

## **Discipline and Guidance Policy**

- Discipline must be:
  - 1. Individualized and consistent for each child
  - 2. Appropriate to the child's level of understanding
  - 3. Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control
- A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourages self-esteem, self-control and self-direction, which include at least 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
  - 4. Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than 1 minute per year of the child's age.
- There must be no harsh, cruel or unusual treatment of any kind. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited.
  - 1. Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment
  - 2. Hitting a child with a hand or instrument
  - 3. Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting or yelling at a child
  - 4. Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive or profane language
  - 5. Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for a child's age

| My signature verifies I have read and received a copy of this discipline and guidance policy. |           |      |
|---|-----------|------|
| Signature   |           | Date |
| Check one please:  ☐ Parent   | □Guardian |      |