

Severn Beach Preschool Behaviour Management Policy

Severn Beach Preschool staff believe that children and adults can achieve their full potential in a nurturing environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them, where children are free to develop their play and learning through play without fear of being hurt by others. We aim to provide an environment in which everyone can develop self-regulation, resilience and a positive self esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect, understanding and encouragement.

- Rules and expectations relating to the conduct of the group will be discussed and agreed by the preschool staff and committee at meetings.
- The rules and expectations will be explained to all new staff and any helpers.
- New children will have the rules and expectations explained to them in developmentally appropriate language.
- Adults in the group will apply the rules consistently and fairly at all times, allowing children the security of knowing what behaviour is expected to enable them to build up useful habits of appropriate behaviour.
- All adults in the group will praise and endorse positive and appropriate behaviour such as care and concern for others, the environment and resources.
- Positive reward systems such as certificates and stickers will be used from time to time.
- We will state the behaviour we would like to see, for example, “Please walk” not “Don’t run”
- We will take positive measures to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for unacceptable behaviour.
- Parents/carers helping in the group will report any unacceptable behaviour to an appropriate staff member and will not try to deal with the situation themselves.
- Adults will provide a positive role model for children.
- Daily transitions will be managed with thought to help children through these potentially tricky times.
- Children are given strategies to manage their feelings if they become overwhelmed and know they can find an adult at any time to help them through co-regulation.

When children behave in unwanted, unsafe or inappropriate ways:

- Physical punishment will never be used or threatened by anyone at the preschool.
- Adults will remain calm in all situations and if they feel they are becoming overly challenged they will call for support and another member of staff will help out.

- Children may be given time to think and calm down with the support of an adult.
- We have developed our 'Making amends' basket which has some visual aids, props and prompts to support children in recognising why their behaviour might have hurt someone, how it might make them feeling how they can find solutions and make amends.
- Staff are trained in emotion coaching and co - regulation and help the children to acknowledge their feelings and to find strategies to manage them in helpful ways.
- Any behavioural difficulties will be dealt with in a developmentally appropriate manner, respecting the child's level of understanding.
- Recurring difficulties will be dealt with in partnership with the child's parent/ carer. This will involve individual play or behaviour plans and partnership working to help identify any triggers to unwanted behaviour.
- If inappropriate behaviour which causes disruption to the safe running of preschool continues and puts other children at the risk of being hurt, despite following behaviour plans, preschool will follow the plan in the procedure set out in the exclusion policy.
- Parents are asked to keep us informed of any situations at home that may have an impact on their child's behaviour.
- Adults will always ensure that children are aware that it is the behaviour that makes us unhappy and not the child themselves. We do not label children as 'naughty'.
- Inappropriate comments, racial comments and the use of inappropriate language by either children or adults will be challenged.
- Children will be encouraged to recognise that bullying, fighting and hurting are not acceptable behaviour and will be given non-aggressive strategies to enable them to stand up for themselves.
- Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child's additional needs.
- Adults are also aware that some behaviours may be the result of any form of child abuse or trauma and should be discussed with the DSL.
- Staff members will ensure they comply with this policy and work with the team to ensure a consistent approach.