

Section 20: Discipline

We stress two main patterns of behavior: respect for other people, and respect for property, as a result we do not allow children to hit or harm other children or verbally abuse them or teachers. We also stress that they treat material possessions (the daycare's or theirs) with respect.

Occasionally children do not behave in respectful ways. We first remind them of proper behavior. We will never use negative reinforcement such as physical punishment, embarrassment, frightening or any discipline of that nature. We will give the child a warning that if they cannot make good choices, they will have to go to the "me" corner. If the behavior is repeated, the child is then asked to make a choice whether to make good choices or go to the "me corner." The amount of time a child sits in the "me corner" varies according to his or her age. Most experts agree that one minute per year of age is most effective length of time, but this amount will never exceed five minutes, even if the child is more than five years old. When his or her "Thinking time" is up, the child is then encouraged to make a better choice. Once the child choose made the right choice. They are free to join the other children.

DLC/DLA will never use the following as a form of punishment or discipline which is to severe, humiliating, frightening or associated with food, rest or toileting. Spanking or any other form of physical punishments is prohibited.

Children are never punished for lapses in toilet training or for accidents (spilled milk, for example). In the case of an accident, teachers will have the child clean up with help and teach responsibility, not for punishment.

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Director's signature: _____ Date: _____