

## DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline at HMS is based on a positive attitude toward children. The staff believes that self-discipline is the desired goal of all people. To this end, the staff models respect and problem-solving skills. We believe that prevention of inappropriate behavior, based on clear expectations, is best. Expectations are developed and discussed with the students.

Appropriate means of communication needs are stressed. In all areas the child is assisted in constructing the skills necessary to control his/her own actions. We, as a staff, do not believe in adult threats of reward or punishment. Natural consequence is used as a means of helping the child to develop inner limits. If a child is disruptive or endangers himself or others, we will stop that child. Expectations will be verbally clarified. If necessary, the child may be asked to remove him/herself from the group. If a persistent breakdown occurs, parents will be notified. Staff, parents, and child will work together to modify behavior.

The following policy is in place for students aged 6-18 years:

Any type of bullying (verbal or physical), inappropriate language or subject matter, unsafe behaviors (hitting, throwing objects with the intent to hurt others, etc) will have these consequences:

1. The child's freedom will be limited with a time out. The playground staff will report any incidents to the lead teachers who will then meet with the child and clarify the rules and consequences. The office will be notified. An incident report will be given to the parents.
2. Next offense - In-school suspension with the day spent in the office doing their assignments with no exposure to other students. Parents will be notified immediately.
3. Next offense – Parents will be called to remove the student from school immediately for that day.
4. Next offense - 2 day home suspension from school
5. Last offense - Expulsion from school

The Director of the school reserves the right to review each and every situation and respond to the needs of our students and staff and serve their best interests while preserving the integrity of our programs.