

PARENT & CHILDREN HOUSE

GUIDELINES



Parent & Children Oxford Houses have a few additional guidelines in place to protect the children and the house as a whole.

- ▶ Children who spend 4 or more overnights per week at the house will be considered residents of the house. Children visiting during the day or spending 3 or less nights over are considered guests.
- ▶ Children must be age 10 or under at the time of the interview.
- ▶ No more than 1 child per parent. A parent with 2 children may be considered if both children are under the age of 3 and the room they will occupy is of adequate size.
- ▶ No more than 4 total children will live in the house at one time.
- ▶ The cost per child is \$25 per week (\$100 per month) in addition to the EES of the parent.
- ▶ The Child(ren) will share a single room with the parent and not occupy a chartered adult bed.
- ▶ Single rooms designated for parent and child can be occupied by an adult with no child, but must be vacated when a parent and child move-in, unless there are no open beds in another room.
- ▶ Pregnant women will move into the parent/child room after giving birth.
- ▶ Refusal to accept a parent and child because a member with no child wants to keep their single room is a violation of Tradition 1.
- ▶ Upon acceptance into the house, parents must read, sign, and adhere to the parent contract. Violations of the contract may result in an additional behavior contract or expulsion.
- ▶ No significant others are allowed to stay overnight by any member. No members of the opposite sex are allowed in bedrooms. They must remain in common areas.
- ▶ No sexual activity is allowed on the property.

TIPS:

The ideal house has 1 or 2 single rooms designated for parent and child(ren). It is suggested to also have at least 1 additional single room for an adult with no child so seasoned members can have an opportunity to move from a double room to a single room. Oxford House is not designed to house parents with 3 or more children. There are laws restricting the number of people that can occupy bed-rooms, based on square footage. Adult beds are never sacrificed to accommodate additional children. If a parent with too many children applies, or if the children are over the age of 10, we need to have contacts and referrals to try to help them find alternate housing options.

PARENT AGREEMENT

1. CHILDREN SHOULD BE RESPECTED AS HOUSEMATES
2. PARENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD'S BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES
3. PARENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP ANY MESSSES MADE BY CHILDREN IN A TIMELY FASHION. (30 MINUTES)
4. PARENT SHOULD NOT NAP OR SLEEP IN WHILE CHILD IS AWAKE. (THIS INCLUDES EARLY MORNINGS)
5. YOUNG CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ANSWER THE PHONE OR USE HOUSE COMPUTERS
6. CHILDREN MUST EAT AT DINING ROOM TABLE
7. RESPECT HOUSE QUIET TIME. (CHILDREN SHOULD BE IN PARENTS ROOM AND QUIET IF THEY ARE AWAKE AFTER QUIET TIME.)
8. IT IS PARENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO DISCIPLINE CHILD IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER
9. NO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, HITTING, YELLING, SWEARING OR CALLING CHILD INAPPROPRIATE NAMES. (THIS IS A PROGRAM OF CHANGE!!)
10. CHILDREN MUST RESPECT OTHERS ROOMS AND BOUNDARIES (INCLUDING COMMON AREAS)
11. COMMON AREAS NEED TO BE RESPECTED BY PARENT AND CHILD. (SUCH AS TOO MUCH NOISE TO HAVE A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION OR TOO MUCH NOISE TO NOT BE ABLE TO HEAR THE T.V.)
12. IF A PARENT CANNOT CONTAIN A DISRUPTIVE CHILD WITHIN TEN MINUTES, THE PARENT MUST TAKE THE CHILD TO THEIR ROOM OR AWAY FROM THE COMMON AREA, UNTIL THE CHILD HAS CALMED DOWN.
13. PARENT SHOULD BE ENROLLED IN PARENTING CLASSES OR HAVE COMPLETED ONE IN LAST 30 DAYS.
14. IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE CHILD, THE PARENT MUST BE ABLE TO CONTROL SAID CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES
15. IF PARENT CANNOT CONTROL MULTIPLE CHILDREN IN THE HOUSE AT ONE TIME, AND IT BECOMES DISRUPTIVE TO THE HOUSE, THE PARENT WILL BE ASKED TO MAKE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS. (SUCH AS HAVING CHILDREN VISIT ONE AT A TIME, OR MAKING PLANS TO TAKE CHILDREN OUT OF THE HOUSE FOR OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES)

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE OUR CHILDREN BACK IN OUR LIVES AND IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED, AS LONG AS WE AS PARENTS ARE GROWING ALONG WITH OUR CHILDREN. YOU MUST KEEP IN MIND, THIS IS A HOUSE WITH MANY MEMBERS AND WE NEED TO RESPECT THE PEACE AND SERENITY OF OUR HOUSEMATES. THIS AGREEMENT IS BEING PUT IN PLACE OUT OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR OURSELVES, OUR CHILDREN AND OUR HOUSEMATES. THEY REFLECT COMMON SENSE, COURTESY & RESPECT

SIGNED BY _____ DATED _____

BY SIGNING, I ACKNOWLEDGE & AGREE TO FOLLOW THE AGREEMENT ABOVE, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

PARENT CONTRACT

I, _____, as a member of Oxford House _____
Agree to abide by the rules of the House. I understand that if I am found to be using alcohol and/or other drugs, I will be expelled from the House without notice. As the parent of _____, who is also living in the House, I agree to the following provisions:

1. If expelled from the house, I am responsible, as the parent, for making the necessary housing arrangements for _____.
2. If expelled from the House and unable to make alternative housing arrangements for _____, I authorize any House member to contact _____ at _____ who has agreed to arrange for alternative housing for _____ minor child.

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____

Signature of President _____ Date _____

Signature of Treasurer _____ Date _____

On behalf of _____ minor child, I agree to make the following arrangements: _____

Signature of adult identified above #2 _____ Date _____

CONTRACT OF OXFORD HOUSE RESIDENCY FOR MEMBERS WITH CHILDREN INVOLVED WITH CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS)

I, _____ as a resident of Oxford House _____ Agree to abide by the rules of the House. I understand that if I am found to be using alcohol and/or other drugs, I will be expelled from the House without notice. As the mother of _____, who is also living in the House, I agree to the following provisions:

1. If expelled from the House, I am responsible, as the parent, for making the necessary housing arrangements for _____ minor child.
2. In the event that I am asked to leave this Oxford House because of substance abuse, I agree to notify the assigned Child Protective Services caseworker in order to insure the health and safety of _____ minor child. I also agree that any House member may notify the CPS caseworker in the event of my absence.

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____

Signature of President _____ Date _____

Signature of Treasurer _____ Date _____

Signature of CPS Caseworker _____ Date _____