

Discipline Policy: (as noted in the preschool handbook)

The teachers and students in each class will discuss behavior expectations throughout the year. As appropriate, each class will add specific examples relating to each of the items listed above. For example, a 4's class added "share", then another added "respect the rights of others," and the 3's specified "if you put down your toy and move on to something else, another friend can use it."

All Connect Christian Academy staff will:

- Provide limits in a calm, consistent, and respectful manner, which allows the child to grow in self-control and self-esteem.
- Respond to a child's challenging behavior, including physical aggression, in a manner that provides for the safety of the child and the others in the classroom.
- Help children learn to identify both positive and negative emotions, as well as to express them appropriately.
- Work with children to develop conflict resolution skills necessary to solve their disagreements in an appropriate manner.
- Help children express and acknowledge their choices.
- Help children describe problems, evaluate their actions, verbalize alternatives, and consider the perspective of others. Children are guided and supported as they learn to accept the natural consequences of their actions. This approach includes positive reinforcement for appropriate behavior, redirection, and reminders of classroom rules, modifying the classroom environment and/or daily schedule, and providing a supervised quiet time for the child to gain control. After a quiet time, the teacher invites the child to rejoin the group and reminds the child of the relevant expectations for the activity in progress. Staff shall observe all children and document any problem behavior to help ascertain any patterns like events, activities, and interactions, as well as any precipitating contextual factors. If a child's behavior problem persists or becomes dangerous to the other children in the class (e.g., punching, kicking, temper tantrums), the child will first be removed from the class and the teacher will try to calm the child. If that doesn't work, the teacher will bring the child to the office and call the parent to come and pick the child up. Such situations are rare at the Connect Christian Academy and are discussed thoroughly with the child, the teacher, and the parent to determine positive steps toward solution. Families are referred to specialists for help with persistent behavior problems that may be linked to developmental issues, with the goal being to support the child's successful inclusion in the classroom.

Prohibited Practices & Reporting Child Abuse

If any staff member or person from the child's family, while in the vicinity of Connect Christian Academy, engages in a practice prohibited by the program, the Director will take necessary steps to assure that there is no reoccurrence of the practice.

- Corporal or any type of physical punishment is not permitted. This includes hitting, spanking, beating, shaking, pinching, or other measures that produce physical pain.
- Withdrawal or the threat of withdrawal of food, rest, or bathroom opportunities is not permitted.
- Abusive, profane or derogatory language, including yelling and belittling, is not permitted.
- Any form of public or private humiliation, including threats of physical punishment, is not permitted.
- Any form of emotional abuse, including rejecting, terrorizing, isolating, or corrupting a child is not permitted.