

Personal Rights of Children

The ELCFH believes in respectful and dignified treatment of children. It is expected that this will be evident within the context of the child care experience. Providers have the opportunity to teach children and parents respect by modeling respectful behavior. The below points highlight notable areas of personal rights within the child care setting:

1. Children will have access to that which addresses their most basic of needs. Restrooms, clothing and diaper changes will be automatically available as dictated by their individual needs. Reasonable requests for food and water, the bathroom, and rest will be responded appropriately and positively to by the provider (positive verbal response to child, positive actions to meet the child's request as is reasonable etc).
2. Children will have free mobility as is reasonable and not be contained to: cribs, playpens, bouncy seats, baby swings, highchairs, booster seats or "bucket" tables for more than 20 minutes (and only if happily awake as applicable). Children who are contained and clearly unhappy will receive positive regular provider acknowledgement to the child's needs or by offering an alternate, developmentally appropriate activity. Positive acknowledgement may include talking, singing to the child, picking the child up, reading to the child, offering an alternate activity, etc.
3. Children will have access to activities that are offered in a blend of full group, small group and individual. Children will not be required to stay in a full group for an extended amount of time. Full group activities will be specific to gross motor, circle time activities, and special presentations/ events.
4. Providers/ teachers working with children will be responsive to child communication and cues. Deliberate non-response or ignoring of child requests for food, water, bathroom, less restrictive space, a reasonable change in activity and rest demonstrate disrespect to the child and will not be tolerated by the ELCFH and will be reviewed for possible sanctions.

Extreme instances of non-response and deliberate disrespect of the personal rights of children may result in a recommendation for provider contract termination.