

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday–Friday

8:30 AM–7:30 PM

Room will close at 7:00 PM if no children are present

Saturday

10:00–3:00 PM

Closed Sunday



DAILY SCHEDULE

8:30 AMOpen/Breakfast
10:00 AM.....Dance/Music
11:00 AM.....Gym
11:45 AM.....Lunch
12:15 PM.....Nap/Rest Time
2:30 PM.....Outside/Gym
3:15 PMSnack
3:30 PM.....Afternoon Activity
4:15 PMFree Play/Choice Time
5:00 PM.....Snack
6:00 PMGoNoodle/Music
7:30 PMClose

CHILDWATCH

Parent Handbook

YMCA OF GREATER MICHIANA

Niles–Buchanan Branch

905 N. Front Street, Niles, MI 49120

(269) 683-1552 • ymcagm.org



**YMCA OF
GREATER
MICHIANA**

WELCOME TO YMCA CHILDWATCH!

The goal of the YMCA Childwatch is to serve the best interests of the children in our care. Our guidelines help us provide for our Childwatch in the smoothest way possible and allow us to address the health and safety concerns of your child. **If you have any questions, please contact Childwatch Team at 269-683-1552.**

CHILDWATCH

AGES 6 WEEKS-12 YEARS

Open year-round!

- Household Memberships: Free
- Daily Drop-In: \$5

Childwatch will close early if there are no children in the room. Hours are subject to change based on usage. Payment must be made beforehand. Please give your receipt to Childwatch staff when signing in your child(ren).

WE WILL

- Make sure your baby is safe.
- Provide care and nurture children.
- Make sure we take care of their needs.
- Be on the floor with them during tummy time.
- Ensure they are aligned with safe-sleep standards.

WE WILL NOT

- Use blankets or pillows. *(under age of 12 months)*
- Allow your infant to sleep in a car seat.
- Allow your infant to sleep in a bouncy seat.
- Allow your infant to sleep in a swing.

RULES & REGULATIONS

- **Please do not open gate in Childwatch room at any time.**
- We have a 3-hour time limit per child per day.
- Only a parent or legal guardian on file may sign in and out their own child(ren).
- You must remain in the YMCA facility at all times while child(ren) are signed in.
- The YMCA is not responsible for any lost or broken items.

SNACKS & DRINKS

- **All children, including infants, must come into the room fed.**
- **Snacks are permitted in the Childwatch area, they should be provided by parent/guardian and be already prepared. Food should be similar to what you would send to school.**

- Staff cannot warm foods in the microwave with the exception of baby food/formula.
- If room is busy, a parent/guardian may be asked to come to the room to tend to feedings.
- Please alert staff to any allergies your child may have.
- Please no gum in Childwatch area.
- Please inform staff if your child's snack contains nuts.

STAFF CERTIFICATIONS

Our Childwatch staff hold a variety of certifications to ensure we offer the best care possible. All Childwatch staff are certified in CPR, first aid, Infant Safe Sleep, Child Abuse & Neglect, Bloodborn Pathogens, and Health & Safety Training.

BATHROOM NEEDS

- **Diapers must be freshly changed before signing into Childwatch.**
- **You will need to leave a diaper bag with disposable diapers, wipes, extra clothes, and other items your child might need.**
- If your child needs assistance in the bathroom, we will assist as much as possible before calling you.
- Children currently being potty trained must be in pull-ups while at Childwatch.

ILLNESS

To keep all children healthy, we ask that children who show signs of illness, such as fever, diarrhea due to illness, persistent cough, thick green nasal discharge, vomiting, pink eye, or unexplained rash, stay home from Childwatch. **If your child has been prescribed an antibiotic, we ask that they have a full 24-hour dose before returning. Those with fever over 100 degrees must be fever-free without medication for 24 hours before returning.**

- We reserve the right to refuse entry if we feel your child is too ill to attend.
- If your child becomes ill while in our care, we will contact the parent immediately.
- Please contact us if your child becomes ill after attending Childwatch.

BEHAVIOR

Our goal is to provide a safe, healthy, happy environment for your children while they are at the YMCA. Childwatch is committed to building the self-esteem, character, and positive self-concept of each child. If a behavior issue arises, such as biting or hitting, we will use positive approaches like time away or redirection to encourage appropriate behavior. In cases where these approaches are not successful, we will do all that we can to work with the parent(s) to resolve issues.

SAFE SLEEP

At the YMCA, your child's health and safety is our priority. Our childcare programs follow safe sleep practices from state licensing and the American Academy of Pediatrics.