Beacon Baptist Church Daycare

Shaken Baby Syndrome *and* Abusive Head Trauma Policy

The staff of Beacon Baptist Church Daycare believe in preventing, recognizing, and responding to shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma (SBS/AHT). SBS/AHT is a form of child abuse that occurs when a small child or infant is violently shaken, or there is trauma to the head. This policy has been developed in order to comply with NC childcare law rule 10ANCAC 09.0608.

1. PREVENTION- knowing how to cope with a crying baby or distraught child.

\*Hold the baby close and talking to them in a soothing tone

\*Offer a distraction/pacifier

\*Staff knows when to call for extra support if they feel overly stressed

\*We will also provide support when a parent is trying to calm a child.

\*\**Infant crying is normal behavior, which should improve with age. Childcare workers should develop proactive strategies to mage stress levels. KNOW YOUR STRESS LEVEL and DO NOT be ashamed to ask for a relief break.*

1. PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS include but not limited to:

 \*shaking or jerking a child

 \*tossing a child roughly into a crib or chair

 \*pushing a child into a wall or furniture

\*\*We maintain a hands off policy in the form of discipline.

1. RECOGNIZING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

*\*seizures \*bruises \*lack of appetite/vomiting \*unequal pupil size*

*\*rigidity/inability to lift head \*difficulty staying awake*

1. RESPONSE

\*If a child shows any of signs, or head trauma is suspected, the following procedure will be used:

\*\*call 911 \*\*Contact director \*\*Contact parents

\*\*report to child protective services within 24 hours or less as law requires

1. RESOURCES: for possible AHT <https://www.healthychildren.org>

 Shaken Baby Syndrome <https://www.dontshake.org>