

Discipline Policy for MDO@Oakwood

- Discipline must be:
 - 1) Individualized and consistent for each child
 - 2) Appropriate to the child's level of understanding
 - 3) Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control

- A care-giver may only use positive methods of discipline that encourage self-esteem, self-control and self-direction, which include at least the following:
 - 1) Using praise and encouragement for good behavior instead of focusing only on unacceptable behavior
 - 2) Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements
 - 3) Redirecting behavior using positive statements
 - 4) Using brief supervised separation from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.

- There must be no harsh or cruel or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline are prohibited:
 - 1) Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment
 - 2) Punishment associated with food, naps or toilet training
 - 3) Pinching, shaking or biting a child
 - 4) Hitting a child with a hand or instrument
 - 5) Putting anything in or on a child's mouth
 - 6) Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting or yelling at a child
 - 7) Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive or profane language
 - 8) Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom or closet
 - 9) Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.