

SCHOOL IN THE PINES BEHAVIOR POLICY 2024

Positive behavior (refers to actions and attitudes considered beneficial, respectful, and constructive. It involves behaving in a way that promotes kindness, cooperation, and empathy toward others.) is what we strive for at School in the Pines. Our teachers and staff do our best to exemplify positive behavior. The children are commended daily for positive behavior. The teachers will explain behavior expectations to all children on the first day of school. Behavior expectations are as follows:

Participants must:

- ❖ Respect themselves, other children, staff, facility, and supplies/equipment.
- ❖ Follow directions and participate in classroom activities
- ❖ Have fun!
- ❖ Be a positive encouragement to self and others (be a kind friend)

+++The preschool/childcare center WILL NOT tolerate aggressive behavior (i.e. hitting, kicking, biting, pushing, name-calling, screaming etc.) +++

School-age note: rude and disrespectful language (to staff or another child), blatantly not following classroom rules and expectations, bullying other students, etc. are all grounds for written warnings, suspension, and expulsion.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the rights of the teachers and the children who sometimes become victims of an aggressive child. Some behavior is not considered aggressive but is still corrected in the preschool environment; examples are running in the classroom, not sitting still, not keeping hands to self, speaking out of turn repeatedly, in which redirection will be used, and a note may be sent home (at teacher's discretion). If these types of non-aggressive but negative behaviors continue, they may be included in the behaviors that would require written warnings and/or removal from the preschool/childcare/summer camp/after-school program.

Our goal with this policy is to protect the teacher's rights as well as the rights of children we care for. If your child engages in behaviors that are unsafe and/or disruptive which will endanger himself/herself or another participant, or interfere with successful completion of the program, the following procedures will be followed.

1. The child will be given an explanation by the teacher of his/her aggressive behavior and will be given a warning that includes further consequences if the behavior continues. If the aggressive behavior continues, the child will be given a time-out and the child will be placed away from the group for a few minutes. A written warning will be provided to the parent upon pickup (a text or call will be made sooner if behavior is serious). Parents must sign the warning.
2. On the second offense, the parent(s) will be contacted about the specific incident at the end of the day or sooner as deemed appropriate by the teacher. A second written warning will be signed.
3. On the third offense, the parent(s) will be contacted, and the child must be removed from the program immediately for the remainder of the day. At this point, seeking assistance for the child's behavior is strongly recommended. Our director can provide information on how to access community and/or behavioral resources.
4. On the fourth offense, the parent(s) will be called, and the child must be removed from the program and not allowed to return unless behavior and community resources have been sought out, and a school-approved plan is in place to address behavior.

* Positive behavior refers to actions and attitudes considered beneficial, respectful, and constructive. It involves behaving in a way that promotes kindness, cooperation, and empathy toward others.

School in the Pines reserves the right to terminate care at any time for any reason, including but not limited to: failure to pay tuition or late fees on time, threats or rude language from parents/caregivers or students, failure to follow behavior policy, failure to adhere to school policies.

What are effective ways to help your child maintain positive behavior? Please offer the school a written statement with suggestions