

UCC Religious Education Program Behavior Policy Preschool - Twelfth Grade

Purpose

The purpose of our Behavior Policy is:

- To provide an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for all children.
- To establish clear definitions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior.
- To create a positive atmosphere that is conducive to learning.
- To provide teachers with guidelines to ensure that the response to inappropriate behavior is consistent throughout the program.

Behavioral Expectations

The behavior expectations are:

- Respect others, equipment, facilities, and self.
- Cooperate with others.
- Follow the teacher's directions.
- Stay in program areas -- adult supervision is required at all times.
- Use appropriate language at all times.
- Refrain from disruptive behavior.

Behavioral Expectations will be Taught

Each class creates a class covenant based on these expectations so the children clearly understand what is expected of them.

To teach appropriate behaviors, the teachers will:

- Present the expectations.
- Discuss the reason for each expectation.
- Describe and rehearse positive examples.
- Describe negative examples.
- Create a class covenant based on these expectations.

Ongoing Behavior Support

The focus in our program is on supporting and encouraging appropriate behavior rather than on punishing inappropriate behavior.

Teachers will:

- Use verbal praise.
- Continuously reinforce the desired behaviors.
- Redirect the child's energy into a positive outlet.
- Engage child's interest in classroom activities.

While most inappropriate behaviors do not threaten the physical or emotional safety of the children, some inappropriate behaviors cannot be tolerated:

- Physical violence (hitting, kicking, biting, etc.)
- Bullying
- Verbal attacks
- Behavior that is so disruptive that it prevents the teacher from teaching.

If such behavior occurs, one of the teachers will remove the child from the situation. The teacher and/or the DRE will work to help the child understand why the behavior was unacceptable and figure out ways to prevent it from happening again. Parents will be informed of what happened and asked to help the teachers work with their child to ensure that all involved have a positive experience.