

Behaviour

Policy Statement

We recognise the need to set out reasonable and appropriate limits to manage the behaviour of all children in our care. By providing a happy, safe environment, the children we care for will be encouraged to develop skills and morals to ensure that they grow and learn to be happy and healthy adults.

Procedures

We keep up to date with behaviour management issues and relevant legislation by taking regular training, reading relevant publications and attending forums.

We champion positive discipline as an effective way of setting boundaries for children and are advocates for positive praise. We will not administer physical punishment, cause pain, discomfort, humiliate or hurt any child in our care. We will only physically intervene, and possibly restrain, a child to prevent an accident, such as a child running into the road, or to prevent an injury or damage. Should this be necessary we will record any instances of physical intervention in writing in our incident book and inform parents on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

Wherever possible we try to meet parents' requests for the care of their children according to their values and practices. Records of these requirements are agreed and kept attached to the child record forms. These records are revisited and updated during regular reviews with parents.

We set our expectations of behaviour with children from the very start of their time with us, we encourage all children to behave in an appropriate manner. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind. Please see our separate Anti-Bullying policy for more details on this. We encourage children to take responsibility by talking to them about choices and any possible consequences. We will help children maintain their self-esteem by showing we disapprove of challenging behaviour, not the child themselves.

We understand child development and know what is appropriate behaviour for children. We acknowledge the strength and range of children's feelings and try to help children to find constructive solutions for managing these. We aim to be consistent, fair and understanding with children at all times. We regularly hold circle times, read stories, use our 5 polite words and other such activities to reinforce good behaviour and expectations to children.

We ask that parents inform us of any changes in the child's home circumstances, care arrangements or any other change which may affect the child's behaviour such as a new baby, parents' separation, divorce, new partner or any bereavement. We will always treat any information they tell us with sensitivity and any information shared will be kept confidential unless there appears to be a child protection issue.

We may record significant behaviour incidents in an incident book. We will discuss these with the parents of the child concerned so that together we can work to resolve any behavioural issue and share strategies.

