

GUIDANCE AND BEHAVIOR POLICY

We believe school should be a safe place for all students and teachers where they feel loved and cared for. Preschool gives them the opportunity to grow in areas of self-control, cooperation, and sharing through small group play, sensory activities, circle time, and free play. Students need to feel safe in their environment to learn and teachers cannot teach in Chaos. Our teachers love spending the day with all the students in their class, however, we will not sacrifice the safety and well-being of the whole class for one child who is disruptive, hurts others, or requires one-on-one attention constantly.

General Discipline

We are a structured preschool that provides students with boundaries and limits. Discipline is approached in a positive, loving, and patient manner: If a child is having a difficult day (saying No to the teacher, running away, hiding, pushing, etc.) the following steps will be taken:

1. The teacher will use positive reinforcement to encourage and discuss with the child their behavior and ask that it not be repeated.
2. If this does not work, the child will be redirected to another activity or to play with different friends.
3. If the child is still having trouble, repeats the behavior, or is disruptive in a group activity, they will spend a few minutes away from the group. Parent will be notified at pickup.
4. If behavior continues, the child may spend time with the director. Once they have spent no more than 4 minutes with the Director, they will be lovingly welcomed back to class to continue their day.
5. Repeated instances will require a meeting with the Director, teacher, and parents to discuss a plan and timeline for improvement.
6. If a child has no behavioral improvement by timeline, they may be withdrawn.

Steps for Behavioral Issues

Behavioral issues in students include but are not limited to throwing **hitting, kicking, throwing toys/shoes around the room or at another person, throwing tantrums, or any other behavior that can injure themselves, another child, staff, or school property**. If your child does these behaviors at home, our preschool may not be the right environment for them. The following are the steps we take with these students:

1. Depending on severity and frequency, if a child exhibits these behaviors, they will spend time with the Director and may be sent home. A Behavior Incident Report will be written up for discussion and signature by the parent.
2. If we find a child has undiagnosed behavioral issues that disrupt the class and require continual one-on-one focused attention by the teachers due to their behavior or to ensure that no one is harmed will also have a Behavior Incident Report written up for parents' signature.
3. **If we have multiple Behavior Incidence Reports, we reserve the right to withdraw them from our program.**

Biting, Spitting, Hitting Adults

For the safety of our EMP family and students, we cannot tolerate spitting, biting, or hitting the teacher for **ANY** reason. **If your child bites, spits, or hits a teacher, you will be called to pick up your child immediately that day and we reserve the right to withdraw them from our program.**

Tantrums

For the safety of the child and the children around them, if a child throws a tantrum, they will be removed from class to spend time with the director until they are able to calm down. If we cannot get them to calm down, parents will be called to pick up the child. If a child has repeated and frequent tantrums, the preschool reserves the right to withdraw them from our program. If a child is having tantrums at home or outside of home, please wait to enroll them until they are more emotionally mature.