

The Learning Cooperative

of Salem Family Resources-Success By 6

Written policy -Expelling children for challenging behaviors

NH Childcare Licensing: 4002.25(g) Programs shall develop and implement a written policy to address the limitations of expelling children from the child care program for challenging behaviors.

Several steps will be taken before a family is asked to withdraw their child from our program:

1. Staff discussion:
 - Reflection,
 - Rationale and Factors possibilities
 - Current responses/strategies
2. Observations and information gathering:
 - What happens before the behavior? (Antecedents)
lifetime impacts, recent time period, week, prior day, morning, just prior, (other children, staff requests)
 - Responses -staff response/ intervention, other children?
 - Why might this child be exhibiting this behavior?
 - Connect with family for out of school antecedents
3. Behavior hypothesis development
4. Functional Assessment and Behavior support plan developed:
 - Prevention strategies
 - Develop consistent Consequences
 - Teach skill to child- replacement behavior
 - Consequences implemented consistently across staff.
5. Meet with family to discuss Behavior Support Plan;
propose partnering with responses, consequences
6. Monitor Progress
Assess for new needs?
7. If it is determined that this program cannot meet this child's behavioral support needs and/or that the program is unable to ensure the safety of other children and/or staff, for whatever reason, the family will withdraw their child from the program.

I acknowledge receipt of this program policy:

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

4002.25(g) Programs shall **develop and implement a written policy to address the limitations of expelling children** from the child care program for challenging behaviors. **The policy shall address at a minimum:**

(1) The steps the program will take to assist the child in maintaining enrollment prior to expelling the child for challenging behaviors;

(2) Parent notification requirements regarding their child's challenging behavior; and

(3) The responsibilities of the program if the challenging behavior results in a serious safety risk to the child or others within the program.

(h) The written policy in (g) above **shall be provided to parents at enrollment.**

(i) The expulsion policy shall **only apply when addressing a child's behavior and not a parent's misconduct or the parent's failure to comply with other child care rules or laws.**

What is expulsion?

The complete and permanent removal of a child from an educational system, e.g., child care center (Gilliam & Shahar, 2006). Terminating the enrollment of a child or family in the regular group setting because of a challenging behavior or a health condition (Caring for Our Children; National Health and Safety Performance Standards Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd edition).

What is suspension?

Reduction in the amount of time a child may be in attendance of the regular group setting, either by requiring the child to cease attendance for a particular period of time or reducing the number of days or amount of time that a child may attend. Requiring a child to attend the program in a special place away from the other children in the regular group setting is included in this definition (Caring for Our Children; National Health and Safety Performance Standards Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd edition).

What are challenging behaviors?

Any behavior that makes it difficult for a young child to be successful in a group environment. Such behaviors interfere with a child's ability to positively interact with others and may disrupt the learning process or even pose health and/or safety risks. Such behaviors often frustrate adults because the behaviors do not respond to typical behavior intervention strategies (Izen and Kalinowski, 2010). Any repeated pattern of behavior that interferes with or is at risk of interfering with optimal learning or engagement in prosocial interactions with peers and adults (Powell, Fixsen, Smith, & Fox, 2007).