



DICKINSON COLLEGE CHILDREN'S CENTER

DCCC GUIDANCE PROCEDURES

At DCCC, guidance is regarded as a learning strategy and the procedures are based upon the philosophy of the Children's Center. The Center believes that all children should be treated with respect and that developmentally appropriate guidance strategies should be implemented. The focus will be on helping children learn inner control and resolve conflict among themselves. Classroom teachers may use some of the following strategies to encourage the children to make the right behavior choices: charts, stickers, positive reinforcement, redirection, and timers.

Teachers can work to avoid behavior problems by good planning and classroom management. The teacher who has numerous safe and meaningful learning experiences available for the children will avoid the conflicts and frustrations caused by general confusion, tension, over fatigue, over stimulation or under stimulation and unrealistic expectations.

DCCC is operated on the follow standards of care:

- Treating each child with respect
- There are some behaviors that are okay to ignore.
- Giving careful consideration is to room arrangement, daily schedules, and age appropriate expectations.
- Using redirection whenever possible.
- Using signals to help shape appropriate behavior.
- Giving clear positively stated directions.
- Consistency with classroom routines and directions.
- Teachers should teach regular routines and procedures in addition to rules. These procedures should be reviewed and practiced regularly.
- Intervening before a problem arises.
- Giving choices when possible
- Modeling the steps of conflict resolution for children

ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM FOR PRESCHOOL

The Children's Center has two Anti-bullying programs implemented daily within the Preschool Curriculum. These programs are the PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) Program and the Bucket-Filling Program. At the preschool age, the main focus of the programs is preventing bullying behaviors in young children. Bullying is an act (or acts) of repeated aggressive behavior in order to intentionally hurt another person, physically or mentally. Bullying is characterized by an individual behaving in a certain way to gain power over another person.

The mission of the Children's Center is to recognize each child as a unique individual and to help them reach their fullest potential. Children learn best when they feel safe and secure. Our goal is to provide an environment in which every child has the opportunity to learn. These two programs will support our goals for the children. The programs encourage kindness, caring, respectfulness and overall positive behaviors.

In order to aid children in their learning of social and emotional skills, DCCC has chosen the PATHS Program. The PATHS Program covers these domains of social and emotional development: self-control, emotional understanding, positive self-esteem, relationships, interpersonal problem solving skills, and conflict resolution. The program consists of literature, games and puppets to teach in an interesting and exciting way. (www.channing-bete.com/prevention-programs/paths/overview.html)

Bucket Filling is a character development program. Bucket-filling is an easy-to-understand concept: Everyone carries an invisible bucket that holds our good thoughts and feelings. When our buckets are full, we feel happy and when our buckets are empty we feel sad. Children quickly understand that they can fill buckets when they do and say things that are kind, considerate, caring and respectful. They also learn that when they are mean, inconsiderate, uncaring or disrespectful, they dip into buckets and remove those good feelings from others. Even the youngest child understands that actions and words can either fill a bucket or dip into it. Through this program we hope to encourage, remind, and recognize everyone's efforts to be bucket fillers at home, at school and everywhere they go (2010 Bucket Fillers, Inc.).

To support the Bucket Filling program, we will use three literature books:

1. *Fill a Bucket: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Young Children* by Carol McCloud and Katherine Martin, M.A.
2. *Have you Filled a Bucket Today?* by Carol McCloud
3. *How Full is Your Bucket?* For Kids by Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer

For more information regarding this program go to:
www.bucketfillers101.com

For further details on the Guidance Procedures, please check out the Children's Center website.