

**MURRIETA UNIVERSITY** 

39840 Los Alamos Rd, Murrieta, CA 92562 (951) 698-5480 murrietauniversity.com Lic # 334844364

Half Day Program 8:30am to 12:30pm

## **Discipline Policy**

An important part of attending preschool is learning how to get along with others. Conflict is a natural part of childhood, so it is important that children are taught conflict resolution skills.

Safety is our main concern and our teachers will do their best to prevent these accidents from happening; however, your child will be in a group childcare setting with several other children. It is to be expected that children will have disagreements throughout the day, the most common being an altercation over an item. When these occur, the teacher will redirect the agitated child to another activity.

It is also common for children to use their body to express their anger. Common physical expressions of anger include: scratching, biting, hitting, kicking, and pinching. The staff is there to help the child(ren) understand that this type of behavior is not acceptable. As we work through the situation, we will teach the child(ren) to "use their words" as opposed to their bodies.

The most common ways MU handles discipline are:

- Redirecting negative behavior and engaging the child(ren) in a different activity
- Using "active ignoring" (particularly in the event of a tantrum)
- Helping children understand the consequences to their behavior (e.g. "Your friend was hurt by that rough play, how does that make you feel?")
- Limiting choices or having the child do an individual activity

There are many times that children act out with poor behavior due to circumstances beyond our control. For example: divorce, recent move, death in family, or a new baby. Please keep your child's teacher informed of these types of circumstances so that we can be sympathetic and try to use more conscious discipline.

There will also be times that your child's behavior is the result of our center not "being the right fit". There are many children that need a smaller ratio, or are challenged by our rotating schedule. We feel it is important for the parent to take this into consideration if your child is having behavior challenges.

Murrieta University will do our best to work with any child that has behavior challenges. However, there will be times when we will decide that your child may have to be dis-enrolled from the center.

Unfortunately, challenging behavior can become a liability to our center. Your child's director will give your written notice prior to being dis-enrolled.

The following are considered excessive behavior problems:

- Disrespecting classmates and/or teachers
- Intentional destruction of school property
- Excessive foul language
- Excessive amounts of aggressive behavior such as but not limited to; hitting, biting, kicking, pinching, and spitting

The staff at MU expects the parents to cooperate and participate in the consequences of excessive behavior problems. The director may call the parent and/ or have the parent pick up their child based on the inability of the staff to regain control of a discipline situation. The director may unenroll a child based on the parent's unwillingness to engage and follow through with a plan of action.

I have read and understand the discipline policy as set forth by Murrieta University.

Child's Name

Signature of Parent

Date