

Pilgrim Community Preschool Behavior Policy

As a staff, we strive to model Christian behavior in our actions and attitudes. We guide the children toward positive behavior with praise, love and hugs. Preschool staff will use only positive guidance, redirection and the setting of clear-cut limits to foster the child's own ability to become self-disciplined. Teachers will encourage children to be fair, respect property, respect other people and learn to be responsible for their actions. Discipline involves teaching character and self-control. However, staff will not use physical punishment or abusive language, as these approaches teach children to respond in kind.

Teachers will guide children to develop self-control and orderly conduct in relationship to peers and adults. Aggressive physical behavior toward staff or children is unacceptable. Staff will intervene immediately when a child becomes physically aggressive to protect all of the children and encourage more acceptable behavior. To this end, teachers will show children positive alternatives rather than just telling children "no". Good behavior will be rewarded.

- The first step in our discipline procedure is to talk to the child about why their behavior is unacceptable and to redirect the child. If the behavior continues after the warning, the child will be given a time out.
- Time outs are a way for a child to calm down and regroup. Depending on the situation, the child may be separated from the other children in the classroom. They will always be supervised. The length of the time out equals the age of the child. For example, a three year old would sit in time out for three minutes. A four year old would sit in time out for four minutes.
- A child will be sent to the Director's office for deliberate disobedience, defiance, destruction and/or aggression. An incident report will be sent home explaining the situation.
- Biting is an example of unacceptable behavior. For the safety of the other children, if a child continues to bite, more than three times, parents will be requested to meet with the Director.
- Severe discipline problems will require a meeting with the Director and family members and possible observing/ counseling through the Lexington District One Preschool Psychologist. If a family is unwilling to address the situation, the child will be asked to leave the school.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____