

Behavior Guidance: Toddlers

The staff at Trinity Preschool shall provide each child with guidance that helps the child acquire a positive self-concept and self-control, and teaches acceptable behavior.

Discipline and behavior guidance used by each caregiver will at all times be constructive, positive, and suited to the age of the child. The following standards and rules will apply in the program for toddler care.

1. To prevent unacceptable behavior from occurring, the staff will:
 - a. model appropriate behavior for the toddlers.
 - b. Arrange the classroom environment to enhance the learning of behaviors that are acceptable.
 - c. Use descriptive praise when appropriate behavior is occurring (i.e. "look how high you're building the blocks! Let's count them.")

2. When unacceptable behavior is about to occur/ is occurring, the staff will use:
 - a. Redirection: substituting a positive activity for a negative activity.
 - b. Distraction: change the focus of the activity or behavior.
 - c. Active listening: to determine the underlying cause of the behavior
 - d. Separation from the group will involve the child leaving the group setting with a caregiver for a short period of time to calm the child down. This could be done by taking a short walk with the caregiver, or going to the other room to play or complete a task. *Time outs are not given to children 16 months to 35 months as the child doesn't understand the connection between separation and behavior.*
 - e. Holding and rocking of the child will be done as needed to calm the child.

Trinity Preschool complies with all federal, state and other relevant laws which prohibit corporal or abusive punishment in daycare settings. Additionally, staff are expressly prohibited from using unproductive or shaming methods of punishment.

Trinity Preschool believes that parents and child care staff must work together to deal with persistent behavioral issues. Parents will be contacted for a conference when a child appears to be unusually stressed, anxious or otherwise motivated to engage in negative behaviors.

I have read and understand this document.

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardians