

Discipline Policy

Someone once said, Discipline is the gift of responsible love.

When children receive positive, non-violent, and understanding interactions from adults and others, they develop good self-concepts, problem-solving abilities, and self-discipline. They learn to take responsibility for their own behavior. Based on this belief of how children learn and develop values, this school will practice the following discipline and guidance policy.

WE DO:

1. praise, reward, and encourage the children.
2. reason with and set limits for the children and give gentle reminders.
3. model appropriate behavior for the children.
4. modify the classroom in order to anticipate trouble and motivate productive behavior.
5. listen to the children and offer choices.
6. provide alternatives for inappropriate behavior.
7. provide the children with natural and logical consequences of their behavior.
8. treat each child as a person and respect his/her needs, desires, and feelings.
9. overlook small annoyances.
10. explain things to the children on their level and try to clarify issues.
11. use short supervised periods of "time away".
This is only used when the child is feeling out of control and needs help to calm down and focus.
12. inject humor.
13. stay consistent in our behavior, guidance and discipline.

WE DO NOT:

1. spank, shake, bite, pinch, push, pull, slap or otherwise physically punish the children.
2. make fun of, yell at, threaten, make sarcastic remarks about, use profanity or otherwise verbally abuse the children.
3. shame or punish the children when bathroom accidents occur.
4. relate discipline to eating, resting, or sleeping.
5. deny food or rest as a punishment.
6. leave the children alone, unattended, or without supervision.
7. place the children in locked rooms, closets, boxes as punishment.
8. allow discipline of children by children.
9. criticize, make fun of, or otherwise belittle children, their families or ethnic group.

Some thoughts on discipline worth remembering by Fred Rogers from his book, *You Are Special*.

- It is not an easy thing for children in groups to control their impulses. What helps them feel comfortable is knowing there are adults in charge who will take charge by providing the control they need.
- Disciplining a child includes comfort, care and nurture, passing on traditions and values, and praise for achievement, and it most certainly includes example, from which young children learn so much.
- Discipline depends less on distance and authority than it does on intimacy and trust.
- Setting limits for their children is one of the most important ways parents can regulate their children's behavior... and help them become self-regulating adults.

PARENTS ARE ASKED TO SIGN AND RETURN THE DISCIPLINE POLICY.

I have reviewed the policies in the handbook and the discipline policy of the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church Weekday School, and feel confident in my understanding of these policies and guidelines.

Child's Name _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____