

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Children are not expected to immediately understand or fully comply with all of the rules; rather, they are to be gently taught in a Christ like manner, reminded and when necessary, redirected. It is the responsibility of the staff to provide an environment that encourages 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 behavior 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 may be required to assist in the clean up of the spill.

VERBAL REPRIMAND

These are 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 necessary, and 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). Serious consequences and concerns are discussed with the parent.

H.C.A. complies with all federal, state and other relevant laws which prohibit corporal or abusive punishment. Additionally, staff are expressly prohibited from using unproductive or shaming methods of punishment that would reflect a non-Christ like attitude.

H.C.A. believes that parents and 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.

H.C.A. reserves the right to dismiss any student whose ongoing negative behavior prevents a conducive learning environment within their classroom. A student may also be dismissed because of a philosophical disagreement or the negative attitudes of the parents.

I have read and understand this document.

Father's Signature (Guardian) _____ **Date** _____

Mother's Signature (Guardian) _____ **Date** _____