



Site Behaviour Policy

Draft (to be ratified by Governing Council)

The Children's Centre is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for its staff, children and visitors. We are committed to providing quality teaching in a supportive and caring learning environment.

Belief Statement

Behaviour is a form of communication and children need to express emotions such as anger, frustration and distress however they need help to express these feelings appropriately.

We believe children learn best when they experience success and have a positive self-image and have quality relationships with their educators. Developing and maintaining a supportive, positive, caring relationship with each child is vital in any learning situation and remains paramount.

We acknowledge that each child is an individual who comes to preschool with his/her own culture and already formed behaviour code.

- All children have the right to feel safe
- Effective learning occurs when families and educators work together.
- No child should be made to feel rejected, insecure, embarrassed or ashamed

Expectations

Our expectations of behaviour are based on care and respect. We encourage children to develop empathy, understanding, self-respect, self-discipline and self-control.

We support all children through planning, modelling, mentoring and giving explicit instruction

We promote respect and care for each other, for our things, for our environment and promote use of socially acceptable language and actions.

Response

At the Children's Centre we will use a variety of methods to nurture positive behaviour, reduce inappropriate behaviour and manage challenging behaviour. Inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour can range from simply not following instructions to dangerous/hurtful or inappropriate actions or language, through to violence and bullying.

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group. Conflict or fights between equals, and single incidents are not defined as bullying. All bullying and single incidents are treated on an individual basis. For ongoing or more challenging situations, an individually tailored behaviour plan will be developed and implemented.

Methods we would use include:

- Explicit teaching and reinforcing of appropriate rules
- Positive teaching techniques to reinforce appropriate behaviours, including distracting, positive reinforcement, redirecting, ignoring, early intervention, positive guidance and /or visual aids
- Teaching children to recognise and express feelings appropriately through informal and formal learning opportunities
- Supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately
- Intentional teaching of appropriate behaviours, communication and play skills
- Providing a nurturing environment that promotes a sense of belonging and self-worth, and values the individual
- Interacting positively, using positive language and acknowledging and modelling respectful behaviour
- Withdrawing children to be with a supportive adult when they are at risk of hurting themselves or others

It may be necessary to include the following

- Using "Time Away" for dangerous or for repeated unacceptable behaviour. The child will be asked to sit quietly away from the others and will be monitored by staff
- Contacting the parent to collect their child from preschool, if behaviour escalates, and/or it is in the best interests of the child or other children

Informing parents/caregivers

Where possible every effort is made to inform parents of any general behaviour issues and/or behaviour issues that involve their child. They will not however breach confidentiality by informing them of any other child involved in any incident.

Grievance Procedures

It is an expectation of the Centre that parents do not approach any child or parent of that child about any behaviour incident at the Centre. Please consult the Grievance Policy and/or speak to the Preschool Director if you have any concerns.