

VACAMAS DISCIPLINARY POLICY



The purpose of discipline is to help people understand and modify unacceptable behavior and/or attitudes. When it becomes necessary to discipline children or other staff, by a supervisor, care must be taken that all reprimands and/or punishments are just, consistent and befitting the particular infraction as determined by the following guidelines.....

DISCIPLINE SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE OR EDUCATIONAL IN NATURE AND MAY INCLUDE SUCH MEASURES AS DIVERSION, SEPARATION FROM PROBLEM SITUATIONS AND DISCUSSION ABOUT THE SITUATION.

SEPARATION, WHEN USED AS DISCIPLINE, SHALL BE BRIEF (10-30 minutes depending on age) AND APPROPRIATE TO THE PERSON'S AGE AND CIRCUMSTANCES AND SHALL BE IN A SAFE, WELL VENTILATED PLACE. CHILDREN SHALL BE WITHIN HEARING DISTANCE AND SIGHT OF A STAFF MEMBER.

CHILDREN AND STAFF MEMBERS SHALL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO FEAR, MENTAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE OR HUMILIATION.

A CHILD SHALL NOT BE DEPRIVED OF FOOD, ISOLATED OR SUBJECTED TO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OR ABUSIVE PHYSICAL EXERCISE AS A MEANS OF PUNISHMENT EITHER BY STAFF OR BY ANOTHER CAMPER.

VERBAL ABUSE OR DEROGATORY REMARKS ABOUT THE PERSON, HIS/HER FAMILY, GENDER, RACE, RELIGION OR CULTURAL BACKGROUND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

CAMPERS SHALL AT NO TIME BE ALLOWED TO PUNISH OR DISCIPLINE ANOTHER CAMPER.

PROFANITY IS UNNECESSARY AND UNACCEPTABLE. THE USE OF PROFANITY BY CHILDREN AND STAFF MUST NOT BE IGNORED AND MUST BE DEALT WITH IN A MANNER APPROPRIATE TO THE SITUATION.

PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SHOULD BE GIVEN WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

NEVER ATTEMPT TO HANDLE A SITUATION THAT YOU KNOW OR SUSPECT THAT YOU CANNOT DEAL WITH EFFECTIVELY. ASK FOR HELP FROM A SUPERVISOR.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU PLACE YOURSELF ALONE WITH A CHILD WITHOUT OTHER CAMPERS OR STAFF MEMBERS IN SIGHT

NEVER DEAL WITH A CHILD OUT OF ANGER, A CO-WORKER OR SUPERVISOR CAN HANDLE THE CHILD UNTIL YOU ARE CALM. If you feel angry, extremely impatient or tired, ASK FOR HELP.