

Discipline Policy

Staff shall provide each child with guidance that helps the child acquire a positive self-concept. Discipline and behavior guidance used by each caregiver will at all times be constructive, positive and suited to the age of the child.

The following rules and standards will apply in the center:

1. To prevent unacceptable behavior from occurring, the staff will:
 - a. Model appropriate behavior.
 - b. Arrange the classroom environment to enhance the learning of behaviors that are acceptable.
 - c. Use descriptive praise when appropriate behavior is occurring (i.e. "Look how high you're building the blocks! Let's count them.")

2. When unacceptable behavior is about to occur/is occurring, the staff will use:
 - a. Redirection: change the focus of the activity or behavior.
 - b. Distraction: change the focus of the activity or behavior.
 - c. Active listening: to determine the underlying cause of the behavior.
 - d. Time out: separation from the group is used only when less intrusive methods have been tried and the behavior of the child is dangerous to himself or the other children. In the event that time out is used, the child will be separated from the group for a maximum of two minutes.

3. Holding and rocking of the child will be done frequently.

The program complies with all federal, state and local laws, which prohibit corporal or abusive punishment in childcare settings. Staff is expressly prohibited from using unproductive or shaming methods of punishment.

This program believes that parents and childcare staff must work together to deal with persistent behavioral issues such as biting, or unusual or dangerous aggression to self or others. If a child appears to be unusually stressed, anxious or otherwise motivated to engage in negative behaviors, parent will be consulted.

I have read and understand this document and this policy has been discussed with me.

Signature

Date