

The Little School's Discipline Policy

Discipline " ... To train or develop by instruction, especially in self control" (Webster New Collegiate Dictionary).

Discipline is not punishment. It is a way of helping children learn to identify socially acceptable behavior.

It is the philosophy of this School to help children grow emotionally as well as intellectually, to help children succeed, feel good about themselves and be able to express their feelings in a positive and constructive manner.

Our children's discipline policy shall be positive, be consistent with the age and developmental needs of the child, and lead to the child's ability to maintain self-control.

Within our School, limits and rules are clearly defined, consistent with and in accord with the appropriate development and age of each child, and the Program in general. We focus strongly upon the reinforcement of acceptable behavior, and the prevention of undesirable behavior by being, ourselves, responsive to the needs of the children.

Methods of correcting inappropriate behavior with the Center

- 1.) Re-direction of activities: to change the focus of a child's behavior.
- 2.) Individualized attention: to help the child to deal with a particular situation
- 3.) Time -out: the removal of a child from the area of activity, for a few minutes, so that the child may gain self - control. The teacher explains to the child that the action was inappropriate and is asked to "think about it".
Time-out shall be used as a last resort only if a child exhibits aggressive behavior.
- 4.) Attention to good behavior: to respond to and reinforce positive behavior, acknowledge or praise the child, when behaving well to let the child know that we approve of what he/she is doing.

Discipline shall not be isolation without supervision, the with-holding of food or attention. No child shall be subjected to corporal punishment, emotional neglect, abusive language, ridicule or any behavior that shall intimidate, frighten or endanger the child or his/her self-image.

