

Discipline & Guidance Policy

Discipline must be:

- 1. Individualized and consistent for each child;
- 2. Appropriate to the child's level of understanding; and
- 3. Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control
- A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include the following;
- 1. Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
- 2. Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
- 3. Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
- 4. Aiming to develop personal standards of self-discipline, not to enforce a set of inflexible rules.

There must be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline are prohibited:

- 1. Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment;
- 2. Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training;
- 3. Pinching, shaking, or biting a child;
- 4. Hitting a child with a hand or instrument;
- 5. Putting anything in or on a child's mouth;
- 6. Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, threatening, or yelling at a child;
- 7. Subjecting a child to hard, abusive, or profane language;
- 8. Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and
- 9. Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

Per: Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Chapters 746 and 747, Subchapters L, Discipline and Guidance

My signature verifies I have read and received a copy of this discipline and guidance policy.

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