

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The Montessori philosophy is such that each person within the environment has certain rights and privileges. Ground rules are set up by and for the class and are expected to be followed for the social cohesion of the group. The aim of the method, in the words of Dr. Montessori, is “*The idea is to like what we do, but not do as we like.*” When the rights of an individual within the environment are infringed upon, positive steps for correction are taken.

The following shall be measures taken in disciplinary actions:

1. A positive example is modeled by the teacher.
2. The teacher will counsel with the child.
3. The lesson on proper conduct will be repeated with the child.
4. If the child cannot control him/herself, the teacher will hold the child’s hand or body until the child can be in control.
5. The child may sit in a quiet area of the classroom.
6. The child may be isolated with supervision.
7. The teacher and/or child will communicate with the parents about the problem.
8. *ABC* will go into effect: [*Absence Before Conference*] The child will be sent home until the parents and child can meet with the teacher and the director.
9. After three incidents of removal from the classroom, a medical evaluation will be required to rule out physical causes of behavioral problems.
10. A psychological evaluation will be required and counseling will be mandatory to correct behavioral problems if diagnosed.

DISCIPLINE POLICY FOR ABUSIVE AND OBSCENE LANGUAGE

The use of abusive and/or obscene language will not be tolerated at the Amarillo Montessori Academy.

1. The child will be advised one time not to use abusive or obscene language and the parents will be notified.
2. Upon recurrence the child will be removed from the school and the parents will pick up the child and take him or her home.
3. If the offense is repeated, the child will be suspended and will not return to school until he/she understands that the offense will not be repeated.
4. The final step will be withdrawal from the program.

**Discipline and Guidance Policy for Amarillo Academy
Per TDFPS**

Discipline must be:

- (1) Individualized and consistent for each child;
- (2) Appropriate to the child's level of understanding; and
- (3) Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include at least the following;

- (1) Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
- (2) Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
- (3) Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
- (4) Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to not more than one minute per year of the child's age.

There must be no harsh, cruel or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance 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 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 with the door closed; and
- (9) Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

My signature below verifies that I have read and received a copy of this discipline and Guidance policy:

Signature

Date

Circle one please:

Parent

Employee/caregiver