



CCNS Discipline Philosophy & Policy

It is the philosophy of the School to use discipline to enhance a child's self-esteem, social development and problem solving skills. Our goal is to teach children self-control and pro-social behaviors through positive behavior support procedures. In this process, we support the child in learning to function both as an individual and as part of a group.

Our policy for discipline includes the following general guidelines:

1. We guide children by setting clear, consistent and fair limits for behavior:
We don't hurt ourselves. We don't hurt others. We don't hurt things.
2. We use mistakes as learning tools.
3. We use a variety of appropriately applied strategies such as redirection, natural consequences, sit and watch, and conflict resolution procedures when children need behavior support.
4. We use the technique of conflict resolution to help children learn to independently navigate conflicts with peers.
5. We acknowledge positive behavior whenever observed using descriptive praise that ties approval to a specific action rather than "good girl/boy" or "good job."
6. We redirect a child to a more acceptable behavior or activity rather than using punishment.
7. Unsafe or disrespectful behavior will be handled by leading the child away from the situation to calm down. It is not our policy at CCNS to use a "time-out" for children. During this time apart from the group, there will be constant supervision by the staff. The child will be spoken with to explain the desirable behavior and to establish clear limits on what is not appropriate.
8. When speaking with the children, the teacher or parent assistant sits or kneels so the child is spoken to at their level.
9. We listen to a child when they are hurt or frustrated, and reflect and support his/her feelings.
10. We communicate with the child that we are disappointed with the incident and not with the child.

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11. We set simple rules that are consistent, fair, impartial, enforced and clearly communicated.
12. We do not use corporal or physical punishment at any time.
13. We do not isolate or humiliate children.
14. We do not use consequences that involve the restriction of food, outdoor play and/or special activities.
15. We do not use physical restraint unless such restraint is necessary to protect the health and safety of the child or others.
16. We ignore minor misbehavior that is not harmful or potentially harmful to avoid giving too much attention to negative actions.

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