

KINGS COUNTY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE AGENCY



Behaviour Guidance Policy

Children need positive experiences to enhance their feelings of self worth. The Agency embraces a pro active approach to behaviour management and child guidance and at all times focuses on strategies which acknowledge and reward positive behaviour.

Child Care Providers acknowledge and accept that children misbehave at times. Disruptive behaviour may be a way for a child to test the world and find her/his place in the home and community. When a child's behaviour is inappropriate and/or threatens the safety of themselves or others, intervention is necessary. The intervention taken should consider the immediate situation as well as any individual issues or conditions of the child [ren]. All interventions should be timely, deliberate, fair and consistent.

- The Agency has a written behaviour guidance policy with respect to behaviour guidance practices. The policy applies to all Agency staff, volunteers, and Child Care Providers.
- Staff, volunteers, and Child Care Providers are required to follow the guidelines at all times.
- A copy of the behaviour guidance policy is posted on the parent bulletin board in the Family Home Day Care and is also posted at the Agency facilities. A copy may be obtained from the Agency.
- The written behaviour guidance policy is reviewed with staff, Child Care Providers and volunteers:
 - Prior to the start of their employment or their interaction with the centre or Agency; and
 - Annually thereafter to ensure that staff, Child Care Providers and volunteers understand and are able to apply the policy.

Staff and Child Care Providers will:

- Be knowledgeable about and show an interest in behaviour management and child guidance strategies and issues.

- Focus on and praise appropriate behaviour
- Help children develop self-discipline skills in age-appropriate ways.
- Where possible, allow children to work out problems themselves (intervening when the safety of the child [ren] or property is at risk).
- As much as possible, focus on the injured party in the dispute (to focus on the aggressor is to reinforce inappropriate behaviour).
- Help children understand that it is only their inappropriate behaviour that is unacceptable.
- Keep open communication with the parents/guardians to ensure the development of behaviour management strategies that will benefit the child.

The following provisions are included in the early learning and child care regulations and must be followed by every Agency. (6C) No operator shall:

- Permit corporal punishment, including but not limited to
 - Striking a child directly or with any physical object.
 - Shaking, shoving, spanking, or other forms of aggressive physical contact.
- Require or force a child to repeat physical movements.
- Use harsh, humiliating, belittling or degrading responses of any form, including verbal, emotional or physical.
- Confine or isolate a child.
- Offer food to reinforce positive behaviours.
- Withhold food as a consequence for inappropriate behaviours.
- Food is not used as a reward for completing a task or finishing a meal (e.g. dessert will not be withheld if the child does not finish the main meal).
- Deprive a child of basic needs including food, shelter, clothing, or bedding.