

**441—106.4 (237B) Protection from mistreatment, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect.** The state of Iowa prohibits child abuse as defined in Iowa Code chapter 232, criminal assault, and other criminal acts of violence. A children's center shall not use discipline that amounts to child abuse or a criminal act of violence.

**106.4(1)** A children's center shall have written policies that:

- a.* Prohibit mistreatment, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect of children;
- b.* Define types of discipline and the reasons discipline would be used; and
- c.* Specify reporting and enforcement procedures for the children's center.

**106.4(2)** Discipline policies shall be discussed with:

- a.* Staff, volunteers, or others who perform duties under a subcontract with the children's center;
- and
- b.* Parents or guardians before children are admitted to the children's center.

**106.4(3)** A children's center shall not employ or use as a volunteer or subcontractor any person who poses any threat to the children in the center's care.

**106.4(4)** A children's center shall have written policies related to:

- a.* Children's communication with their parents, guardians, and other outside authorities.
- b.* Children's ability to receive visitors who have been approved by their parents or guardians.
- c.* Confidentiality and reasonable privacy for children. The children's center shall afford children and their families privacy and confidentiality unless doing so would jeopardize a child's health or safety.
- d.* Children's ability to keep personal belongings that connect the children to their families and community, such as clothing, pictures, and other items.
- e.* Children's ability to participate in normal community activities that have been approved by their parents or guardians.

**106.4(5)** A children's center shall not impose unreasonable rules and restrictions that prevent communication and connections with parents, guardians, other family members, or authorities.

**106.4(6)** A children's center shall share its written policies related to communication, visitors, personal belongings, and participation in community activities with a child's parents or guardians before a child is admitted to the children's center.