



Positive Guidance and Discipline Policy

Discipline is a matter of planning, and setting clear limits and expectations; it is redirection and logical consequences, not punishment. Discipline is also a matter of anticipating and preventing situations and “heading them off at the pass.” Positive discipline is a matter of teaching children how to interact with each other in a safe and respectful manner. Its helping each child develop and maintain self-control and self-esteem.

At Zadie’s, our job is to gently encourage and support self-control, to protect children and help them learn how to behave responsibly.

Each child at Zadie’s is respected as a special individual, even during their power struggles and the fights for independence. We do not believe in characterizing children as bad, mean or nasty or using any other derogatory terms.

Labels stick. At Zadie’s, we avoid labeling children because children believe what we tell them about themselves, and their behavior will reflect those beliefs.

We praise children when they are behaving well so that they know how pleased we are when they are behaving in an acceptable manner. We remember to model appropriate behavior because children imitate and learn from us. Positive discipline takes time, patience and repetition but the outcome is well worth the wait.

To maintain an orderly classroom dynamic, Zadie’s staff members shall:

- Make children aware of appropriate and inappropriate behavior in the classroom.
- Help the children, with appropriate language, understand the problems that may be causing their inappropriate behavior.
- Use redirection, logical consequences or “Cool Down” Time methods to discipline inappropriate behavior.
- Assist and encourage children to express their feelings.
- Have a few consistent, clear rules that are understood by children and adults.
- Have a well-planned daily schedule in a structured classroom environment.
- Anticipate and eliminate potential problems.
- Praise each child daily.
- Show each child love and encouragement.

Zadie’s staff members will not:

- Hit, shake, or any other form of corporal punishment
- Use abusive language, ridicule, harsh, humiliating or frightening treatment or any other form of emotional punishment of children
- Engaging in or inflicting any form of child abuse and/or neglect
- Withhold food, emotional responses, stimulation, or opportunities for rest or sleep
- Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for an inappropriately long period of time

I have received and read a copy of Zadie’s Early Childhood Center’s POSITIVE GUIDANCE AND DISCIPLINE Policy.

CHILD’S NAME: _____

PARENT’S NAME: _____

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____