of virtual activities such as physical fitness, art expressions, games, and other recreational activities. An application process is in place to efficiently and effectively meet the needs of current and future participants.**

**Below are the expectations to be accepted into this program. If all of the below expectations cannot be met, acceptance can't be permitted. Please review the frequently asked questions (FAQ's) regarding certain expectations for further clarity if this program would be a good fit for your participant(s).**

### **FAQ's**

1. Participants must have finished or aged out of high school.
2. Participants must have a documented intellectual disability.
3. Participants must have reliable internet connection, and properly functioning equipment to be able to interact visually and audibly during video sessions.
4. Participants must be able to have minimal behavioral outbursts.
5. Cell phones are not permitted to be used during video calls unless the participant is connecting from a cell phone.
6. Participant must be able to demonstrate an appropriate level of engagement.
7. Must commit to full time; Mon-Thu 10am, 11am and 1pm session times.

### **Attendance**

1. Unexcused Absences - Virtual Rainbow Gang members are allowed 25 days of unexcused absences per calendar year (January-December). In order for an absence to be excused, you must have a doctor's note, a death in the family, family vacation or camp.
  - a. Vacations/Camp must be submitted in writing 7 business days prior to departure.
    - i. If vacation/camp isn't submitted prior to departure absence will be counted as unexcused.

- b. Any absences past 25 days will require a doctor's note in order for the Virtual RBG participant to return.
  - c. If expectations are not met, Virtual RBG spot will be forfeited
- 2. Tardy Policy - A participant logging in 10+ plus minutes after the activity has started will not be able to login and will be counted absent. Please communicate with the coordinator as logging in late will be at their discretion.
- 3. Leave of Absence - Virtual RBG members will be given 12 weeks for a medical leave with a doctor's note.
  - a. If the Virtual RBG member can return, a review of the application with the participant's legal guardian/parents will be scheduled before the return of the Virtual RBG participant to review any changes.
  - b. If the Virtual RBG member can't return after 12 weeks, their spot will be forfeited. *\*Attendant will be allowed to re-apply once cleared by the doctor*
- 4. Changes in Needs - In the event that a participant becomes unable to engage in virtual sessions, appropriately respond/participate when called on, or has a need that can no longer be met by the Virtual RBG staff, notification of relinquishing their spot will be communicated with the primary contact. Participants will then have 4 weeks to find an alternate program.
- 5. Weeks off - Virtual RBG will be closed for Spring Break, July 4<sup>th</sup> week, Thanksgiving, and Christmas/New Years.

## **Program Overview**

- 1. Program Hours - Virtual RBG is held Monday through Thursday with sessions at 10am, 11am and 1pm
  - a. Participants are expected to log on promptly (no later than 10 minutes after the session time) and participate the full length of each session

## **Behavior**

1. Must have respect for Virtual RBG coordinator and peers
2. Must be considerate of others in the chat room, be able to wait their turn, and listen when others are speaking
3. Disrespectful or distracting behavior will not be tolerated (outbursts, talking over others, other forms of distraction, or direct defiance and talking back etc.)
4. Special Population Recreation “The Rainbow Gang” Virtual and In-person Staff reserves the right to determine other behaviors not listed above as non-compliant.

## **Consequences**

1. When rules are not followed by participants, there will be 3 verbal warnings of infraction.
2. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> verbal warning there will be a referral/write up given and parents will be notified.
  - a. Parents/Legal Guardian will need to sign a referral/write up and return before participant can return to Virtual RBG.
  - b. Students with 3 write ups within 1 calendar year (Jan-Dec) will forfeit their spot in Virtual RBG. *\*Attendant will not be allowed to reapply.*

## **Virtual RBG Rules for Fun**

1. Participate in activities provided.
2. Listen and obey Virtual RBG coordinator, volunteers and any other adults in the chat room
3. Tell staff if you have an issue. Do not handle them yourself.
4. Use your manners and kind words; foul language will not be tolerated.
5. Help one another.
6. Be respectful to others.
7. Demonstrate proper behavior.
8. Have FUN!

## **New Virtual Rainbow Gang Members**

1. Fill out an application for Special Population Recreation “The Virtual Rainbow Gang”. Applications can be found on our website; [www.andersouncountysc.org](http://www.andersouncountysc.org) or call the office 864-260-4142 Mon-Fri 9am-2pm.
2. Parents/Legal Guardians will be notified by RBG staff to schedule an online interview. RBG staff will then notify parents/legal guardians of acceptance via phone call. We will allow 5 business days for notification of acceptance of candidate’s spot.
3. The candidate will then be allotted a one month (30 consecutive days of attendance) evaluation period to adapt to our program. A meeting with parents/legal guardians may be requested at the end of the 30 day period for review. During the evaluation period only excused absences will be allowed, any other missed days will cause candidates to forfeit their spot. Individuals who fail to meet the expectations of our program will meet with parents and staff for release. Release is at the staff’s discretion.

# **Rainbow Gang Rules and Expectations Agreement**

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**Please read, sign, date and return:**

I have fully read the rules and regulations for The Virtual Rainbow Gang. I understand the listed rules and regulations. I understand that if my participant doesn't follow these rules, he/she will forfeit their spot. Depending on the infraction(s) my child/participant may forfeit their chance to reapply.

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_