

Guidance and Discipline Policy

We maintain a positive discipline policy which focuses on prevention, redirection, love, consistency, and firmness. We stress two main patterns of behavior: respect for other people and respect for property.

The children are explained the rules of the daycare center frequently, so they are all familiar with the guidelines. The rules will be posted as a constant reminder. If a staff member feels as though a child is not following the rules of the center, the staff member will explain to the child what behavior is inappropriate as well as explain the consequences for those actions. This is done in an attempt to re-direct the child's inappropriate behavior. Limits and consequences shall be clear, consistently enforced, and explained to the child before and as part of any disciplinary action;

- The child will receive one warning.
- If a child continuously displays inappropriate behavior, the child will be removed from the group for a period of time not exceeding one minute per year of age.
- The parents of the child will be informed of the child's behavior at the time of the child's departure from the center.
- Infants and toddlers are not subject to time out. Any child less than 24 months shall not be removed from the group.

The following behaviors are prohibited in all child care settings per section 407.270 of the Illinois Licensing Standards for Daycare Centers:

- A. Corporal punishment, including hitting, spanking, swatting, beating, shaking, pinching, and other measures intended to include physical pain or fear;
- B. Threatened or actual withdrawal of food, rest or use of the bathroom;
- C. Abusive or profane language;
- D. Any form of public or private humiliation, including threats of physical punishment; and any form of emotional abuse, including shaming, rejecting, terrorizing, or isolating a child.

Children of preschool and school age will be given reasonable opportunity to resolve their own conflicts. As a general rule, we believe in the redirection of appropriate behavior. Staff members who have an ongoing relationship with the child, encourages and helps the child to develop self-control and assume the responsibility of their own actions. Discipline shall be developmentally appropriate and logically related to the child's act and shall not be out of proportion to the particular inappropriate behavior. The child shall be made aware of the relationship between the act and the consequences.

When there is a specific plan for responding to a child's pattern of unacceptable behavior, all staff who affect the child shall be aware of the plan and cooperate in its implementation.

If the inappropriate behavior continues, the center director will meet with the child to discuss and encourage the appropriate behavior. The parent will be notified of the counseling. If the child's behavior becomes violent and possibly endangers the other children or staff, termination of services may result following a meeting with the parents and center director.

Parent

Date

Director

Date