

NURSERY BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Nursery children come from a variety of backgrounds. Children come into nursery as young as 3 years and one term. They have to learn how to work, play and cooperate with each other. They also have to learn the importance of listening to a number of instructions and accept the everyday rules and routines of the nursery.

It is the aim of the nursery staff to provide an environment where children feel safe and secure and where learning is encouraged, supported and promoted. The staff expect good behaviour whenever possible. They encourage orderly conduct, politeness, kindness, thoughtfulness and consideration of others. They also try to encourage the children to have respect for themselves, each other, the adults in nursery and also the resources and equipment.

There are some simple rules, which are applied fairly and consistently. These rules are:

- Being fair and friendly to each other
- Keeping hands and feet to themselves.
- Look after all the equipment

Nursery staff try to avoid disruptive behaviour by looking for warning signs and stopping it before it erupts.

Reward systems

The nursery staff use positive procedures

- Praise - verbal praise is offered on a daily basis for good behaviour e.g. turn taking,
- Co-operation and sharing - attention is drawn to the good behaviour rather than the unacceptable and is sometimes rewarded by giving out stickers at the discretion of the nursery staff.
- Prevention – anticipation and removal of potential problems.
- Interaction – plenty of adult attention to avoid misbehaviour
- Provision – providing challenging and emotionally satisfying activities for children to be involved in.
- Clear expectations – applied in a positive way at times when children are moving around nursery either individually or in groups. Also at times when children come into main school.

Unacceptable behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour is defined as action which interrupts the child's own learning or the learning of others, harms another person, or property. Within a context of positive preventative strategies unwanted behaviour can be dealt with through methods of light control, in other words control that is appropriate to the situation and requires minimum intervention.

Procedures for dealing with unwanted behaviour

- Redirection – distract to another activity.
- A firm “No” followed by a clear expectation of what is expected. Very often the phrase “We don't do that in nursery” or “We don't say that in nursery” is used.
- Warning – a warning given of what will happen if the behaviour does not stop e.g. child would be removed from the situation or removal of toy, game etc.
- If misbehaviour continues the child would sit for a short time on the 'Thinking Chair', followed by a fresh start.

If any children are regularly identified as showing signs of continued misbehaviour they would be identified and recorded on the nursery identification sheets for children with possible special needs. When this is the case the Special Educational Needs Coordinator would be informed, along with parents and a period of assessment would follow. An action plan to support the child would be put into place if it were thought necessary to do so.

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