

The Children's League The League for the Handicapped

POLICY FOR BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

The Children's League strives to provide each child with a supportive environment where successful learning experiences support growth in all areas of development including social, emotional, cognitive, motor, and communication. Positive behavioral supports are used to create an atmosphere where there are ongoing opportunities for each child to receive reinforcement for their achievements.

In classrooms and therapy sessions, the classroom staff and therapists plan developmentally appropriate and engaging activities that are designed to help each child expand their learning while feeling successful. Behavioral management strategies may include verbal and physical praise and tangible reinforcers such as a sticker or edible.

Staff receives formal and informal training in behavior management techniques and are kept current with best practices in providing a supportive environment for children. Team meetings are scheduled to plan for each child's programming and to discuss strategies to ensure that expectations are realistic and consistent. Annually staff receive formal training in Crisis Prevention Intervention, a program that teaches staff to provide the best care, welfare and safety for the children.

Many purposeful strategies are used to create a positive school environment to support behavioral growth. These include a friendly and welcoming tone, developmentally appropriate materials and equipment (toys, educational materials, and gross motor equipment), a predictable daily routine, and opportunities to make choices. These strategies provide multiple opportunities for positive reinforcement throughout the day.

In the event that a child needs additional behavioral support, the program has policies in place to ensure that all children are dealt with properly and safely. Should a child need help beyond positive classroom/therapy management, parents will be involved in the development of behavior management intervention plans.

When a child specific behavior management intervention plan is being considered, the classroom team comprised of the teacher, classroom aides, therapists and a psychologist will discuss the behavioral concerns as they relate to the child's safety, the safety of peers and adults, and how the behavior(s) are interfering with the child's progress. Additional positive strategies and modifications to the learning environment will be implemented. Documentation of these measures will occur to determine if a behavior intervention plan needs to be developed.

When documentation supports the need for the development of a behavior management intervention plan the parents will be requested to participate in the development of the plan and give their consent. The major premise of *Informed Consent* is that parents/guardians are informed of all relevant aspects of a behavior management intervention plan, are given the opportunity to participate in the development of the plan, and provide consent for the plan. Parents will be kept informed of the child's response to the plan and will be involved in needed modifications to the plan.