



# Behaviour Management Policy

When supporting children in the management of their behaviour, it is vital that we foster and build a positive self-esteem. Families, staff and other significant adults and peers work together to influence children's choices.

## This will be achieved in a range of ways:

- **Shared Responsibility:** Children who feel they are equal partners in the tasks that need doing, feel valued and important.
- **Equality:** Staff will be effective leaders and models. Children will be encouraged to have their say and take responsibility for their own behaviour and actions.
- **Cooperation:** Staff will model cooperative behaviour and work with children in the centre.
- **Encouragement:** Staff will give children positive feedback for their attempts and their efforts.
- **Trust:** Staff will trust children to act responsibly. They will explicitly teach appropriate expectations and be clear, consistent and persistent about limits.

**Our approach to bullying at this site is covered by this Behaviour Management Policy.**

## Principles of Behaviour Management

Staff will use a positive approach in managing children's behaviour.

- Staff will endeavour to implement pro-active strategies rather than reactive strategies.
- Staff will treat each incident individually, based on the situation, the child's developmental needs and individual agreements made with parents.
- Behaviours, both verbal and non-verbal should be viewed as a form of communication from the child to his/her world. With this in mind staff will take steps to modify the learning environment and their interactions with children where appropriate.
- It has been recognised that long term change occurs as a result of teaching and reinforcing positive, appropriate behaviours. In order to reinforce appropriate behaviours, the time and attention given by staff to these behaviours must be noticeably greater than that spent on inappropriate behaviours.



- There are situations in which a child has wide choices, situations of limited choice and situations of no choice. Staff will clarify for children, situations of free, limited and no choice.

**Within the kindergarten there are certain behaviours which will be actively promoted by the staff. Children will be:**

- Encouraged to care for and respect themselves and their belongings.
- Encouraged to care for and respect others and their belongings.
- Encouraged to participate in activities.
- Encouraged to make decisions.
- Supported to understand that behaviour has consequences, which increase or reduce choices in life.
- Given the opportunity to take responsibility for their own actions, according to developmental ability.
- Encouraged to problem solve and understand consequences.

**When unacceptable behaviour occurs staff will:**

- Talk to the child about the behaviour and explain why it is unacceptable behaviour
- Redirect the play or the child, reinforcing safe practices
- Withdraw the child from area and offer other choices
- If unacceptable behaviour continues "time away" may be used. Time away will only be for a brief period of time and the child will not be left on their own.

**If the unacceptable behaviours are repeated:**

- The staff team in consultation with the families/carers will design and implement strategies to manage the behaviour.
- Advice from Integrated Support Services can be accessed through DECD if deemed necessary by parents and staff.
- Staff will use their discretion when handling inappropriate behaviours and will modify the steps according to the individual circumstances.