



# HOUSE PARTY

## safety guidelines

Most of these guidelines are from the Safety Guidelines already outlined in the Traders Point Youth Leader Handbook. The spirit of these guidelines are for the safety of everyone: for our students, and for you. We have further specified these guidelines as they pertain to House Parties. This guide complements the Leader Handbook, it does not supersede it. If you choose to host or organize a House Party, you agree to abide by these guidelines as an addendum to the Leader Handbook you have already signed. If you have questions about any of these guidelines, please contact a Traders Point Youth Staff member to discuss.

- If you are hosting a House Party or gathering for your small group, you must notify Traders Point Youth Staff ahead of time using the House Party link on [tpcc.org/youth-leaders](http://tpcc.org/youth-leaders).
- There must always be at least two unrelated adults in attendance.
  - If needed, invite a parent or another leader to join you.
  - Consider a parent who already serves in a ministry at TPCC.
  - Consider another adult who already serves in a ministry at TPCC.
- All persons over 18 that will be present must have a current background check.
  - Youth staff can advise if a person has a current check on file.
  - Youth staff can begin a background check for any adult without a current one.
- Whatever the venue, the group must use only the common areas (living room, kitchen, etc.).
  - No member of the small group shall be in a bedroom or other room with a door (den, etc.).
  - The group should stay together on levels of the home (all in basement, all on first floor).
- Do not be alone with a student.
  - Make sure you are always in a common area of the venue.
  - If the student needs timely counsel, consider asking another leader to join the conversation or find a quieter place in a common room (e.g., the kitchen). If the counsel is not a timely manner, set up an appropriate time and location outside of the House Party event.
  - If you must give a student a ride to and/or from the event, another person must always be there as well. At least three people in the vehicle, always. Also, you must confirm with a parent that they approve of this arrangement.
- Maintain physical boundaries.
  - In a House Party environment, be wise about where you sit and the proximity to a student. Consider not sitting on the couch if two students are already occupying the couch. Instead, consider sitting on an individual chair.
- Bathroom Policy
  - No adult should ever be in the bathroom with a student.
  - If the gathering is held at a venue that has bathrooms with multiple stalls, adults must not be in the restroom at the same time as the student. Adults should attempt to find a separate restroom.