

# Behavior Management Policy

The Inclusive Montessori School has developed a detailed set of policies regarding children's behavior management and discipline. Every member of our staff is required to follow each policy when handling behavior issues. The goal of our program is to emphasize respect for self, respect for others and their work, and respect for materials located in our academy.

Using appropriate methods of discipline that incorporate behavior management enables the young child to learn self-control and gain an understanding of the types of conduct that are acceptable. Children become more independent and self-sufficient when they take responsibility for their own behaviors. Self-discipline, learned during early childhood years, is necessary in order to become a productive member of our society.

Every Inclusive Montessori School student operates under the following policies:

1. Injurious treatment of children is not tolerated under any circumstances.
2. No corporal punishment, including spanking, will ever be used.
3. No child shall be subjected to cruel or severe punishment or verbal abuse, including those that are shaming, frightening, or humiliating.
4. No child shall be denied food, water, toileting, or rest privileges as punishment.
5. No harsh or profane language or implied threats promising physical punishment shall be used.
6. No child shall be punished for soiling or wetting himself/herself or for not using the toilet.

We recognize and praise every appropriate and positive behavior. A teacher's response to inappropriate or negative behaviors may include redirecting the child's activity reasonably discussing the problem or using planned ignoring. The child may be directed to an area of the classroom to participate in an activity that is calming. This approach allows reasonable amount of time for the child to reflect on his/her actions. Once the child understands where his/her behavior was wrong, then only will any change be possible.

In the event that inappropriate behavior continues despite utilizing the above-stated techniques, the director will observe the child in the classroom, set up a meeting with the child's parents and the classroom staff, and develop a specific program that is agreeable to all parties. The specific program is to be implemented within the classroom's daily programming.

Inclusive Montessori School uses the "nurtured heart approach," created by psychologist Howard Glasser, when handling behavior management policies. The goal of the approach is to emphasize respect for self, respect for others, and respect for learning center materials.

Our behavior management techniques enable young children to learn self-control and gain an understanding of the types of conduct that are acceptable. Children become more independent and self-sufficient when they take responsibility for their own behaviors. Self-discipline, learned during the early childhood years, is necessary in order to become productive and functional members of our school family, the child's own family, as well of our society.

Three key components of the approach include:

- ✓ Neutralizing negative behaviors
- ✓ Energizing positive behaviors in meaningful ways
- ✓ Demonstrating fair and consistent boundaries.