

Confidentiality and Parents

We cannot stress enough how important it is for you and your staff to keep parent and family information confidential. Private and sensitive information must remain confidential. Staff must not relate any information concerning families and their children, such as disputes, or finances to anyone.

Small children cannot always tell the difference between fact and fantasy. They can misinterpret remarks made in fun or in anger. Gossip results in hurt feelings, misunderstandings, and fractured relationships. Teachers and child care aides must view themselves as professionals, just as doctors and lawyers do. Protecting the privacy, interests, and the special relationship between themselves, the children in their care, and their parents is essential to professional quality care.

Confidentiality should be retained unless plausible danger exists, in which case staff must contact the appropriate personnel or agency.

Parents who know that this is the policy of their child's teacher and of all the staff will feel comfortable about their child being enrolled in that center.