

Big Sandy Area C.A.P., Inc. – HEAD START
Program Policies and Procedures

Child/Adult Interactions

POLICY:

All interactions between children and adults will be respectful and supportive of each child's gender, culture, language, ethnic background and family composition. These interactions should provide opportunities for children to build trust, to develop understanding of self and others and to encourage respect for feelings and rights of others.

This policy relates to Head Start Performance Standards 45 CFR Part 1302.30, 13.02.31, 1302.32, 1302.60, 1302.90

GUIDELINES:

1. Adults will greet each child upon arrival to acknowledge that they belong in classroom.
2. Adults will actively listen to children and observe non-verbal communication.
3. Adults will respond quickly and positively to children's needs and questions, comforting distressed children and helping them deal with their problems constructively.
4. Adults will physically place themselves (bend, kneel, sit down) at the child's eye level while interacting.
5. Adults will show respect for children's feeling and ideas.
6. Adults will encourage children to talk about their feelings.
7. Adults will describe the behavior(s) they want to see in positive terms.
8. Adults will give attention to children who are less verbal, as well as those who have a lot to say and who demand attention.

9. Adults will allow children to discuss and resolve their conflicts on their own and give support when necessary.
10. The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) instrument and the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS-3) will be used to evaluate the quality of staff-child interaction in all classrooms. Each classroom will have 2 CLASS observations each year (1 in the Fall, 1 in the Spring) and the ECERS on a 2-3 year rotation and results will be shared with teaching staff and administrators to determine if additional professional development is needed.

Approved by the Policy Council, November 2016