

## EARLY CHILDHOOD BEHAVIOR POLICY

The St. Francis Early Childhood team endeavors to guide every child towards making positive choices within a safe environment. We believe that early childhood is an important time in which to learn how to build strategies to cope with challenging situations and develop relationships within a new environment.

It is of utmost importance to manage negative behaviors by implementing clear and consistent boundaries. At this age children are learning how to behave appropriately and so we believe in acknowledging positive behaviors, explaining consequences and offering choices. If deemed necessary, the staff will provide a child time away from a situation to calm down. We also help them learn when something is dangerous or harmful to others.

The St. Francis team regards modeling positive behaviors, such as empathy, as essential to the children's development. We also place emphasis on working with families to share strategies and use consistent methods at home.

We believe that every child has the right to learn and not to be continuously disturbed by others' actions. Each child also has the right to feel safe in our school environment. Finally, the teacher has a right to teach and continual disturbances must be dealt with at an administrative level.

More concerning behaviors may involve setting up an Individual Education Plan - e.g. aggression and dangerous actions. These actions may require the child to be removed from the class and the parents called to come and pick up the student.

At this time a meeting will be convened with a member of the senior management team and the parent/s to develop strategies to support the child. If necessary, a qualified professional will be contacted to help address the situation. e.g. psychologist.

St. Francis reserves the right to expel a child from the school if he/she is of danger to other students or the Early Childhood team members.