



BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINE POLICY

As children develop they need guidance to learn the appropriate behaviours and social skills expected of them within our society. We will therefore guide the children through this process and support them by modelling appropriate behaviour, respect and manners and by teaching them alternatives to any unacceptable behaviour. Focus will be on reinforcing positive behaviours through rewards and praise, rather than consistent punishment for negative behaviour.

The role of parents/carers in this process is crucial; your key worker will therefore work in close partnership with you to ensure the disciplinary techniques are consistent both at home and at the setting.

There are three basic rules in place at the setting which are concerned with safety and care. They encourage respect and consideration for others. Children will be helped to learn these rules and will be encouraged to follow them. These are:

1. I will not let any part of my body hurt anybody else – kind hands, feet and words
2. I will take care of my surroundings
3. I will be polite and helpful to others

Procedures

We will:

- Be positive role models and demonstrate good values, behaviour, respect and manners.
- Use praise and rewards to promote positive behaviour.
- Encourage self-discipline, consideration for others, our surroundings and property.

Managing inappropriate behaviours:

- If a child displays inappropriate behaviour, staff will, using age appropriate language, explain what is expected of them and why. Staff will follow a 3-step approach:
 1. Ask the child to stop the behaviour, explain why and give an alternative (e.g. “Child A, please stop throwing the sand, you may hurt someone’s eyes. If you want to practice throwing, lets find a ball”.)
 2. If behaviour continues, repeat the request and give a consequence (e.g. “Child A, please stop throwing the sand or you will have to come away from the sand tray.”)
 3. If behaviour still continues, the staff member will follow through with the consequence. (e.g. The child will be moved away from the sand tray and told why “Child A, you do not throw sand, you might hurt your friends’ eyes.”)



- Physical intervention (picking up and removing a child from an area) will only be used if they are going to harm themselves, others or damage property.
- Physical or corporal punishment will NEVER be used within the setting.

In the cases of persistent behavioural difficulties, your key worker will discuss with you strategies that we can all use to help your child learn the boundaries and expectations of their behaviour. If persistent inappropriate behaviour causes a concern for the child's or other's safety and there have been no signs of improvement after intervention, we reserve the right to give notice on the contract.