



Positive Guidance and Discipline Policy

Following Positive Behavior Support guidelines; staff will:

1. Staff will, with the help of the children, establish simple, understandable classroom rules for children's behavior and shall explain them to the children. Staff will review the rules throughout the year and consistently follow through if rules are broken.
2. Expectations for a child's behavior shall be appropriate for the developmental level of that child.
3. Only positive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions.
4. Redirection, praise and encouragement of good behavior shall be used instead of focusing on unacceptable behavior.
5. Time out, a brief supervised separation from the group, may be used when rules are not being followed to allow the child learning and thinking time. The length of time out will be determined by a guideline of one minute for each year of the child's age. The location designated for time out will allow staff to monitor the child.
6. Children shall not be left alone or unsupervised at any time. Children shall not be disciplined by placing them in an isolated or frightening area such as a closet or unlit room.
7. Physical punishment or other discipline techniques which humiliates, threatens or frightens a child shall be prohibited. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed or spoken to harshly, abusively or with profanity.
8. Punishment or threat of punishment shall not be associated with food or the denial of basic needs.
9. Children shall not be permitted to intimidate or harm others, harm themselves or destroy property.
10. Unacceptable behaviors which occurs on a regular basis will be observed and documented by the Head Start staff and/or other professionals. The Head Start staff will implement the procedures stated in the Disruptive Behavior Policy as soon as a disruptive behavior problem is suspected.
11. Parents may be notified to pick up their child in extreme behavior situations.