

Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy

We believe that children and adults flourish best in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them and children are free to develop their play and learning without fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else. We aim to work towards a situation in which children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

In order to achieve this:

- All adults will provide positive role models of behaviour by treating children, parents and each other with respect, care and courtesy.
- Rules governing the conduct of the setting and the behaviour of the children will be discussed and agreed within the pre-school and explained to all newcomers, both children and adults.
- All adults in the pre-school will ensure that the rules are applied consistently, so that children have the security of knowing what is expected of them and can learn useful habits of behaviour.
- Adults in the pre-school will praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness, willingness to share and empathy.
- We will take positive steps to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.
- We recognise that types of interactions with other people may vary between cultures and require staff to be aware of, and respect, those used by the setting.
- We use a **traffic light system** – **Stop**, **think**, **Good choices**
- We reinforce **emotional coaching** to ensure we establish a connection with the children and validate their emotions which will encourage them to have a positive behaviour and attitude
- We use a **positive behaviour chart** ranging from the rainbow, sunshine, cloud, rain cloud, and thunder; the children will place their picture on the appropriate section of the chart and we will work with them so they can achieve the desirable outcome. Stickers will be awarded at the end of the session.
- We implement a **monitor chart** (Helper of the day) and a **partner system** whilst doing activities to build up self-esteem and self-confidence
- We engage in positive **discussions, stories, role play and action replay** to promote positive behaviour.
- We also use our **superstar box** to reward good behaviour and promote positive attitude. The children will be awarded a certificate to take home stating what they had achieved and they will be allowed to bring a special item from home to show their friends the following day.

When children behave in unacceptable ways:

- They will be reminded of our Pre-school rules; if the unwanted behaviour continues they will be moved away from the activity and given one-to-one adult support in seeing what was wrong with their actions/words and how to behave more appropriately.
- Children will never be sent out of the room by themselves.
- Physical punishment, such as smacking or shaking, will be neither used nor threatened.
- Techniques intended to single out and humiliate an individual will not be used.
- Physical restraint, such as holding, will be used only to prevent personal injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property. Any significant event of this sort will be recorded, and the parent informed the same day.
- In cases of serious misbehaviour, such as racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes will be made clear immediately, but by means of explanations rather than personal blame.
- In any case of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children in question that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome.
- Adults will not shout, or raise their voices in a threatening way.

- Adults in the pre-school will make themselves aware of, and respect, a range of cultural expectations regarding interactions between people.
- Any behavioural problems will be handled in a developmentally appropriate fashion, respecting individual children's level of understanding, communication skills and maturity.
- Recurring problems will be tackled by the whole pre-school, using objective observation records to establish an understanding of the cause and potential resolutions. A written action plan will be implemented.
- Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child's special needs.
- Incidents will be recorded and signed by staff and parents of child/children involved.
- When ongoing incidents continue to cause concern and all other strategies have been implemented it is at the Manager's discretion whether a child may be excluded from the setting with immediate effect.

Rough and tumble play and fantasy aggression

We recognise that young children often engage in play that has aggressive themes e.g. superheroes and weapon play. This behaviour is not necessarily a precursor to hurtful behaviour or bullying, although it may be inconsiderate/inappropriate at times and may need addressing using strategies as above.

Bullying

Bullying is an unacceptable form of aggression involving the domination of one child by another or group of others. It is usually premeditated and forms a pattern of behaviour rather than an isolated incident. Bullying is rare within pre-school because the children are well known by all the staff and supervised at all times. However, the following actions will be taken to prevent/tackle bullying in the setting:

- Children are positively encouraged to tell an adult if they are being picked-on, or hurt physically or emotionally by other children.
- Prompt action will be taken by staff so that the children are left in no doubt that such behaviour is unacceptable and will not be condoned.
- The victim will be supported and listened to. The unacceptability of the behaviour and attitude will be made clear immediately to the aggressor, by means of explanations, and steps taken to try and build a positive relationship between the children.
- Recurring problems will be tackled by the whole pre-school, using objective observation records to establish an understanding of the cause and possible resolutions.
- At all times parents of the victim and the aggressor will be informed and closely involved.
- Incidents will be recorded in the accident/incident folder.