

## BEHAVIOR POLICY

Happy Days Childcare & Nursery strives to nurture and foster an environment where children will learn the following:

- Safety of self and others
- Self-control
- Self-discipline
- Self-esteem
- Self-respect
- Sense of respect for others, property, and materials
- Sense of caring and cooperative relationships with children and adults

Students, who are responsible for their own actions and respect the rights of others exhibit great behavior and will be rewarded. We believe in a loving, caring, and positive reinforcement approach to behavior.

- verbal praise
- sticker on behavior chart
- tangible reward
- positive note home

Your child is responsible for upholding these expectations at all times. In a case where behavior is not appropriate, a consequence will occur.

- verbal warning
- positive redirection
- modeling appropriate behavior
- limit setting
- structuring activities
- note home – must be signed by parents/caregivers
- time-out – Used sparingly and only for children over the age of three) one minute per year of age of the child
- phone call home

We realize that children exhibit certain behaviors at various developmental stages. We will make every effort to provide an environment which is developmentally appropriate and stable.

We realize that physically harming behaviors such as biting, hitting, kicking, pinching, scratching, and hair pulling are normal behaviors for young children, especially toddlers. We will emphasize that hurting is not an acceptable behavior.

The child who was hurting another will be separated from the group. The child who was hurt will be given appropriate first aid when necessary. Parents/caregivers of both children will be notified of the incident. No information about the child who did the hurting will be given to anyone other than the parents/caregivers of that child and the staff working with the child.

The safety and well-being of all children in our care must be protected. Behaviors which require a significant amount of one-on-one attention from the teachers puts the classroom out of ratio. We are not able to provide the other children with the attention that is essential for quality care.

We will not tolerate continuous disruptive or aggressive behaviors by children of any age, such as the following:

- Refusal to participate in activities such as resting or napping, meal time, hand washing, toileting, or staying within sight and sound of the teacher.
- Inappropriate tantrums that last longer than twenty-minutes and/or occurs more than three times in one day
- Continual teacher intervention
- Recurring or ongoing pattern of serious hurtful behavior

If a child exhibits inappropriate behaviors over an extended period of time in a day and/or the intensity increases and/or the child's behavior continuously takes away from the care and safety of others, the following behavior plan will be implemented:

The parents/caregivers will be contacted to remove (within one hour) the child from the daycare for the remainder of the day.

Within 48 business hours of being sent home, a parent/caregiver/teacher meeting with the administration to discuss a plan of action to increase positive behaviors for that child must be held. A child may not return until this meeting has taken place. If necessary, an evaluation will be recommended for the child. A parent/caregiver will be given one week for an evaluation to take place. All paperwork, letters, and documentation must be provided to the office. Failure to respond may result in the child's expulsion.

If aggressive or dangerous behavior occurs twice in one day, the child must be picked up immediately that day.

If behavior occurs a third time in the same week, the child must be picked up from school and will need to take the next day off.

If a child is sent home more than three times, the parent will be given two weeks to find alternate care.

Punishment that is humiliating or frightening to a child, such as hitting, spanking, shaking, or verbal abuse, withholding or forcing food or punishment for lapses in toilet training and other forms of physical punishment are prohibited. These forms of punishment will never be used, even at the request of the parent.