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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 encourage 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 one minute per year of the child's age.

There must be no harsh, cruel or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

1. Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment
2. Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training.
3. Pinching, shaking or biting a child.
4. Hitting a child with a hand or other instrument.
5. Putting anything in or on a child's mouth.
6. Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting or yelling at a child.
7. Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive or profane language.
8. Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom or closet with the door closed.
9. Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age,

Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Chapters 746 and 747, Subchapter L, Discipline and Guidance.

My signature verifies I have read and received a copy of this discipline and guidance policy.

Signature

Date

Check one, please

_____ Parent

_____ Employee/Caregiver