

## Cheder Menachem of NJ חדר מנחם

## Cheder Menachem Discipline Policy

Our staff takes a positive approach to discipline. Children will be recognized for the positive behaviors that they exhibit, instead of only focusing on the negatives. We focus on the strengths of each child as a unique individual and recognize that each child has different needs and personalities. A goal of the program will also be to help the children to develop self-control and learn alternate ways to resolve conflicts. This goal will be achieved by the teachers modeling appropriate behaviors and providing conflictresolving words that young children may not yet have.

We give lots of positive reinforcement and praise. We encourage children to express themselves verbally. In the event that action is necessary, the child will be redirected to another activity or a different area of the classroom. Teachers will also use preventive measures to stop a potential conflict before it starts by intervening and providing assistance to those children involved.

The staff will avoid using a "timeout" as a punishment or isolation period away from the other children. A child may need a "cool down" period if she has been especially aggressive. This is not intended to be punitive; it provides a quiet outlet for the child to regain selfcontrol. Any staff person using physical punishment, abusive language, or relating negative discipline to toileting, food, or rest will be promptly dismissed and reported through appropriate channels. Staff will receive professional development and training to expand their knowledge and effectiveness in this area.

If a child is removed from the classroom in order to protect the child, teacher, or other children, it is done to help the child break a pattern of inappropriate behavior and give him time to "regroup." Teachers will inform parents about the child's behavior and any resulting actions or steps taken.