Nursery Behaviour Management Policy

**Purpose of policy**

To work towards positive behaviour patterns. Our setting believes that children flourish best when their personal, social and emotional needs are met and where there are clear and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour. Children need to learn to manage their own feelings, and consider the views, feelings, needs and rights of others. These principles are embedded within our everyday approach to promoting children’s wellbeing.

##### Strategy

##### We take a whole team approach to supporting positive outcomes for children and work in partnership with parents. We have dedicated room leaders who coordinate between nursery rooms to support children’s wellbeing and develop consistent behaviour strategies.

**Working towards considerate behaviour patterns**

* Praise and encouragement will be used to endorse considerate behaviour.
* We support each child in developing confidence so that they feel valued and welcome.
* Rules, routines and behaviour management strategies will be discussed as a whole team to enable them to be applied consistently throughout the nursery.
* We work in partnership with parents and carers on strategies to support behaviour.
* We take positive steps to avoid a situation where children receive adult attention in return for inconsiderate behaviour.
* In any case of inconsiderate behaviour, it will always be made clear to the child that it is the behaviour that is unwelcome and not the child.
* We work with parents to address recurring inconsiderate behaviour, using observation to understand the cause and to decide jointly how to respond appropriately.

**Strategies with children who engage in inconsiderate behaviour**   
We use positive strategies for handling inconsiderate behaviour by helping children find appropriate solutions. At such times the following applies:

* Inconsiderate behaviour will be dealt with considering the child's age, stage of development and level of understanding.
* Information regarding incidents or concerns will be shared with the child's parent.
* Behaviour such as bullying, name-calling and harassment will be challenged and children encouraged to find appropriate ways to respond to such behaviour.
* Physical punishment **will NOT** be used or threatened, neither will techniques such as the naughty chair/step.
* Children who behave inappropriately will be given one to one adult support to consider what was wrong and encouraged to work towards more positive patterns of behaviour.

**Rough and tumble, and fantasy play**Young children often engage in play themes such as superhero and weapon play. At times this may be inconsiderate and need addressing using strategies as described above; however, we consider the following:

* Rough and tumble play is a natural part of development and acceptable *within limits*.
* Rough and tumble play helps children develop physical control and spatial awareness, and can promote social skills such as teamwork and negotiation.
* We generally regard this kind of play as pro-social and not as aggressive.
* We recognise that fantasy play sometimes contains aggressive scenarios such as blowing up, shooting etc., and that themes often refer to ‘goodies and baddies’; this offers us the perfect opportunity to explore concepts of right and wrong.

**Use of Control and Physical Intervention**

There may be occasions where physical intervention is used to manage a child’s behaviour if it is necessary to prevent personal injury to the child, other children or an adult, to prevent serious damage to property or in what would reasonably be regarded as exceptional circumstances. When physical intervention is used it will be undertaken in such a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned. The minimum necessary force will be used in line with statutory recommended practice. There will always be a member of staff on the premises trained in managing children’s behaviour and a Risk Assessment procedure in place. In all cases where physical intervention is used the incident and subsequent actions are documented and reported. This includes written and signed accounts of all those involved including the child or young person, where they are able to do so. The parents/carers will be informed on the same day.

**In general**

Behavioural issues will always be referred to the Room Leader and the parent will be informed. If appropriate, the designated Behaviour Management Officer **Yvonne Picco**, will be informed and she will discuss the matter fully with the parent; this will be recorded. We are aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child’s special needs, if this is the case the Special Educational Needs & Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCO) **Vicky Faulkner,** will work together with the parents to draw up an individual plan which will include strategies and techniques to be used and those which should be avoided.

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