

# *A Bright Beginning Child Care Society*

## Child Guidance Policy

Adopted June 1996

Reviewed August 2023

Next review August 2026

**Policy:** To provide a safe, healthy learning environment in which a child can feel safe, secure and nurtured through guidance and redirection that supports and respects each child as an individual. Each child is encouraged and supported to develop positive relationships with peers and Educators. Educators will strive to be appropriate behavioral models, showing respect for children, parents, co-educators/other employees, and their environment.

### **Parents can therefore expect that Educators will:**

- Provide clear, simple and consistent limits regarding appropriate behaviours within the Centre. Such limits will be offered in a positive respectful manner. Harsh or belittling language will not be used at any time. Any child disciplinary action taken will/must be reasonable in the circumstances.
- Demonstrate affection and caring for your child through appropriate forms of verbal and physical interactions.
- Maximize opportunities for appropriate and positive behaviour for your child through the programming and activities based on the children's interests.
- Educators will give verbal direction and redirection as the main means of guidance. Role modeling and guiding children through social interactions and situations that the child is having problems with.
- Educators will guide a child when a feeling or situation may be difficult to express.
- Supervise your child at all times and ensure that the child will not be left in an unsupervised area, children are given flexibility with age appropriate behaviors (three year olds use reflection).
- Engage in play with the child to guide them to a "settling" down activity when behaviour has become disruptive to other children.

In a severe case of meltdown (child throwing, overturning, objects, screaming disruptively), the child will be removed from the room and supervised by the third Educator of the room or the director if available. The child will be taken to the office or Educator room, whichever one is suitable and/or available at the time. The Educator will help the child calm, until he/she is able to regain control of themselves. The child and Educator will engage in reading or another quiet activity until the child is calm, and then the child may return to join his/her classmates. This

removal is necessary for the safety of all children and Educator/staff involved. If this type of behaviour becomes a concern, an unacceptable behaviour strategy will be prepared with the parents input, refer to the policy.

Childcare environments are for sharing experiences for everyone to learn from and enjoy. In extreme situations educators will work with resources brought forward by ASAP team utilizing GRIT's resources online with strategies, guidance, and the Inclusive Program's involvement to bring the best forward from the child. The parents' involvement will be expected.

### **Educator will NOT:**

- Inflict or cause to be inflicted any form of physical punishment, verbal or physical degradation or emotional deprivation.
- Deny or threaten to withhold any basic necessity (including food)
- Use or permit the use of any form of physical restraint, confinement or isolation. That isn't for the sole purpose of safety and respect to the children and others with-in the program.

### **Outcomes:**

Parents are encouraged to question and discuss with Educator if they are unclear about the handling of an incident within the Centre. Parents are our partners and are respected as the main remodels in the child rearing of their child/ren. Communication is essential to create attachments with each child. Educators will write about your child's day in the Centre's story park app. Periodically a phone discussion or in house meeting can/will be scheduled at your convenience to discuss your child's progress and development. As parents, guiding your child through these developmental years, it is desirable that Educator and parents work closely and honestly together. Please inform Educator of any changes in the home and or extended family that your child may be experiencing.

In the event that the child has caused the child care environment to be unsafe for all, the parent will be asked to seek additional services from health care practitioners to avoid dismissal.

### **Resources**

<https://gritasap.ca/>

<https://www.familyeducationsociety.org/>

<https://ssdcs.ca/support-programs/>

<https://www.gpfamilycenteredcoalition.ca/childcare-services>