

Tiddlywinkers Day Nursery
Policy on Behaviour Management

Principle – We believe that where expectations of behaviour are clear and where children’s personal, social and emotional needs are met, positive behaviour will be achieved.

Policy Statement of Intent – To ensure that a clear and consistent approach to behaviour management is adopted within Tiddlywinkers. To ensure that the principles that underpin how we achieve positive behaviour with Tiddlywinkers promote children’s personal, social and environmental development. That attention is brought to children who suffer with behavioural problems or challenging behaviour receives extra attention to encourage positive behaviour.

Procedure –

- We require all staff to use positive strategies for handling any inconsiderate behaviour, by helping children find solutions in ways which are appropriate for the children’s age and stages of development. Such solutions might include, for example acknowledgement of feelings, explanation as to what is not acceptable and supporting children to gain control of their feelings so that they can learn a more appropriate response.
- We ensure that there are enough toys and resources and sufficient activities available so that children are meaningfully occupied without the need for unnecessary conflict over sharing and waiting for turns.
- We acknowledge considerate behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share.
- We support each child in developing self-esteem, confidence and feelings of competence.
- We support each child in developing a sense of belonging in our nursery, so that they feel valued and welcome.
- We avoid creating situations in which children receive adult attention only in return for inconsiderate behaviour
- When children behave in inconsiderate ways we help them to understand the outcomes of their action and support them in learning how to cope more appropriately
- We never use physical punishments such as smacking or shaking.
(Children are never threatened with these)
- We do not use techniques to single out and humiliate individual children
- Staff will not shout or raise their voices in a threatening way
- Staff will praise and encourage positive behaviour.

Rough and tumble play and hurtful behaviour

Young children often engage in rough and tumble play and fantasy aggression, play that has an aggressive theme such as superhero and weapon play; some children appear pre-occupied with these themes, but their behaviour is not necessarily a sign to hurtful behaviour, although it may be inconsiderate at times and may need addressed using the procedure above.

- We recognise that teasing and rough and tumble play are normal for young children and acceptable within limits. We regard these kinds of play as pro-social and not as problematic or aggressive.
- We will develop procedures to contain play that are agreed with the children and understood by them, with acceptable behavioural boundaries to ensure children are not hurt
- We recognise that fantasy play also contains many violently dramatic procedures, blowing up, shooting etc. and that themes often refer to “goodies and baddies” and as such offer opportunities for us to explore concepts of right and wrong

Intervention and Physical Restraint

In the unlikely event that the above policy has failed and a child’s behaviour requires physical intervention, the procedure outlined below will be implemented:

- Whatever the incident, physical punishments or the threat of them are not used
- When possible, staff will aim to distract and re-direct the child’s attention
- Adults will not use any form of physical intervention, e.g. holding, unless it is necessary to prevent personal injury to the child, other children, a staff member or serious damage to property
- Where physical intervention is appropriate, this will be achieved with the minimum force and the minimum time
- Any such incidents are recorded and the parents/carers informed of the incident on the day