CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

Young children have not yet developed a sense of judgment about the difference between information that can be shared about their families or information which properly stays within the family. Very often young children are the source of much gossip, much conversation about the private lives of their families. Teachers and caregivers unwittingly become the receivers of shared confidences both from children and their parents. It is critical that children's and parents' confidences are not repeated to other teachers, to the caregivers' friends, or families.

Our center stresses the importance of protecting the rights and privacy of children, their families, and our teachers. The practice of maintaining the confidentiality of verbal information and written records is a basic policy of our center. This practice is in accord with one of the primary ethical principles of professional behavior in early childhood settings. The identity of children and their families should be revealed only in cases of professional necessity such as in child abuse or neglect, developmental records, special family circumstances.

AGREEMENT: I agree to respect the confidentiality of verbal and written reports of children, families, and teachers within my classroom, the center, and in my non-work environment.

Signature: _____

Staff Member Date

_____

Print Name