



Severe Behaviors Policy

Ridge Kids Playcare understands that severe behaviors will occur. We classify severe behavior as:

- Severe defiance or disruption.
- Verbal abuse to Educators and/ or other children, including profanity.
- Destruction of personal or facility or other children's property.
- Physical abuse to Educators or other children.
- Leaving the program boundaries or group activities without permission.
- Theft.
- Bullying or antagonizing behavior.

In the case that a child exhibits any of the severe behaviors noted above, and the Child Guidance Prevention strategies have been exhausted, the following steps will be taken.

1. The child will be redirected to the Calm Corner or a table where they can engage in various materials to assist with regulating their emotions and/or behavior. Other children may be removed from the space depending on the circumstances (i.e. concerns for safety).
2. Educators will work with the child to assist them in calming their mind and body, so they can rejoin the group and follow expectations. This could include sitting with them or letting them have time to themselves to regulate.
3. Physical intervention and/or restraint will only occur if it is reasonable in the circumstances and all other strategies have been unsuccessful and/or if the child is at risk of hurting themselves or others. For example, an Educator would step between children who may hit each other or take an item from their hands. Once the child is ready to return to an activity or task, Educators will supportively reintroduce the child as they settle back into it. When appropriate, Educators will debrief with all the children and discuss their emotions.
4. In rare cases, Parents/Guardians may be contacted to pick their child up if they continue to put themselves or others at risk. For example, a child is unable to be reintroduced into the program after twenty (20) minutes of combined strategies or a child may be tipping chairs, tossing items, defiant or disturbing other programming, etc.



Follow-up

The Director of Ridge Kids Playcare Corp. will be immediately notified of the situation

1. An Incident Report will be documented and shared with the family.
2. Upon Parent/Guardian arrival, Educator will discuss the situation.
3. Communication may need to be shared with other families in the program when a child's behavior may have impacted other children. No personal or confidential information is disclosed.
4. Suspension may be issued depending on the severity of the situation, pending a collaborative meeting.
5. The child can return to care once a meeting has been held with the Director and/or License Holder and the family and strategies are in place to address the behavior(s) of concern.
6. If the behavior(s) of concern continue and all established strategies fail to address the problem behavior(s), termination of care will occur.

Ridge Kids Playcare may modify these procedures pending the severity and nature of the incident.

Removal of Participants from Programs

If severe behaviors persist, Ridge Kids Playcare reserves the right to limit, deny, or suspend a child from the program when health and/or safety of the child, other children or staff are at risk.