



Discipline Policy

Fishersville United Methodist Church Noah's Ark Learning Center provides a living, nurturing and enriching environment for our students where there is a consistent adult guidance and discipline. Our teachers both model and teach appropriate behavior. When correction is necessary we strive to discipline in atmosphere filled with the love of Jesus Christ.

Techniques:

We use disciplinary techniques to help the children become self-directed and controlled in their behavior. These techniques include, but are not limited to:

- **Classroom Expectations:** Ensure that all children KNOW the classroom expectations and those they are developmentally appropriate.
- **Positive Reinforcement:** Verbally acknowledge good character qualities being exhibited.
- **Choices:** Create an environment rich in choices, explain the choices available and encourage good choices for both the individual and group.
- **Redirecting:** Distract the child's attention from unacceptable behavior and redirect them into a positive situation and then help them to stay involved in the positive activity.
- **Empathy:** Encourage each child to think about the well-being of each other and how their personal action can affect others in a negative way.
- **Natural and Logical Consequences:** School rules are clear, concise and indicate the consequences of disobeying the rules.
- **Problem Solving:** Help a child brainstorm by coming up with different solutions. Encourage the child to choose the best one, working through the situation to a natural and positive conclusion.
- **Verbal vs Physical:** Encourage children to use words to express anger, fear and frustration as opposed to physical actions. Hands are used to show love and kindness.
- **Alternative seating/activity:** Sometimes a child needs time to regain self-control and to contemplate their actions before rejoining the group so they are offered an alternative place to sit or an alternative activity to do.

Sexual Harassment:

No child or staff member will be subjected to any form of sexual harassment or intimidation by child or staff member.

Prohibited Punishment Styles:

The following punishment styles are strictly prohibited at Fishersville United Methodist Church Child Development Center.

- Physical Punishment or infliction of pain
- Humiliation or intimidation
- Ridicule or name calling

- Coercion
- Threat or mental abuse
- Withholding food, water or bathroom privileges

Noah's Ark Learning Center reserves the right to request a child be withdrawn from the school when, in the opinion of the school, the child's needs can no longer be met by this program.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____