

BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE

Behavioral Policy

Guiding children in a positive manner is imperative to ensure the safety, health, and development of each child. Staff provide a positive role model for acceptable behavior and have daily communication with parents. Perceptive staff will intervene and redirect before a negative situation happens. However, if negative behavior occurs:

1. Staff will discuss options with the child for a more constructive playtime.
2. If behavior persists, the child will be directed to another activity; if the child continues to be unable to function in an acceptable manner, the child will be removed from the group within the room for a length of time appropriate for the developmental age.
3. If the total group is disrupted, the child will be removed from the room to a quiet place with a staff person until the child gains self-control (in extreme circumstances, for the safety of the child and peers, it may be necessary to physically restrain the child by holding.)
4. Teachers will log any time a child is separated from the group for inappropriate behavior.
5. A special conference with parents will be called if separation from the group happens three times in a day, five times in a week, or eight times in a two week period.
6. A guidance plan will be developed with parent and staff. Professionals may be requested by staff and parents to assist in devising a plan based on previous documentation for the child. This may include the necessity of parents picking up the child if the unacceptable behavior is a continuing problem.
7. The Children's Center will make every effort to provide a program that meets the needs of each child. However, at some times it may be impossible to meet the needs of a child and family. If after working with the child and family, we do not believe it is in the child's best interest to remain at the program, we will ask the family to make other arrangements. Behavior or health issues that may affect the safety, health, and general well-being of other children at The Children's Center may result in limited exclusion or termination of enrollment.

Discipline Beliefs

- No child will be subjected to corporal punishment, which may include rough handling, shoving, hair or ear pulling, shaking, slapping, kicking, biting, pinching, hitting, or spanking.
- No child will be subjected to emotional abuse, which may include name calling, ostracism, shaming, making derogatory remarks or using threatening language that humiliates or frightens the child.
- No child will be punished for lapses in toilet habits.
- No child will have food, light, warmth, clothing or medical care withheld as a punishment.