

## Behavior Guidance

Children are not expected to immediately understand or fully comply with all of the rules: rather, they are to be gently taught, reminded and when necessary, redirected. The staff has the responsibility to set up the environment to encourage cooperation and sharing, rather than promoting aggressive behaviors.

There are times when children, because they are "testing the limits," may actually endanger themselves or others by their actions. Due to these actions, specific guidance steps have been set up and will be followed by the staff. These are:

### Logical consequences

A child who damages a toy, for instance, may be prohibited from the use of that toy for the play period in question. A child who intentionally spills or throws food will be required to assist in the clean up of the spill.

### Verbal reprimand

These are the brief verbal behavioral guidance measures consisting of a statement of the problem behavior, the fact that it is unacceptable, and the statement of the acceptable alternative.

### Time Out

At times a child may require time to himself to calm down and redirect his thinking. When a time out is given, the child remains within sight of the staff, and the time out is no longer than the age of the child in minutes (i.e. for a 4-year-old, it wouldn't be longer than 4 minutes). Every time a child is given a time out, it will be recorded on a separation report. We will notify the parents of the child has three or more time outs in one day, or five times or more in one week or eight times or more in a two week period. Parents may request to see the separation report at any time. Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool complies with all federal, state and other relevant laws which prohibit the use of corporal or abusive punishment in child care settings. Additionally, staff is expressly prohibited from using unproductive or shaming methods of punishment.

Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool believes that parents and child care staff must work together to address persistent behavioral issues such as biting, unusual or dangerous aggression, or other 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 \_\_\_\_\_