

OLD WINDSOR PRE-SCHOOL

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

We believe that children and adults flourish best in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them and children are free to develop their play and learning without fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else. We aim to work towards a situation in which children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

In order to achieve this:-

Rules governing the conduct of the group and the behaviour of the children will be discussed and agreed within pre-school and explained to all newcomers, both children and adults.

All adults in the pre-school will ensure that the rules are applied consistently, so that children have the security of knowing what to expect and can build up useful habits of behaviour.

All adults will try to provide a positive model for the children with regard to friendliness, care and courtesy.

Adults in the pre-school will praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share.

We will take positive steps to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.

When children behave in unacceptable ways:-

There will not be any physical punishment such as smacking or shaking. We use physical restraint such as holding only to prevent physical injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property.

If a child is persistently disruptive, the staff can request the removal of the child from the pre-school – however this would be a last resort.

Children who misbehave will be given one-to-one adult support in seeing what was wrong and working towards a better pattern.

Where appropriate this might be achieved by a period of “time out” with an adult.

In cases of serious misbehaviour, such as racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes will be made clear immediately, but by means of explanations rather than personal blame.

In any case of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children in question that it is the behaviour not the child that is unwelcome.

Adults will not raise voices in a threatening way.

Adults in the pre-school will make themselves aware of, and respect, a range of cultural expectations regarding interactions between people.

Any behaviour problems will be handled in a developmentally appropriate fashion, respecting individual children's level of understanding and maturity.

Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child's special needs.

We work in partnership with children's parents. Parents are regularly informed about their children's behaviour by their key person. We work with parents to address recurring inconsiderate behaviour, using our observation records to help us to understand the cause and to decide jointly how to respond appropriately.

Children under three years

When children under three behave in inconsiderate ways we recognise that strategies for supporting them will need to be developmentally appropriate and differ from those for older children.

We recognise that very young children are unable to regulate their own emotions, such as fear, anger or distress, and require sensitive adults to help them do this.

Common inconsiderate or hurtful behaviours of young children include tantrums, biting or fighting. Staff are calm and patient, offering comfort to intense emotions, helping children to manage their feelings and talk about them to help resolve issues and promote understanding.

Policy adopted at the Management Committee Meeting held on 2nd November 2006

Signed on behalf of the Pre-school _____ Chairperson _____ Supervisor