

# **Livonia Nursery Inc.**

## **A Cooperative Preschool**

### **Discipline Policy**

Each child at our school is unique and each one different. Our priority is to provide a safe and challenging environment in which children can grow and learn.

There are many situations in a classroom of 3 and 4 year olds where a conflict will arise. We will take these opportunities to teach each child ways to solve their differences in an acceptable way. (i.e.: talking, compromise or patience) We believe strongly in giving praise for good behavior and not bad behavior. We regard discipline as teaching appropriate forms of acceptable behavior, not punishment.

When a child does become physical with another child or is unable to follow direction, we will follow these steps.

1. Try to redirect the child to another activity before a conflict arises. We do not remove the child from the situation, but allow the children to work together calmly. I.s.: "Why don't you help Karen build a garage next to her house?" or "Would you and Karen like to come with me to the play dough table?"
2. Encourage children to talk to classmates. "Use Your Words". The teacher or parent will act as a mediator and offer suggestions, but will allow the children to come up with a workable solution if possible.
3. An apology will be suggested, if deemed appropriate.
4. If the inappropriate behavior continues, the child would then be removed from the situation to where the teacher and child can discuss the conflict calmly.
5. If the conflict occurs again a "Time Out" only at the teacher's request would take place. The time out would be in the classroom, with the teacher and child discussing the reasons for the time out. The child would be able to decide when he/she is ready to come back into the group.
6. If the above methods are unsuccessful, then the child's parents will be called to come to the school and stay with their child. The teacher will request a Board meeting to discuss the situation. The Board and teacher will come up with ideas to handle the problem. You may be present at this meeting. This meeting is confidential. The Greater Detroit Cooperative Nursery Council may also be consulted for professional advice.