

Little Treasures Nursery Challenging Behaviour Policy

Rationale

Children need to have set boundaries of behaviour for their own safety and the safety of their peers. Within the nursery we aim to set these boundaries in a way, which helps the child to develop a sense of the significance of their own behaviour, both on their own environment and those around them. Restrictions on the child's natural desire to explore and develop their own ideas and concepts are kept to a minimum. Sanctions applied in the case of unacceptable behaviour must take account of the age and stage of development of the child, be relevant to the action or actions and be fair.

Aims and Objectives

The nursery manager shall ensure that the parents/carers are fully informed about and support the actions being taken to modify the child's unacceptable behaviour. However, it may be necessary to use restraining action in an emergency to prevent personal injury or serious damage to property. Parents/carers should feel free to discuss any concerns they may have with the nursery manager. All matters will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Implementation

- The nursery believes in promoting positive behaviour.
- We aim to encourage self-discipline, consideration for each other, our surroundings and property.
- By praising children and acknowledging their positive actions and attitudes, we hope to ensure that children see that we value and respect them.
- Nursery rules are concerned with safety, as well as care and respect for one another. Children who behave inappropriately by physically abusing another child or adult or by verbally bullying may be removed from the group. The child who is upset will be comforted and the adult will confirm that the other child's behaviour is not acceptable. It is important to acknowledge that a child is feeling angry or upset and that it is the behaviour we are rejecting, not the child.

- How a particular type of behaviour is handled will depend on the child and the circumstances. It may involve the child being asked to talk and think about what he/she has done. It may be that the child will not be allowed to make his/her own choice of activities for a limited period of time.
- The child will also be asked to see if the child/person who was hurt is all right and to demonstrate that they are sorry.
- In extreme cases the child will be removed from the room or garden until he/she has calmed down and had time to reflect on his/her behaviour.
- Parents will be informed if their child is persistently unkind to others or if their child has been upset. In all cases inappropriate behaviour will be dealt with in the nursery at the time. Parents may be asked to meet with staff to discuss their child's behaviour, so that if there are any difficulties we can work together to ensure consistency between home and nursery. In some cases we may request additional advice and support from other professionals such as an educational psychologist. We may also carry out focused observations on the child.
- Children need to develop non-aggressive strategies to enable them to stand up for themselves so that adults and children listen to them. They need to be given opportunities to release their feelings more creatively.
- Children need their own time and space. It is not always appropriate to expect a child to share and it is important to acknowledge children's feelings and to help them understand how others might be feeling.
- We want children to recognise that certain actions are right and that others are wrong.

By positively promoting good behaviour, valuing co-operation and a caring attitude we hope to ensure that children will develop as responsible members of society.

National Care Standards- Support and development, Standard 6
 A caring environment, Standard 7
 Equality and fairness, Standard 8