**Behavior & Discipline**

Our institution is committed to fostering a safe and nurturing environment for all students. To further this commitment, we are implementing a three-strike program to address unacceptable behaviors in the classroom effectively. The first tier of this program involves a daily monitoring system; if a student engages in three hurtful or unsafe incidents within a single day, they will be sent home for the remainder of the day. This measure reflects our belief that every student must be able to participate in our program positively and safely.

Should a student be sent home three times within a 30-day period, a suspension of five business days will be enforced. During this suspension, a 50% refund on care will be provided as a gesture of our commitment to maintaining a constructive learning atmosphere. In the event of three suspensions within a 12-month period, the student will face expulsion from the school. A pro-rated refund will be issued in such cases, ensuring fairness and adherence to our educational standards.

Our approach to behavior and discipline is rooted in positive reinforcement and guidance rather than punitive measures. When a child exhibits negative behavior, our response will be to:

1. Communicate to the child that their behavior is unacceptable, doing so gently yet firmly.

2. Guide the child towards acceptable behavior by redirecting their actions.

3. Engage in a conversation with the child to discuss their behavior and encourage self-awareness.

For significant behavioral issues, we will involve parents in the process, potentially arranging a conference to develop a strategy that supports the child in acquiring the necessary skills to manage their behavior. This strategy may include consulting a behavioral specialist.

Specifically addressing infant and toddler biting incidents, our response will be to immediately remove the biter to prevent further harm. The bitten child will receive appropriate care, including first aid and comfort. The biter will then be spoken to about the inappropriateness of biting and provided with suitable alternatives to express themselves.

For other behavioral challenges in infants and toddlers, our methods include distraction, redirection, modeling positive behavior, and providing assistance tailored to the child's developmental stage. Our classroom environments are designed to be child-friendly, minimizing the need for negative reinforcement. If a strategy proves ineffective, we are committed to exploring alternative approaches.

In our preschool classrooms, we encourage children to employ conflict resolution skills whenever feasible. We uphold three fundamental rules:

- Be Kind

- Be Safe

- Be Respectful

These rules are the cornerstone of our educational philosophy, ensuring that every child learns in an environment that is not only educational but also emotionally supportive and secure. In the event of an incident, we engage with the child to ascertain whether the actions taken were kind, safe, and respectful. Should the response be negative, we initiate a constructive dialogue to explore corrective measures. In instances where behavior poses a safety risk, the child will be temporarily removed from the situation until a resolution is achieved. Our philosophy is rooted in collaboration with families, ensuring open communication regarding any behavioral concerns involving your child. We encourage the sharing of any pertinent issues at home to foster a supportive partnership. Our collective goal is to nurture your child's social and academic development within the school environment. Our educators are passionate about their roles and possess the expertise required to manage disciplinary matters effectively. It is recognized that some children may exhibit ongoing behavioral challenges; in such cases, we commit to working collectively towards a resolution, which may include consulting external specialists for additional insights into the classroom dynamics, teaching methods, or the child's behavior.

Documentation such as incident reports and observational notes will be maintained as part of the child's personal record and utilized as necessary.

For school-aged children, while the foundational guidelines remain consistent, expectations are adjusted commensurate with the child's developmental stage. Across all age groups, we actively acknowledge and reinforce positive conduct through specific commendations and support.

Should we encounter situations where a family's actions are detrimental to our educational efforts or display disrespect towards our staff, we reserve the right to discontinue services due to the adverse impact of such adult behavior.

Acknowledgment of Partnership

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the terms and conditions of partnering with the child care program. I agree to engage in a collaborative partnership to ensure the success and well-being of my child. I commit to actively participating in the program's activities, adhering to its policies, and supporting its educational philosophy and approach.

By signing below, I express my agreement to partner with the child care program and affirm my dedication to the developmental and educational journey of my child.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child(rens) name(s)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_