

Magdalen Gates Preschool Behaviour Management Policy



Statement of Intent

Our preschool believes that children flourish best when they know how they are expected to behave and should be free to play and learn without fear of being hurt, distressed or unfairly restricted by anyone else.

Aim

We aim to provide an environment in which there is acceptable behaviour and where children learn self-discipline and to respect themselves, other people, equipment and their environment. Behaviour is managed in a manner appropriate for children's stage of development and particular individual needs.

Methods

- Named people responsible for behaviour issues are Paula Watts and _____. They :
 - keep themselves up-to-date with legislation, research and thinking on handling children's behaviour
 - access relevant sources of expertise on handling children's behaviour, and
 - check that all staff have relevant in-service training on handling children's behaviour. We keep a record of staff attendance of this training.
- Relevant staff have attended step-on training and have cascaded this training on to other members of staff. Staff are therefore trained in guiding and escorting
- Relevant staff are also trained in the Solihull Approach to behaviour management
- All staff, volunteers and students provide a positive model of behaviour by treating children, parents and one other with friendliness, care and courtesy.
- All staff, volunteers and students use positive strategies for handling any conflict by helping children find solutions in ways which are appropriate for the children's ages and stages of development - for example, distraction, praise and reward.

- New staff and volunteers are familiarised with the behaviour policy.
- All members of the preschool - children, parents, staff, volunteers and students - keep to the rules, requiring these to be applied consistently.
- We praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share.
- We avoid creating situations in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.
- We recognise that codes for interacting with other people vary between cultures and require staff to be aware of - and respect - those used by members of the preschool.
- Unacceptable behaviours at pre-school are:
 - biting, hitting, spitting or any other form of violence, throwing toys or sand,
 - bullying,
 - screaming, shouting, bad or inappropriate language,
 - any other types of behaviour which will compromise the safety of other children, staff, volunteers, visitors or property, including the property of the preschool.
- When children behave in unacceptable ways, we intercept, and help them to see what was wrong and how to cope more appropriately.
- We never send children out of the room by themselves.
- We **never** use physical punishment, such as smacking or shaking. Children are **never** threatened with these.
- We do not single out or humiliate individual children.
- We only use physical restraint, such as holding, to prevent physical injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property. Details of such an event (what happened, what action was taken and by whom, and the names of witnesses) are brought to the attention of our preschool supervisor and are recorded in our Incident Book. A parent is informed on the same day and signs the Incident Book to indicate that he/she has been informed.
- In cases of serious misbehaviour, such as racial or other abuse, we make clear immediately the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes, by means of explanations rather than personal blame.
- We do not shout or raise our voices in a threatening way to respond to children's behaviour.

- We handle children's unacceptable behaviour in ways which are appropriate to their ages and stages of development - for example distraction, discussion or withdrawing the child from the situation.
- We work in partnership with parents. Parents are regularly informed about their children's behaviour by their key worker. We work with parents to address recurring unacceptable behaviour, using objective observation records to help us understand the cause and to decide jointly how to respond appropriately.

Bullying

Bullying involves the persistent physical or verbal abuse of another child or children. We take bullying very seriously.

If a child bullies another child:

- We intervene to stop the child harming the other child.
- We explain to the child doing the bullying why his/her behaviour is inappropriate.
- We give reassurance to the child who has been bullied.
- We help the child who has done the bullying to say sorry for his/her actions.
- We make sure that children who bully receive praise when they display acceptable behaviour.
- We do not label children who bully.
- When children bully we discuss what has happened with their parents and work out a plan for handling the child's behaviour.
- When children have been bullied, we share what has happened with their parents, explaining that the child who did the bullying is being helped to adopt more acceptable ways of behaving.

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