



Discipline Policy and Ground Rules

Behavior and Discipline

The Classroom Director is responsible for discipline of the students. Classroom Directors may obtain the assistance of the Executive Director or other appropriate school personnel in fulfilling this responsibility. Students are expected to respect the rights of others as they work, study and play in shared spaces. Rules are established to define parameters for behavior to promote safety and growth. FVMS rules may not be identical to those in shared spaces. Rules are established by individual families for their own use; however, parents are expected to respect the efficacy and support FVMS rules.

FVMS does not use physical means of discipline. FVMS employs a positive sense of self-discipline, rather than a negative "punishment" discipline. FVMS controls activities in a carefully prepared environment in which the adult is prepared and establishes a tone of peace, harmony and concentration. Discipline is intended to maintain a child's sense of self and to help the child develop pro-social behaviors. Means such as positive requests and offering limited choices are employed. A child may be requested to accompany an adult in the environment or may be asked to sit aside and observe others if he/she is experiencing behavioral difficulties in the classroom.

Constant disruptive behavior can detract from a child's ability to learn, as well as that of others. FVMS can rightfully remove a child from the learning environment or dismiss a student who does not show evidence of being able to be in a successful Montessori environment. Likewise, the school's deepest interest is in the child, his or her physiological and psychological growth. The child will be assessed by the Classroom Director, Executive Director, parents and/or other resources to determine what measures will assist the child in being successful and in being assimilated into the classroom in a productive manner.

Non-Aggression

FVMS staff shall not display or condone any form of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation. FVMS shall intervene to prevent or stop physical aggression or harm to any child. The policy applies toward staff, parents, and students. This policy is non-negotiable. A child may be dismissed for violation of this non-aggression policy.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____