

Totowa Education Foundation

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Philosophy of Child Discipline

NAME OF CENTER: KOPS 4 KIDS Washington Park School

It is the philosophy of this center to help children grow emotionally as well as intellectually, to help children succeed, feel good about themselves, and be able to express their feelings in a positive and constructive manner.

It is our policy that discipline be positive. Discipline is not punishment. It is a way of helping children learn to identify socially acceptable behavior.

Within our center, limits and rules are clearly defined, consistent with and in accord with the appropriate development and age of each child, and the program in general. We focus strongly upon the reinforcement of acceptable behavior, and the prevention of undesirable behavior by being ourselves, responsive to the needs of the children.

Methods of correcting inappropriate behavior within the center consist of the following:

1. Re-direction of activities to change the focus of a child's behavior;
2. Individualized attention to help the child deal with a particular situation;
3. *Time-out: the removal of a child from the area of activity, for a few minutes, so that he/she may gain self-control; and
4. Attention to good behavior to respond to and reinforce positive behavior, acknowledge or praise the child when behaving well to let him/her know that we approve of what he/she is doing.

Discipline shall not be isolation without supervision or the withholding of food or attention. No child shall be subjected to corporal punishment, emotional neglect, abusive language, ridicule or any behavior that shall intimidate, frighten or endanger the child or his/her self-image.

*Time-out shall be used as a last resort in disciplining any child who is misbehaving.