



## Discipline Policy

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At Little Ones Montessori, we believe in guidance and positive discipline to help children learn acceptable behavior and self-control. Every effort will be made to be proactive, endeavoring to foresee and take action before problems arise. Therefore, ample praise and encouragement are used when acceptable behavior is observed. When behavior is observed that needs adjustment, the teacher will speak with the child respectfully and enlist the child's participation in finding more acceptable behaviors. A range of direct guidance actions that appropriately address the problem will be attempted by the teacher to help the child address the problem, including redirection and setting clearly defined limits. In all cases the child will be treated with respect and dignity. If the problem persists, you as the parent(s) will be asked to work with us in shaping the child's behavior to be more acceptable so we are working as a team to solve the problem.

In extreme cases or outbursts, the child may be asked to spend time in the *peaceful zone* to reflect or to regain composure. When the child feels ready to discuss the incident, s/he will do so with an adult. Incidents will be reported to the families involved. Punishment is inconsistent with Little Ones Montessori philosophy for child growth and development and will not be tolerated.

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## Termination

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Actions on the part of a child which threaten the safety of the classroom or other children (physical or emotional abuse) require immediate attention. Children who are unable to accept the limits or the logical consequence of their behavior may be sent home immediately. Parents will be asked to attend a conference. A plan of action will be formally developed and agreed upon by all parties, including the child. If after a period of time the problem has not been resolved, the following actions may be taken by the Directress:

- Shortened day
  - Suspension
  - Dismissal
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*I/We, the parent(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ have received, read, and understand the Discipline Policy for the following center.*

Little Ones Montessori  
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Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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