

Watauga County Foster Home Discipline Policy

Discipline is a training process through which a child develops the self-control, self-reliance and orderly conduct necessary to assume responsibilities, make daily living decisions and live according to accepted levels of social behaviors. The goals of discipline for children in foster care are:

1. To problem solve appropriate ways of getting needs met
2. To feel good about relationships with adults and other children
3. To have positive self-esteem/concept

In order to accomplish these goals, the following guidelines should be followed:

1. All discipline must be reasonable and responsibly related to the child's understanding, need and level of behavior. All discipline shall be limited to the least restrictive age appropriate method and administered in an appropriate manner
2. Encouragement and praise of good behavior is more often effective than punishment and is a must in disciplining a child. The child's acceptance of discipline and ability to profit by it depends largely upon feeling like they are liked, accepted and respected.
3. Any discipline must be determined on an individual basis and be related to the undesirable behavior. Requiring children to accept the natural consequences of their acts may be a desirable experience provided consequences are not too drastic.
4. Use the techniques provided in MAPP training and in your resource notebooks for ideas on appropriate discipline.

The following forms of punishment ARE NOT ALLOWED AND WILL RESULT IN TERMINATION OF FOSTER PARENT LICENSE

1. Corporal punishment such as spanking, slapping, hitting with hand or any object
2. Any punishment that causes physical distress
3. Cruel and unusual punishment
4. Assignments of excessive or inappropriate work
5. Denial of meals and daily needs
6. Use of food for negative or positive consequences
7. Verbal abuse, ridicule or humiliation
8. Permitting a child to punish another child
9. Any type of restraint, basket hold, etc.
10. Denial of visits, calls, or communication with birth family or case worker
11. Threat of removal from home

I have read this policy and shall comply with it. If I have questions or need clarification I will check with my social worker.

Foster Parent

Date

Foster Parent

Date