

WAC 110-301-0331 Prohibited behavior, discipline, and physical removal of children. (1) A school-age provider must take steps to prevent and, once aware of, must not tolerate:

(a) Profanity, obscene language, "put downs," or cultural or racial slurs;

(b) Angry or hostile interactions;

(c) Threats of physical harm or inappropriate discipline such as, but not limited to, spanking, biting, jerking, kicking, hitting, slapping, grabbing, shaking, pulling hair, pushing, shoving, throwing a child, or inflicting pain or humiliation as a punishment;

(d) Intimidation, gestures, or verbal abuse including sarcasm, name calling, shaming, humiliation, teasing, derogatory remarks about a child or the child's family;

(e) Emotional abuse including victimizing, bullying, rejecting, terrorizing, extensive ignoring, or corrupting a child;

(f) Prevent a child from or punish a child for exercising religious rights; or

(g) Anyone to:

(i) Restrict a child's breathing;

(ii) Bind or restrict a child's movement unless permitted under WAC 110-301-0335;

(iii) Tape a child's nose, mouth, or other body part;

(iv) Deprive a child of sleep, food, clothing, shelter, physical activity, first aid, or regular or emergency medical or dental care;

(v) Force a child to ingest something as punishment such as hot sauce or soap;

(vi) Interfere with a child's ability to take care of their own hygiene and toileting needs;

(vii) Withhold hygiene care, toileting care, or diaper changing from any child unable to provide such care for themselves;

(viii) Expose a child to extreme temperatures as punishment;

(ix) Demand excessive physical exercise or strenuous postures. Excessive physical exercise includes, but is not limited to, running laps around the yard until overly tired, an extensive number of push-ups, standing on one foot for an uncomfortable amount of time, or holding out one's arms until tired or painful;

(x) Place the separated child in a closet, bathroom, locked room, outside, or in an unlicensed space; and

(xi) Use a confining space or equipment to punish a child or restrict movement.

(2) A school-age provider must supervise to protect children from the harmful acts of other children. A provider must immediately intervene when they become aware that a child or children are teasing, fighting, bullying, intimidating, or becoming physically aggressive.

(3) A school-age provider may separate a child from other children when that child needs to regain control of themselves.

(a) During separation time, the child must remain under the appropriate level of supervision of a licensee, program director, site director, lead teacher or an assistant teacher.

(b) Separation time should be minimized and appropriate to the needs of the individual child.

(4) If a child is separated from other children, a school-age provider must:

(a) Consider the child's developmental level, language skills, individual and special needs, and ability to understand the consequences of their actions; and

(b) Communicate to the child the reason for being separated from the other children.

(5) If a school-age provider follows all strategies in this section, and a child continues to behave in an unsafe manner, only a licensee, program director, site director, lead teacher, or an assistant teacher may physically remove the child to a less stimulating environment. Staff must remain calm and use a calm voice when directing or removing the child.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.216.055 and 43.216.065. WSR 21-10-035, § 110-301-0331, filed 4/27/21, effective 6/1/21.]