

Mount Olive Lutheran Preschool

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Discipline and Guidance Policy (Revised November, 2011)

Discipline must be:

- Individualized and consistent for each child;
- Appropriate to the child's level of understanding; and
- Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include at least the following:

- Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
- Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
- Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
- Using brief supervised separation or "time out" from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.

There must be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

- Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment;
- Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training;
- Pinching, shaking, or biting a child;
- Hitting a child with a hand or instrument;
- Putting anything in the child's mouth;
- Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child;
- Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language;
- Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and
- Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Chapters 746 and 747, Subchapters, L, Discipline and Guidance

A parent/caregiver/guardian will be asked to cooperate with the teacher in reinforcing appropriate behavior. If the inappropriate behavior continues (examples: biting, hitting, hurting others) the parent/caregiver/guardian may be asked to pick up the child from Preschool. Mount Olive Lutheran Preschool reserves the right to dismiss from its program any child who is a threat to the safety of another child or staff member.

Verification of Receipt of Amended Discipline and Guidance Policy

My signature verifies that I have read and received a copy of the revised Discipline and Guidance Policy for Mount Olive Lutheran Preschool that was amended in November, 2011.

Child's name _____

Signature _____

Date _____