

# Policy On Biting



Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

We, at Lighthouse Daycare, realize that biting is a common stage through which many children pass on their way to being "all grown up." However, when a child repeatedly bites other children, it can be a very disturbing event for everyone involved. With that in mind, we have established the following policy for dealing with recurrent biting in our center.

**Step 1** – Criteria: Child has bitten 3-4 times within a short time period – usually 2 to 3 weeks.

**Procedure:**

During this stage, the Director will contact the parent for an initial consultation. This may be done over the phone or in person. The parent will be provided with a copy of our policy on biting. The Director will then ask the parent a series of questions which may be helpful in preventing problems in the future.

**Step 2** – Criteria: Child has bitten 5 or more times in a short period – usually 3 to 5 weeks.

**Procedure:**

At this time, the Director will notify the parent of a one-week suspension period during which the child may not be brought to daycare. If feasible, we will give a 24-hour notice before enacting the suspension period. Please note that this is not done to "punish" the child. Instead, it is intended to break down the child's familiarity with his classmates. (Children who bite are more likely to do so when they have become familiar with those around them.)

When the child returns to daycare, they may be transferred to another classroom. This will only be done if it will not interfere with the care of the other children. If this is not possible, the child will be returned to their original room.

**Step 3** – Criteria: The child bites when they return.

**Procedure:** The child will be un-enrolled.

Please be aware that biting can often be a very upsetting and frustrating problem to **ALL** individuals (parents, staff and children) involved.

All decisions concerning exceptions to these rules -are made by the Daycare Director and Daycare Board if appropriate.

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Parents/Guardians Signature(s)

Date

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Date