The Truth and Repair Record

Correct the account and address the actual harm.

An honest correction should identify what is known, what was untrue, and what needs repair. Adults belong under the same standard.

Example: a child said a borrowed book was returned. The book is still in the bag. The corrected account names that fact, the book is returned, and the owner is told that the earlier message was untrue. The adult checks both actions.

01 Separate the facts

Avoid treating uncertainty or misunderstanding as established deceit.

Facts we actually know

Account originally given

Details still uncertain

Specific mismatch to address

02 Correct the account

Use plain language rather than an excuse or a public performance.

Truthful corrected account

Words I will use

Who needs the correction

Adult error that also needs correcting

The Truth and Repair Record / Review & follow-through

03 Repair both problems

Address the original action and any additional harm from concealment.

Repair for the original action

Repair for additional harm

Help needed to carry it out

When both actions will be done

04 Practice the next truth

Give uncertainty an honest phrase and review the completed actions.

Phrase for what I do not know

Fact I should check before claiming

Repair actually completed

Next review or check-in