

AMAZING GRACE

Christian Preschool

Discipline Policy (Positive Behavior Guidance)

Section 10M-12.013 FL Statutes requires that parents and/or legal guardians be notified in writing of the disciplinary practices used by the child care facility providing services.

The faculty of AGCP communicate defined boundaries and as the child matures, more responsibility is expected in following classroom rules. Our goal is positive behavior guidance, to ensure a joyful environment and successful school experience grounded in developmentally appropriate practice, while reassuring children of Jesus' unconditional love for them. The methods of positive behavior guidance include 1) Prevention, 2) Redirection, and as a last resort for the benefit and safety of the child, 3) Separation and Snuggle.

Our approach to this guidance includes the *Peacemaking Skills for Little Children*. This philosophy teaches love, compassion, trust, fairness, cooperation, and reverence for God's world. This includes the "I-Care Rules" to show our love and care for others just as Jesus models:

1. We listen to each other.
2. Hands are for helping (not hurting).
3. Caring language (please, thank you, etc.)
4. We care about each other's feelings.
5. We are responsible for what we say and do.

Each child will be provided a positive model of acceptable behavior and will be taught how to use acceptable alternatives to the problem behavior in order to reduce conflict. Prevention includes methods of distraction, conflict resolution, positive reinforcement, modeling, and a consistently engaging environment. Children may be redirected toward a constructive activity to ensure the safety of other children and staff persons. Faculty will model and guide children toward positive solutions and desirable behavior.

"Separation" refers to the removal of a child within sight and sound of the staff from an area or activity until appropriate behavior is displayed, so the child may calm down and the group's safety is ensured. Separations are a last resort and will be logged as an assessment tool to consider how to best support the child. Faculty will individually support the child during such a separation and support the child's re-entry into the classroom activities. Children will receive snuggles/hugs (appropriate caring touch) – if the child would like this nurturing response at this time.

Faculty will never subject children to corporal punishment or emotional abuse. Discipline and behavior guidance will never be associated with food, light, appropriate cool/warmth, clothing, medical care, rest, or active play (including playground time). Faculty will never use physical restraint items. Parents and guardians are not permitted to administer corporal punishment while on the school campus.

Faculty will be asked to record any persistent challenging behaviors and the faculty's response to them. If necessary, a plan will be developed, in consultation with the child's parent, other staff persons and professionals, for addressing the documented behavior toward more fully supporting the child's growth and developmental needs.

I have received, reviewed, and understand the discipline policy at AGCP.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____