

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL
BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE POLICY

1. **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Teachers will model acceptable behavior towards each other and towards the children.
- B. Behavior guidance methods will be tailored to the developmental level of the children attending All Saints Catholic Preschool.
- C. The primary method of behavior guidance will be positively reinforcing desired behavior. Children will be redirected away from potential problem situations and helped to discover alternatives to their behavior. This will be done by modeling and suggesting alternatives to them.
- D. Children will be encouraged to articulate their problems and be helped to understand the natural consequences of their behavior.
- E. Behavior guidance methods at All Saints Catholic Preschool will protect the safety of the children and the staff. Teachers will step in immediately if they feel a child is in danger of hurting themselves and /or others by their behavior.
- F. Immediate and directly related consequences will be provided to children following unacceptable behavior. Whenever possible, consequences of unacceptable behavior will be communicated to the child ahead of time so that the child knows expectations and what will happen if they are not met.

2. **PERSISTENT UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- A. Should unacceptable behavior become persistent, teachers will observe and record the child's behavior as well as the teacher's response to each situation.
- B. After the observation period, teachers will contact the child's parents to develop a plan to address the documented behavior. Other staff persons and professionals may be consulted when appropriate.

3. **PROHIBITED ACTIONS**

- A. Children will not be subjected to corporal punishment of any kind (i.e. handling, pulling, shaking, biting, slapping, kicking, etc.)
- B. Children will not be subjected to emotional/verbal abuse (i.e. name calling, shaming, derogatory remarks toward the child and/or his/her family. etc.)
- C. Children will not be separated from the group unless other, less intrusive methods of guiding the child's behavior have been ineffective, and/or the child's behavior threatens the well being of other children or the child him/herself.

- D. Children will not be punished for lapses in toilet habits.
- E. Items such as food, light, warmth, clothing, or medical care will not be withheld from the children as a result of unacceptable behavior.
- F. Physical restraints will not be used other than physically holding a child when containment is necessary to protect the child or others from harm.
- G. Mechanical restraints, such as tying, will not be used in any manner.

4. SEPARATION FROM THE GROUP

- A. Children will not be separated from the group except when other less intrusive methods of guiding the child's behavior have been ineffective, and the child's behavior threatens the well being of him/herself, or the other children.
 - 1. A child who requires separation from the group will remain within the classroom where the child can continuously be seen and heard by the teachers.
 - 2. The child will return to the group as soon as the problem behavior is brought under control. Teachers will discuss the problem with the child and help him/her discover alternatives as well.

5. SEPARATION REPORT

- A. All separations from the group will be noted on a daily log. A copy is on file.
- B. If a child is separated from the group more than 3 times in one day, the child's parents will be notified. This will also be recorded on a daily log.
- C. If a child is separated from the group more than 5 times in one week, the procedures for persistent behavior will be followed.

6. CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Children with special needs who are attending All Saints Catholic Preschool will be treated in the same manner as other children with respect to attention and the needs of the individual.