

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield  
Sunday School Discipline Policy

We believe that when children come to church each week, they deserve to find a safe place where they are welcomed with the love of Christ, where they can learn the story of God's work in the world, and where they can find their own place in that story.

In order to provide this safe space for each of our students, we will endeavor to meet the following goals:

- Each teacher will be trained in the care and education of children and will complete a police background check.
- Each classroom will be furnished with safe, age-appropriate toys, furniture, supplies, and decorations.
- Curriculum shall be provided for each age level that meets a variety of student learning needs and styles. Teachers will be prepared each week to fill the entire hour with interesting, engaging, and developmentally appropriate lessons.
- Teachers will work with students at the beginning of the year to establish a set of expectations for the classroom. These expectations will be signed by the students and posted on the classroom bulletin board.
- Teachers and students will remind one another to meet their expectations and to maintain a positive, respectful attitude towards God and towards one another.
- Teachers will discipline proactively by learning and using students' names; expecting participation from each student; using eye contact, physical proximity, or gentle touch to non-verbally redirect; and changing activities and teaching styles when necessary.
- In the event that all of the above measures have been taken but a student is still having difficulty maintaining a safe, learning atmosphere, the teacher will have a private conversation with the student about the behavior that needs to change and what the student plans to do about it.
- If difficult behaviors persist, the teacher will notify the Director of Christian Education, who will work with the student, teachers, and parents to solve the problem fairly. Behavior that persistently disrupts others' ability to learn and grow will not be tolerated.