

RESTORATIVE DISCIPLINE AT WATERS LANDING

A Guide for Families

Building Belonging • Developing Accountability • Restoring Community

WE ARE RESPECTFUL • ACCOUNTABLE • SAFE

At Waters Landing, we believe discipline should teach students, hold them accountable, repair harm, and help them make better choices in the future. Elementary school is a time when children are still developing behavioral, social-emotional, and problem-solving skills. Mistakes will happen—and those mistakes provide opportunities to learn.

WHAT DOES RESTORATIVE DISCIPLINE MEAN?

BELONGING	ACCOUNTABILITY	RESTORATION
Every student should feel known, valued, respected, and connected to our school community.	Students learn how their choices affect others, accept responsibility, and make things right.	When harm occurs, we work to repair it, rebuild relationships when appropriate, and reconnect students.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STUDENT MAKES A POOR CHOICE?

Depending on the situation, staff may reteach the expectation; talk privately with the student; help the student understand the impact of the behavior; provide an appropriate, logical consequence; create a plan for better choices; provide an opportunity to repair harm; partner with families or additional staff; and involve administration when behavior is serious, unsafe, or persistent.

Restorative discipline does NOT mean “no consequences.” Consequences remain an important part of discipline when appropriate. Our goal is for consequences to be related, reasonable, respectful, restorative, and instructional. Therefore, at Waters Landing, students who have engaged in multiple serious incidents will be required to take a Restorative Justice class from 4:15 - 4:45 p.m. on a designated day. Students will need to be picked up in the main office at 4:45p.m.

QUESTIONS WE HELP STUDENTS CONSIDER

What happened? • Who was affected? • What needs to be learned?
How can I make things right? • What can I do differently next time? • What support do I need?

HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP

Families are important partners. At home, you can reinforce our approach by asking:

- “What happened?” instead of only “What did you do?”
- “Who was affected by your choice?”
- “What can you do to make it right?”
- “What will you do differently next time?”

Together, we can help our Dolphins understand that accountability means more than receiving a consequence—it means learning, repairing, and growing.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EVERY DOLPHIN

We will maintain high expectations. We will protect safety. We will hold students accountable. We will provide appropriate consequences. We will teach missing skills. We will repair harm. We will restore relationships. And we will welcome students back.

BUILD BELONGING. • TEACH ACCOUNTABILITY. • REPAIR HARM. • RESTORE COMMUNITY.

Respectful • Accountable • Safe