

Child Social and Emotional Well-Being Procedure

Policy: In order to ensure that all children's social and emotional well-being is being addressed in the most compassionate and helpful manner that is in accordance with the Head Start Program Performance Standards, the follow procedure will be utilized to ensure best practice.

Performance Standard: *1302.45 Child Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being*

Procedure:

- All classrooms will utilize the trauma informed Conscious Discipline approach (see Conscious Discipline procedure) as the primary mechanism for social and emotional well-being and classroom management
- All classroom staff and family advocates will receive ongoing Conscious Discipline training both in house and off site to ensure continued growth in regards to implementation of Conscious Discipline with fidelity and to ensure a genuine impact on children and families
- The Conscious Discipline Parent Education Curriculum will be integrated into all service aspects to offer a more comprehensive approach that includes family's education and growth in social and emotional well-being
- The e-DECA behavior rating scale will be completed on all children each October, February, and May. Additional ratings may be completed as needed for any child. Parents may be asked to complete ratings as well. Reports generated from the e-DECA assessment will be used to guide individualized instruction, environmental support, mental health referrals, and parent support. For children who demonstrates challenges in the areas of self-regulation and/or social emotional well-being, classroom teachers will utilize the e-DECA strategies selector to determine specific strategies designed to strengthen the child's resilience and protective factors.
- Children who demonstrate challenges in the area of social and emotional well-being will have an individualized Early Intervention Plan created. The Education Manager will create the intervention plan in conjunction with the lead teacher, family advocate, mental health consultant, and parent. The Early Intervention Plan will include details for how the classroom staff will support the child in the classroom, specific intervention strategies to be put into place to help the child be more successful including strategies generated from the child's e-DECA assessment, additional mental health resources/intervention, details for referring the child to the LEA for child study (if applicable), and expectations of the family. The intervention plan will be modified as needed with approval from the Education Manager.
- In addition to print and electronic resources available, classroom teachers may request to meet with the Conscious Discipline Support Team to brainstorm strategies for classroom modifications or utilize the education management team as additional resources