



## **GUIDELINES FOR POSITIVE DISCIPLINE**

Positive discipline is a process of teaching children how to behave appropriately. It respects the rights of the individual child, the group, and the adult. At Curious Children Child Care Center, methods of positive discipline are consistent with the age and developmental needs of the children, and lead to the ability to develop and maintain self-control. We understand Positive discipline is different from punishment. Punishment tells children what they should not do and teaches fear; positive discipline tells children what they should do and teaches self-esteem.

### **We use positive discipline by planning ahead:**

- To anticipate and eliminate potential problems.
- We have a few consistent, clear rules that are explained to children and understood by adults.
- We have a well-planned daily schedule that includes some group decision-making.
- We plan for ample elements of fun and humor.
- We provide time and space for each child to be alone.
- We make it possible for each child to feel he/she has had some positive impact on the group.
- Provide the structure and support children need to resolve their differences.
- Share ownership and responsibility with the children.
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### **We use positive discipline by intervening when necessary to:**

- Re-direct to a new activity to change the focus of a child's behavior.
- Provide individualized attention to help the child deal with a particular situation.
- Divert the child and remove from the area of conflict.
- Provide alternative activities and acceptable ways to release feelings.
- Point out natural or logical consequences of children's behavior.
- Offer a choice only if there are two acceptable options.
- Criticize the behavior, not the child. We don't say "bad boy/girl". Instead, we say "That is not allowed".

### **We use positive discipline by showing love and encouragement as follows:**

- When we catch the child being good, we respond to and reinforce the positive behavior by acknowledging or praising the child to let him/her know that we approve of what he/she is doing.
- We provide positive reinforcement through rewards for good behavior.
- We use encouragement rather than competition, comparison, or criticism.
- We overlook small annoyances, and deliberately ignore provocations.
- We give hugs and caring to every child every day.
- We listen to and appreciate the child's point of view.
- We are loving, but don't confuse loving with license.

**At Curious Children Child Care Center, we will NOT discipline a child:**

- For failing to eat or sleep or for soiling themselves.
- By hitting, shaking, or any other form of corporal punishment.
- By using abusive language, ridicule, harsh, humiliating, or frightening treatment or any other form of emotional punishment of children.
- By engaging in or inflicting any form of child abuse and/or neglect.
- Withholding food, emotional responses, stimulation, or opportunities for rest or sleep.
- Requiring the child to remain silent or inactive for an inappropriately long period of time.

Positive discipline takes time, patience, repetition, and the willingness to change the way you deal with children. But it's worth it because positive discipline works.

Child's Name: _____	
Parent's Name: _____	
Parent's Signature: _____	Date: _____