

Child Guidance and Classroom Management

The ultimate goal of behavior guidance and classroom management systems is that children learn self-discipline and become good decision makers. At *The Peacock's Plume*, we use positive approaches to guide children towards these goals.

Our first step is to structure our learning environments so that there are minimal behavior problems. These proactive methods may include:

- Having multiples of favorite toys.
- Making materials easily accessible to children.
- Providing a balance of child-directed choices and teacher-directed activities over the course of a day.
- Creating stimulating and developmentally appropriate classrooms that engage and challenge children.
- Teachers moving around the room to be available to children, playing alongside them and modeling respectful and appropriate interaction strategies.

When misbehaviors do occur, teachers use a variety of techniques to address these concerns. These reactive methods may include:

- Distraction (Infants and Toddlers): Teachers ignore the behavior while involving the child in a more positive choice.
- Redirection: Teachers help a child understand that a behavior is not appropriate and focus his/her attention on a more acceptable alternative.
- Normal Social Consequences: Teachers allow normal consequences to occur and help children recognize how their behaviors lead to these consequences.
- Conflict Resolution: Teachers lead children in conversations with each other to solve social problems that arise in the classroom and to help them understand how their behaviors impact others.
- Investigation: Through observation, discussions between family and staff and documentation, teachers will work together to determine and correct the root cause of disruptive behaviors.
- Children will not be subjected to discipline which is severe, humiliating or frightening.
- Discipline shall not be associated with food, rest or toileting.
- Spanking or any other form of physical punishment is prohibited.

Through these proactive and reactive means, *The Peacock's Plume* works to treat each family with care and respect while guiding children towards the goals of self-discipline and positive decision making. We ask you to support us in modeling positive behavior with all children at the center. Please refrain from using developmentally inappropriate language or improper behavior guidance measures while at the center.

I have received in writing the Disciplinary Practices and Procedures used at *The Peacock's Plume*.

Parent or Guardian

Date

Parent or Guardian

Date