



NOAH'S ARK DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOURAL POLICY

Promoting positive behaviour

As Practitioners, we create a busy but calm, loving, caring, safe and peaceful learning atmosphere for children. If and when a leader needs to speak to a child individually about their behaviour or actions, she will approach the child at their level and speak quietly to him/her.

Free Play

During free play, leaders will assist children to play co-operatively together. Learning to wait, take turns and share with other children. These are important stages of a children's development as suggested under the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Children are encouraged not to throw sand, water, toys or equipment etc. as they may hurt other children, themselves or cause damage to toys and equipments. If this happens, the leader will give an explanation to the child as why he/she should not throw and encourage the child to apologise. Modeling good behaviour at all time.

Circle Time and Story Time

The leader is aware that young children are easily distracted and therefore prepares the items of interest accordingly. It is an important opportunity for children to learn to sit quietly and listen to the leader. The children are encouraged to participate in songs, stories, show and Tell which helps them to learn how to concentrate, communicate, gain confidence and participate.

Snack Time

During snack time, children are encouraged to share and use table manners, such as please and thank you. They help hand out the biscuits, pouring their own milk/water and spooning out their fruit and vegetables to gain independence.

Outside Play

Behavioural guidelines are similar to those indoors. However the children are expected to play within a given area with adult supervision at all times i.e. on the tarmac during the winter and can use grassed area at the back playground if they wear welly boots when it is muddy. In the side playground the children are expected to learn not to climb the banks, pick the flowers and berries or to swing on the gates.

The children are encouraged not to wear any additional clothing such as dressing-up clothes, because of the dangers that may occur when playing with bikes or climbing frames.

Dealing with Negative Behaviour

Physical behaviour such as kicking, head butting and tantrums are not acceptable and the leader will withdraw the child immediately, explaining firmly but kindly why. The leader will also try to find the reason behind the behavior (may be the other child has snatched a toy or excluded from play, or having problems outside Noah's Ark so chatting to the parent/carer is important).

Incidents will be recorded fully and the parent/carer will be informed at the end of the session.

Tantrums

While tantrums are common with this age group, they are often rare at Playschool. They often indicate frustration particularly where a child has not been given his/her own way or cannot communicate clearly their demands. Children deal with them in their own way, some like to sob alone, while others like to be held and comforted. The leader will try to be sensitive to each child's needs. If a child wished to be left alone the leader will stay close by, but be available to comfort as soon as the child is ready. We are learning Makaton signing which compliments the learning of language through hand signs.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Spitting, blowing bubbles, shouting etc. is not acceptable at Noah's Ark Playschool and we will endeavour to explain to the child why they are not acceptable in or out of Playschool.

Bad Language

Persistent use of swearing and unacceptable words will not be allowed. However, we realize that children of this age are only quoting words they have heard elsewhere. Therefore the words will be ignored the first time and the parent will be notified. If it happens again, the parent will be called in to discuss the situation.

Smacking

It is our policy not to smack any child at any time. A request or a reminder is given to the child i.e. "....., you must not throw the sand because it might go in someone's eyes."

Any difficult behaviour that is not in character is mentioned to the parents as it may be a symptom of something else i.e. Allergies or absent parents.

Whilst allowances are made for children who are unwell, can't hear, don't understand English etc. we do expect most children to be able to obey and follow simple instructions, especially when the leaders know they have been understood by the child. This will give added security to the child and will act as a foundation for their growing years.

Reviewed by CP March 2012.