



CHILD GUIDANCE POLICY

STAFF SHOULD FOR NO REASON USE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT. Physical punishment, verbal or physical degradation or emotional deprivation is not allowed. This means no hitting, pinching, biting, kicking or spanking. Corporal punishment also includes emotional abuse. There will be no name calling, withholding food or personal items, and no demeaning of any kind. Staff must not deny or threaten to deny and basic necessity. Staff using corporal punishment at anytime for any reason will be dismissed immediately.

Staff will ensure that the children know and understand the rules and what consequences are for breaking the rules. Any child disciplinary action taken must be reasonable in the circumstances. Staff must not use or permit the use of any form of physical restraint, confinement or isolation. Staff will also use natural consequences when asking children not to do something. **EXAMPLE: There is no running inside because I am afraid you will fall and hurt yourself.** Toddlers and preschoolers will require more understanding as well as intervention in some situations.

Staff will get down to the children's eye level and verbally help each child express their feelings by giving them the words to use. Redirection is our main course of intervention (especially with the toddlers). Providing the child with another activity that interests them or helping them share in an idea with another child does this. Telling the children what they CAN do instead of what they CAN NOT do will help the children realize where certain behavior is acceptable. **EXAMPLE: Running is for outside, please walk when you are inside.**

If problems continue with a specific child the director will be notified of the situation and if the director feels it is a serious problem the child's parents will be notified with the possibility of withdrawal.

The discipline policy is available in the parent handbook as well as being posted on the parent board. All staff members are required to sign the discipline policy and turn it into the director for their personal file.