

***Discipline is not the same as punishment. Discipline involves a continuous process of guiding behaviour and is offered while acceptable behaviour is occurring, as well as before, during and after unacceptable behaviour may be displayed.***

## **BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT**

I use a number of positive guiding techniques depending on the ages, abilities and support needs of the children currently enrolled in my care. I encourage children to solve their own problems and take responsibility for their actions. I do not tolerate violent &/or aggressive behaviour (physical or verbal) in my childcare home. Physical punishment, such as spanking, is never used.

### **The Children will learn to:**

#### **Respect themselves, other children and elders.**

*We help children respect themselves and others by respecting them.*

Consequences for not respecting oneself and others will depend on the type and intensity of the disrespect shown.

- ❖ The children will be separated for a cooling down period
- ❖ The children and I will discuss the situation.
- ❖ A solution will be sought.
- ❖ If it is seen that the children cannot get along, the privilege of playing together will be taken away for an appropriate period of time. Parents will be notified of this.

#### **Respect for the Daycare Toys, Home and Furnishings.**

*We can teach this by giving positive feedback and modeling appropriate behaviour.*

Consequences for not respecting my home and its contents will be:

- ❖ The child will be talked to, redirected &/or distracted (depending on age).
- ❖ If necessary the privilege of using the item or participating in an activity will be suspended for an appropriate period of time.
- ❖ Any damage will be discussed with the parents.

#### **Respect for the pets**

*Children will learn this by being shown how to treat an animal, being cautioned when necessary and observing appropriate behaviour by others.*

- ❖ If the child is not handling a pet in an appropriate and safe way the child and the pet will be separated, at which time possible natural consequences for this type of behaviour will be discussed.

#### **Be responsible for their own behaviour - both negative and positive.**

*We can teach children to be responsible for their own behaviour by:*

- *Setting realistic and clear limits and rules.*
- *Showing them ways to find solutions to their problems themselves.*
- *Allowing them to experience some natural and logical consequences for their behaviour.*
- *Handling problems calmly ourselves.*
- *Concentrating on the positive aspects of their behaviour - celebrate successes*

Consequence for not being responsible for their own behaviour will be:

- ❖ A loss of some privileges that I would otherwise allow them
- ❖ Require them to play where they can be supervised directly for a specified period of time.
- ❖ Requested the child to do some related chore, i.e. clean up mess or repair damage.
- ❖ Parents will be notified if problems persist.

**Be Responsible for their behaviour when the substitute is here.**

There should be no difference in behaviour when my substitute is here. Consistent problems could result in the child being excluded for those days.

**Be responsible for cleaning up their own mess.**

Consequences for not being responsible for cleaning up their own mess will be:

- ❖ The child will not be allowed to take out and use that piece of equipment or the supplies for a specified period of time.

**Respect people's personal belongings.**

If it is not yours, ask. If the answer is no, leave it alone.

Consequences for not respecting other's belongings will be:

- ❖ The child will be talked to.
- ❖ If necessary (i.e. something is broken or actions are repeated) the situation will be discussed with the parents.

**Responsible for their behavior while on outings away from the daycare**

Stay with the group and their partner.

Follow the rules set down by the owners/operators of the places that are visited.

Always walk on the sidewalk or pathway.

Consequences for not being responsible for one's behaviour while on an outing will be:

- ❖ The child will have to hold provider's hand (or the stroller handle).
- ❖ The parent may be asked to find alternate care for child when field trips are planned.

If there are consistent problems, I will document the time, date, location and circumstances. I will then make arrangements to meet with the parents to discuss these problems and to come up with a plan of action. If the indicated undesirable behaviour continues, the parents will be asked to withdraw their child.

**\*\*Note\*\***

*I will not discipline a child for behavior that did not occur while the child was in my care. If a parent has restricted a child's activities at home due to their behavior at home I will **not** carry on punishments/restrictions unless I have a similar problem behavior while the child is in my care and the restriction is appropriate. Likewise, even though I inform a parent of problems that may have occurred during the day, I do not want or expect the parent to discipline the child at home. Discipline loses its effectiveness if it is not directly connected to the behaviour. Sharing the behaviour/consequences information enables consistent discipline between home and daycare.*

**About Free Play:**

During free play time the children are encouraged to make their own decisions about what they want to do and who they want to play with. I am available to guide the children's behaviour, offer suggestions to those who need assistance in making choices, and to re-direct those who choose activities that are not developmentally appropriate.

When all goes well I do not interfere with the children's play but just observe the activity. When disputes arise I encourage the children to work it out themselves and offer assistance only when necessary. I will not force a child to "share" a toy they are using. I do not feel it is fair to make a child give up something they are not yet finished playing with. I do not allow children to hoard toys just so others cannot use them.