



Shining Stars Childcare Policy for Child Guidance, Discipline and Classroom Management

Dear Shining Stars Parent/Guardian

Shining Stars Childcare has carefully researched child guidance, appropriate guidance techniques for disciplinary purposes, classroom management techniques and child abuse. We have a strong position statement regarding all of these topics.

As educators, Shining Stars Childcare staff knows the ages and stages of development and know how social development plays a significant role in how children respond in everyday situations. We follow the national guidelines in classroom management skills as advocated for each age group by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

As young children grow, they are in continually changing stages of development. As they emerge from infant to toddler stages, so emerges a sense of self. Children are a reflection of the environment and adults around them so the sense of self is highly influenced by guidance factors. As toddlers grow toward preschool age, the influences begin to be reflected in their personalities, language, and mannerism.

The purpose of discipline for young children is to teach coping skills and discourage inappropriate behavior. At Shining Stars Childcare, the staff models positive behavior and uses methods of discipline, which encourage self-control, self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation among children displaying a respect for themselves, their environment, and others with whom they come into contact.

Under no circumstances is any form of abuse, physical punishment, deprivation or ridicule used as a form of discipline. Children are action responders rather than thinkers in their early stages of development. Our staff is trained in a technique called redirection, which is an appropriate response to children who need to refocus their attention and distraction is used to prevent potential conflict between children. Diversion techniques are always part of teachers resources to be called upon to avert possible conflicts. Redirection should occur immediately following an inappropriate behavior.

As children grow older and become more verbal (around age two) **MISSING TEXT** may be insincere. This is not a quality we want to teach.

- * Children imitate adult behavior. Screaming, hitting or ridiculing a child for inappropriate behavior is not an effective way to teach self-control. The child should clearly understand that it is the behavior that is not acceptable and not the child personally.
- * No single technique will work with every child in all scenarios. Children are very individualized in their social skills in accordance with their own natural development. Our goal is to give children the security of knowing we care enough to prevent them from hurting themselves or others and to provide each child with a happy experience in school by encouraging success and minimizing failure. When expectations are clearly and consistently related, children will build their own understanding of responsibility for themselves and kindness towards others and a general feeling of well-being.

I have read, understood, and agree to implement the Shining Stars Childcare Discipline Policy.

Parent/Guardian Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date