



Riverside Presbyterian Church Preschool Discipline Policy

It is the philosophy of the RPC Preschool that positive practices will be used to show each child respect and consideration as an individual. Every effort will be made to redirect inappropriate behavior to help the child grow in self-esteem and to develop self-control as a positive member of the group.

The philosophy of "Catch 'Em Being Good" fosters an appreciation of self-discipline and prosocial involvement. This disciplinary approach is directed continually by the adult staff. Our aim is a happy and healthy environment for all of the children.

The following guidelines are followed:

- At all times the teachers help individual students assume responsibility for their actions. In the event that a child is disrupting the group and cannot be reengaged, the child will be removed under the supervision of a staff member until the child can regain composure. The child will not be left alone.
- There is never corporal punishment, humiliation derogation or abuse. Discipline is to promote prosocial behavior never to shame or frighten a child.
- Failure to eat or toilet accidents are treated with compassion and understanding and are not a cause for discipline. Food and toilet privileges are not a means of punishment.
- Physical restraint will not be used to discipline a child with the exception of physically removing them from a threat of danger or harm to themselves or others.
- Children may not hurt each other. Children may not bring toys such as guns or other weapons designed to simulate aggressive behavior.

Regular communication between parents and teachers is encouraged and is considered the best tool to ensure the well being of the child. Parents will be contacted if teachers are unsuccessful in redirecting behavior with the regularly practiced techniques. Repeated incidents involving behavior problems will be documented and reported to the parents. We reserve the right to dismiss a student who demonstrates an inability to participate in or benefit from the school or whose presence is detrimental to the group.

We believe all children should have an opportunity to solve their own problems. It is our job to provide them with a variety of strategies, give positive reinforcement and teach responsibility. We continually stress the positive social behaviors of self control, cooperation, sharing, taking turns and conflict resolution. We appreciate your help reinforcing these behaviors at home.