



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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BITING POLICY

Explanations, policies and procedures regarding biting in the childcare center.

Children biting other children is one of the most common and most difficult behaviors in group childcare. It can occur without warning, it is difficult to defend against, and provokes strong emotional responses in the biter, the victim, the parents, and the caregivers involved.

For many toddlers, the biting stage is just a passing problem. They try it out as a way to get what they want from other children. They are learning what is socially acceptable and what is not.

For some children, biting is a persistent and chronic problem. They may bite for a variety of reasons such as: teething, frustration, inadequate language skills, stress or change in the environment, feeling threatened, or to feel a sense of power.

When biting occurs in the classrooms, the following will take place:

1. The child will be immediately removed from the situation using words such as “biting is not okay, it hurts.” Avoiding any response that reinforces the biting or calls attention to the biter. All caring attention is focused on the bitten child.
2. After talking to the child and sitting away from the other children, the child will be redirected to other play.
3. An accident report will be written for both the biter and the child who was bitten. Parents will be notified via a written report and/or by phone.

If the child bites 2 times in any one day, the child will be sent home for the remainder of the day.

If a child bites another child on the face or neck or, if at any time the skin is broken due to a bite, then the child will be sent home immediately.

If the biting continues and is severe, a meeting with the Principal will take place to discuss further actions. Please be aware that safety for the children is always a top priority for the principal and teachers at Ascension of Our Lord Pre-School. We will put forth every effort to help a biter resolve the issues.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

