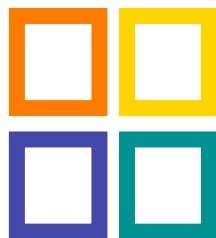


Be Safe, Follow Directions, Be a Good Friend!



Your Child's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ann Arbor Public Schools  
Preschool and Family Center**

**Program Wide – Positive  
Behavior Interventions & Supports**

...Building Positive Relationships

**Parent Handbook**



**Be Safe, Follow Directions, Be a Good Friend!**

**This Parent Handbook on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PW-PBIS) provides parents with an overview of the PW-PBIS practices in Ann Arbor Public Schools Preschool and Family Center.**

### **What is Program Wide-Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports?**

Program Wide-Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PW-PBIS) is a teaching approach all early childhood school staff use to build positive relationships with children to prevent challenging behavior at school.

PW-PBIS requires school staff to create healthy, comfortable and safe environments for students to learn. School staff teach age-appropriate social-emotional skills when children need behavioral support.

PW-PBIS is used across the Ann Arbor Public Schools. As children get older, they will know what is expected at school and how to respond to conflict in a healthy way.

At the Ann Arbor Public Schools Preschool and Family Center, children learn three important expectations:

***Be Safe,  
Follow Directions  
Be a Good Friend!***

### **What does PW-PBIS look like in an Early Childhood Classroom?**

In a classroom using PW-PBIS, staff build positive relationships with children and parents in a variety of ways.

Children are taught clear expectations for behaviors and are supported by adults as they learn what is expected.

The teaching activities of the curriculum actively engage children in learning at their level.

Most children need help developing friendships, expressing feelings, and resolving conflicts.

When children receive PW-PBIS supports at school, classrooms become more inclusive of all children

### **Why is this important to your child?**

Your child is getting an excellent education, which supports social-emotional skills and development.

Your child benefits from specific teaching about what is expected at school and how to meet the expectations.

PW-PBIS is nationally recognized to support children's mental health, which impacts early learning.

PW-PBIS research shows that when used, young children spend more time learning in the classroom, adjust more easily to new situations, and show less challenging behavior.

## Early Childhood Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports

### ... Building Positive Relationships

#### What if my child needs additional supports?

Sometimes children need additional support. Teachers will identify children who are demonstrating behavioral challenges and act quickly to help them.

Teachers will take notes on where, when and why the behavior is happening and share information with you about significant behavior concerns. Knowing about the behavior and discussing the behavior with you helps teachers understand the reason for the behavior.

When teachers know the reason for the behavior, they can help the child learn a better way to get his or her needs met.

If necessary, your teacher will ask you to attend a meeting so you can help your child's teacher create an action plan for addressing the challenging behavior.



#### What can I do to help?

Children are more successful in school when parents are actively involved in their child's education.

Playing with your child teaches important skills: such as sharing, waiting, and confidence.

Talking with your child about feelings and teaching them the words to use to express their emotions help him or her to communicate wants and needs.

When children can tell adults what they want or need, they are less likely to display challenging behavior.

It is important to acknowledge your children successes in a way that makes them understand what they did right. The words you choose can help them learn and build positive relationships.

It is helpful for teachers to hear how children typically behave at home. Talk regularly with your child's teacher and discuss any concerns you may have.

Sometimes families use additional resources in supporting their child's educational and behavioral needs. Teachers and other staff can assist families in finding appropriate resources when needed.