

Child Behaviour Policy

At Sunbeams we recognise the importance of promoting acceptable behaviour within the childcare setting. We believe that all children have the right to expect positive approaches to discipline, which foster self esteem, respect, tolerance and self-control. Behaviours which injure people emotionally or physically damage property are issues that must be dealt with in a n appropriate manner. By promoting these beliefs, Sunbeams will endeavour to ensure we are safe, fair and considerate to all.

Our aims

To Promote self-discipline

To develop within each child an appreciation of others and their feelings.

To increase children's understanding of the consequences of their behaviour to others and themselves.

To encourage each child's ability to socialise and get along with others.

To reinforce positive and discourage negative behaviour.

We will do this by:

Praise and encouragement

We will praise and encourage positive behaviour so that qualities such as kindness, thoughtfulness, helpfulness, tolerance, perseverance and concentration are appreciated and acknowledged. As well as verbal praise, stickers and reward charts may also be used.

Reasoning

We will aim to reason with each child according to their age and stage of development. We will explain why behaviour is right or wrong and the consequences of such behaviour. Also we may ask the child to consider how they would feel if that behaviour was directed at them.

Phrasing

We will aim to use positive language and encouragement where possible and phrase directions in a clear manner. it is important that children understand what is expected of them.

Layouts and environments

We will endeavour to set out the Nursery in such a way that encourages positive behaviour and reduce the possibilities of problems by:

Allowing ample space around activities and an appropriate number of children at an activity.

Having defined areas for play such as home corner, maths corner and book area.

Allowing access to a range of activities and equipment

Providing activities that require co-operation, turn taking, sharing, trust and compromise.

Providing activities that require concentration or perseverance and praising achievements.

Setting rules

We will set simple rules for the children that they can understand and explain why we have these rules. These rules will be on display and regularly reinforced in the nursery.

Staff

We expect staff to set a positive example by:

Regularly examining their own conduct.

Listening carefully to children and what they have to say.

Give children clear, consistent boundaries of behaviour as agreed in the setting.

Try not to give too much attention to inappropriate behaviour- explain why it is wrong clear and concisely.

Allow children to express choices.

Acknowledge children's feelings and encourage them to express them verbally.

Respecting children and adults in the group.

Showing good manners and kindness, praising them in children and encouraging them in a positive manner.

Remember children learn by example.

Staff must not:

Use any form of physical punishment such as smacking, shaking or threatening such actions.

Adults should not shout at children- occasionally it is acceptable to pre-empt an incident happening, or to be heard in a busy room. It should not be used as a form of punishment. Children should be spoken to in a firm, controlled manner about behavioural incidents.

Staff should avoid labelling children as naughty or bad- explain why their behaviour is wrong without labelling.

Unnecessary restraints or constrictions should not be imposed on children. Time out can be used for an age appropriate amount of time so that children can calm down so they can be spoken to.

Staff should:

Stop any aggressive or bullying behaviour immediately and make it clear it is not acceptable.

Deal with any incidents in an age appropriate manner.

Help children to take responsibility for their actions. e.g., tidying up they have emptied lots of toys out. Ask them what they should have done if they have hurt another child when cross.

Use observations as a way of finding out any possible reasons for unwanted behaviour.

Discuss strategies with room leader to help encourage positive behaviour.

Bring to the attention of the Manager, Deputy or SEN any persistent issues that you feel you need help with.

Valuing and Promoting Partnership with Parents.

We value the role of parents in promoting good behaviour and will aim to work with parents towards the same behavioural goals. We will discuss any concerns with parents and look to agree a way forward that reinforces the same behavioural goals at Nursery and at home.

In the case of persistent inappropriate behaviour we will ensure we involve the child's parent/carer.

We will keep observations of behaviour incidents to see if there is a pattern and possible trigger.

We will look at whether any environmental changes or approaches may help.

We will work out strategies for dealing with unacceptable behaviour with the parent/ carer.

We may, with parental permission, involve outside parties to observe and advise. Often we find a fresh outlook and observation extremely valuable in helping to improve behaviour.

We will always aim to be inclusive and work through any behavioural issues. In extreme cases and where the well being of other children is being greatly impacted on, we may have to make the decision to exclude a child from the setting.