## Clemson Montessori School, Inc.

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## **DISCIPLINE POLICY**

We at Clemson Montessori School recognize the dignity and worth of every human being within the School. We want the children to develop a positive self-image and respect for themselves, others and the environment. We believe that by treating the children with fairness and respect, they will react in kind.

Appropriate behavior and important rules are modeled and explained to the children. Children who respect these parameters are given freedom to make choices about where, with what, and with whom they work and play. Children who disregard this information (such as hurting themselves or others, interfering with the work of others, refusing to acknowledge or comply with a request, or ignoring safety rules) are reminded of the correct behavior and re-directed. Redirection from a negative to a positive situation, modeling and logical consequences are the preferred and usually successful ways of handling most situations.

When redirection is unsuccessful or a child continues to have difficulty following the rules, the child will lose freedom to make their own choices. A child may be asked to work at a certain place in the classroom or may be removed from play on the playground. A child may be asked to sit by a teacher to observe other students at work or play. This is essentially time for thinking and calming for the child.

After a prescribed period of time has elapsed, the child is asked to explain why he has been removed from work or play. If he/she does not understand why, the student and teacher discuss the problem.

If there is a persistent or serious problem, the parents are asked to meet with the staff. Together we strive to reach a solution.

The philosophy of the School is based on love and respect. We believe that the adults must be models of the behavior they wish to elicit from the children and others, and must show respect for the child and others at all times. Therefore, any abuse of the child, and/or others, verbal, psychological, or physical is prohibited. It is the policy of our staff <u>never</u> to use or threaten to use any physical punishment. Verbal abuse is never permitted.

I have read, understand and will comply with the above discipline policy of Clemson Montessori School.
