

MudPie University Preschool
1343 Countryside Ct.
Germantown Hills, IL 61548

Guidance and Discipline

MPU's guidance and discipline philosophy is based on our approach to teaching young children. We focus on fostering problem-solving skills, enabling children to solve problems with their peers, and on helping children build positive relationships. This reinforces our belief in and respect for the capability of children. MPU recognizes that each child is a unique person with an individual pattern and timing of growth, as well as individual personality, learning style, and family background. While some behaviors may be typical for a specific "age and stage" we recognize that children learn appropriate social behaviors at different rates.

When any child presents with challenging behavior, MPU shall follow the standards of the [National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\)](#):

- Observe the children, and then identify events, activities, interactions and other factors that predict and may contribute to challenging behavior.
- Rather than focus only on eliminating the behavior, teaching staff shall focus on teaching the child social, communication, and emotional regulation skills and using environmental modifications, activity modifications, adult or peer support and other teaching strategies to support the child's appropriate behavior.
- Teaching staff shall respond to challenging behavior, including physical aggression, in a manner that provides for the safety of the child and the safety of others in the classroom. Our response will be calm, respectful and provide the child with information on what is acceptable behavior and what is not.
- We will document the challenging behaviors and the intervention methods that were attempted in a behavior tracking log.
- Teacher-parent discussions regarding a child's behavior shall be held in private and shall focus on working as a team to develop and implement an individualized plan that supports the child's inclusion and success.
- If necessary, intervention shall ensure each child has access to professional services, such as referrals to the educational cooperative behavioral specialist, the ADE-funded regional support network for early autism identification, community mental health center and/or a private therapist.

If unacceptable behavior continues after attempts at intervention, and a decision is made that keeping a child in our program is not in the best interest of the child or his/her peers, MPU will work with families to transition a child out of the program and into a more appropriate setting.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____