

# Gateway Baptist GTL and MDO – Toddler Biting Policy

Gateway to Learning understands that occasional displays of aggression, like biting, are typical in young children and are part of normal early childhood development. **Repeated incidents of biting will not be tolerated.** Our objective is to ensure that our school maintains the highest level of safety within our environment and our staff members respond appropriately to aggressive behaviors.

## When a child is bitten:

### *For the biter:*

- The biter is immediately removed from the situation.
- The biter is separated from playmates and is talked to on a level that the child can understand.
- Teacher will have parent sign a biting policy report which will be shared with GTL/MDO Director. All names of children will be kept confidential.
- Parents will be notified if deemed necessary.

### *For the victim:*

- The teacher will separate the child from the biter at the same time of comforting the bitten child.
- First aid will be administered if needed.
- Teacher will write an incident report to share with the victim's parents and GTL/MDO Director. All names of children will be kept confidential.
- Parents will be notified if deemed necessary.

## If biting continues:

- Teacher will meet with the director for advise, support, and strategy planning.
- Every occurrence will be logged in journal, including attempted bites, location, time, participants, behaviors, staff present, and circumstances.
- The child who indicates a tendency to bite will be shadowed to head off situations before they occur.

## When biting continues:

**Step 1.** If a child inflicts 2 bites in one day, in which the skin of another child or staff member is broken, bruised or the bite leaves a significant mark, the child will be sent home for the rest of the day.

**Step 2.** If the child inflicts 2 additional bites in one day, in which the skin of another child or staff member is broken, bruised or the bite leaves a significant mark, the child will be suspended from the school for 3 business days.

**Step 3.** Upon returning from suspension, if the child once again inflicts anymore bites the parents will be asked to make other child care arrangements.

- If a child bites twice in a 4 hour period, the child will be required to be picked up from day care for the remainder of the day.

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

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent Home Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent Home Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires 30 days from signature.