

Kinder House Day Care

Child Guidance Policy

To ensure that Kinder House Day Care is providing a safe environment, the following policies and steps will be implemented with the underlying principle that all children will be treated with respect and kindness. The behavior of the Day Care Staff will at all times be gentle and courteous with age-appropriate explanations.

Combined with set limits, positive guidance, consistency and assurance to make the children feel loved, regardless of their behavior, are our behavior management strategies. A detailed description of our Behavior Management Policy, that is followed at all times, is explained and discussed with Day Care Staff and Parents (it can also be located in the Parent and Staff Handbooks as well as on our website www.kinderhousedaycare.ca).

1. At all times, the Day Care Staff is aware that they act as role models for the children. Accordingly, they engage in positive social behavior, respecting the stage of the children's development.
2. The Staff will use "active listening" to acknowledge the children's feelings.
3. Positive messages are used when guiding children's behavior.
4. The Staff will provide a healthy, safe and developmentally appropriate environment that supports and encourages children's exploration and positive interactions.
 - a. Children are provided opportunities to make choices and age appropriate decisions.
 - b. Transition periods are used to help children make smooth changes in the daily routine.
 - c. Developmentally appropriate materials and experiences are provided to enable children to experience success and eliminate frustration.
 - d. Sufficient play materials are provided to give children the opportunity to play together or alone, if they choose.
 - e. The play environment is changed in response to the children's interests, behaviors and needs.
 - f. The children are provided with long periods of "child initiated" play. This enables the children to experience meaningful play and fully extend their ideas and interests throughout the day.

5. The Staff will provide a safe environment by setting limits and expectations that will enable the children to develop a sense of responsibility for themselves, others and the surroundings provided for them.
 - a. Through communication with Parents/Guardians, Staff will be able to understand issues that may affect children's behavior.
 - b. Staff are flexible with limits - keeping in mind the children's developmental level. Children are given the opportunity to offer solutions to problematic situations.
 - c. Using effective communication skills ("I messages"), Staff respectfully explain reasons for limits.
6. The Staff set reasonable consequences for inappropriate behavior. Consequences must be immediate yet respectful and in relation to the child's behavior and individual needs. Adults then explain the consequences for inappropriate behavior in language the child is able to understand.
7. The Staff uses problem solving strategies which in turn, encourages children to reduce conflicts with one another. Problem solving strategies also help develop self-control, a sense of responsibility and recognition of the needs of other children.
8. When there are situations of continued inappropriate behavior, the Director and the Staff will meet with the child's Parents/Guardians in an effort to develop a common strategy to deal with the behavior. It may be necessary to recommend and access community resources for referral and consultation - upon Parental permission only.
9. After consultation, and if the behavior still doesn't improve, the Parents may be assisted to find a program that is better suited for behavioral problems.

These forms of punishment are not permitted at Kinder House Day Care:

- Physical or verbal punishment, physical degradation or emotional deprivation
- Under no circumstance will any child be denied /threatened to be denied any basic necessity
- The use of any form of physical restraint, confinement, or isolation