



Tabernacle Christian Childcare & Learning Center



Discipline Policy

In taking care of children, we rely heavily on praise and rewards and on maintaining an atmosphere that is mentally and physically interesting and challenging to children. However, maintaining this atmosphere requires **consistent** discipline AND **consistent** communication with the parents. Since all children are unique, we are committed to implementing and tailoring discipline to meet the individual needs of each child.

We begin with verbal explanations of inappropriate behavior (reasoning with the child). For children with stronger wills, we find that after several warnings stronger actions must be taken. The next step we take is denying playtime by making the child sit out of the group or stand in a designated area (known as "Time Out." In many cases this is all the discipline needed to communicate to the child that his or her behavior will not be accepted. Until this step is taken, many children will "experiment" to find out if they really can get away with doing what they were asked not to do.

Children of all ages are given lots of love and praise for their good behavior. Should biting, hair pulling, hitting, or other inappropriate behavior occur, we begin with verbal communication to deter the misbehavior. We progress to a time out for the child. If misbehavior continues, we will set up a consultation and discuss a program to effectively deter future misbehavior. **All individual programs MUST be signed by both parents. If there is no program agreed upon, the child will not be allowed to continue in our child care program.**

If a child does not respond to the agreed and signed program, and **only as a last resort**, a parent will be contacted and asked by an administrator to come to the facility **immediately** and administer a spanking to the child on the bottom. It is unfair to other children in the day care center to be repeatedly subjected to uncorrected behavior such as biting, hitting, fighting, pinching, hair pulling, mulch throwing, etc. The age and maturity of a child will always be considered before evaluating the type of discipline to be administered.

ONLY a parent and/or guardian will administer any spanking. Reasonable force shall be used in the spanking of a child and no spanking should be administered in anger or irritation **by the parent and/or guardian. The following guidelines will be required in the administering of a spanking:**

- There will be an explanation to the child of the behavior
- The child will be prayed with **before** the spanking
- The spanking will not be performed on bare skin
- It will be performed in a room in the day care center separate from the other children and must be witnessed by an administrator of the facility
- Following the spanking, the child is assured of the love of the day care staff and of the forgiving love of Christ. Prayer with the child and his parent and/or guardian will follow the spanking.

We believe that handling discipline in this manner will strengthen children's understanding and knowledge of obedience. This pattern is extremely effective and should be used in the home as well.

Tabernacle Christian Childcare and Learning Center's business is providing a Christian home away from home atmosphere for boys and girls whose parents must work. We realize what a responsibility it is to care for the children entrusted to our care, and we do not accept it lightly. We appreciate your confidence in us and want you to know that we will do our best to provide a happy, relaxed atmosphere for your child. We want your approval and support in carrying out necessary discipline and hope that the discipline used in your home is of similar nature.

Your signature below signifies your acceptance of our discipline policy as explained. By law, only one parent and/or guardian is required to sign a copy of this policy in order to enroll your child in our facility.

Failure to cooperate with Tabernacle Christian Day Care on any aspect of this discipline policy is grounds for immediate dismissal of your child from our facility.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about the discipline of your child, please contact one of our directors.

Child's Name: _____

Mother's Signature: _____

Father's Signature: _____

Guardian's Signature: _____

Center Director's Signature: _____

Date Enrolled: _____

(Revised 2/2014)