



Promoting Positive Behaviour & Biting Policy

Links to legislation and Key guidance

- Children's Act 1989 & 2004
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage DfE 2021
- Working Together to Safeguard Children DfE 2018
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2021
- The Equality Act 2010

Policy Statement

We believe at Busy Bees that children and adults flourish best in an 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.

How We Intend To Achieve This

- Rules of the group and behaviour of the children will be discussed and agreed within Busy Bees. Both children and adults will have the rules explained. Each room will have their own verbal agreements as these tend to change with the children and their stages of development
- All adults will ensure that the rules and boundaries are applied constantly throughout the day, to ensure continuity.
- In any case of unacceptable behaviour, it will always be made clear that it is the behaviour that is unacceptable and not the child.

- All adults will be positive role models, demonstrating kindness, courtesy, being calm, sitting with the children during meal times, not shouting across the room, tidying up after themselves.
- All adults will praise positive behaviour throughout the day, have discussions at group times and might offer rewards such as stickers where appropriate.
- We will endeavour to provide opportunities for children to receive positive attention and praise, for example have a helper of the day, ask children to carry out special tasks etc.
- We will have a good mixture of adult led and child led activities to promote positive behaviour throughout all areas.
- Staff are aware of the developmentally appropriate expectations for the child's behaviour
- We work in partnership with children's parents. Parents are regularly informed about their child's behaviour by their key person. We work with parents to address recurring negative behaviour, using our observation records to help us to understand the cause and to decide jointly how to respond appropriately.
- We will always validate the child's feelings and wait 10 seconds for a response.

Positive Behaviour Expectations

- To look after our toys so that our friends can continue to play with them.
- To tuck our chairs in when we have finished to avoid our friends from tripping over them.
- To tidy up when we have finished an activity to ensure that our friends know where to access the activity when they want a turn.
- To hang our coats up, so they do not get trampled on or muddled up.
- To be kind and gentle to our friends so we do not hurt them or make them sad.
- To use walking feet inside to ensure we do not run into our friends or bump into things, to keep ourselves safe from injuries.
- To use small voices inside as loud voices can disrupt our friends if they are concentrating on another activity, likewise to not shout across the classroom.
- To take turns, to ensure that everybody gets a go.

- To respect each other's personal space.

When Children Behave in an Unacceptable Way

- No physical punishment will ever be used or threatened.
- Children will not be shouted at or humiliated, a firm voice may be used.
- Children may be led away from an activity to calm down or be offered some quiet time away from the group.
- Physical intervention will only be used to remove the child to prevent harm to themselves or to others.
- The child will be given support to help them behave in a more acceptable way, and agreed action plans may be made with the parents, staff and child.
- All staff will reinforce positive behaviour during group times.
- Any worries or concerns must be discussed with the manager.
- Staff will be made aware of behaviour matters that might arise from an additional need.
- The manager will support staff with behaviour management issues, seeking professional advice and regular training when needed. Talk community have some useful tools that may be use when behaviour needs further support,

<https://www.talkcommunitydirectory.org/children-and-families/managing-your-child-s-behaviour/changing-children-s-behaviour/>

Good Practice in Seven Simple Steps

- Be calm, clear and consistent.
- Use praise and reward.
- Provide good role models.
- Guide the child, break tasks into small achievable steps.
- Ignore bad behaviour, unless destructive or aggressive.
- Distract
- Remove from the scene if needed.

Biting Policy

Biting is a common behaviour for some children under the age of 5. Evidence suggests that up to one quarter of all young children will bite others at some stage.

Often biting is a part of a child's development journey to express to another child when they are feeling a range of emotions such as frustration or anger, but perhaps do not yet have the communication tools needed to do so in a gentler manner. It can also be a reflection of teething, physical exploration and sometimes seeking attention.

Our aim is to manage each incident of biting in a sensitive manner. It can be extremely upsetting for the child who has been bitten, the child who bites and for all family members involved. Each case will be unique and we will endeavour to identify the reasons behind the biting and come up with strategies as to how best to support it.

Possible suggestions may be:

- We may encourage the biting child to take part in activities which help release frustrations such as a big walk or physical activities.
- We will increase supervision of the biting child.
- We will model how to play appropriately and support play with others.
- We might introduce targeted support, such as small group work.
- The child who has been bitten will receive lots of reassurance and cuddles.
- The child who bites will be explained to that the behaviour is not kind.
- We will notify the biting child's family and work with them to develop strategies.
- An incident form will be written for the child who has been bitten.
- If skin has been broken a phone call to the child's family to notify them and allows the opportunity to seek medical advice if needed.
- We will encourage families to speak and work with us to help find solutions together.
- We might seek outside professional support.