



Behaviour Management Policy

Promoting positive behaviour is particularly important and we do this by:

- Giving lots of praise and rewarding good behaviour.
- Giving the children individual attention so they feel valued.
- Setting a good example, being a good role model.
- Listening to what the children have to say.

We help the children understand our forest school rules, which are realistic, and we are consistent in enforcing them. We do not give out confusing signals.

We are aware of the different reasons why children may present challenging behaviours and will endeavour to keep to routines so that your child feels safe and is not over tired or hungry.

We have developed several different strategies to deal with challenging behaviours, and use different ones depending on the age/ability of the child and the situation:

- **Distraction:** Remove the child from the situation and give them an alternative activity.
- **Utilise positive reinforcement:** i.e.: ignoring negative behaviour and praising good behaviour.
- **Discuss with the child:** If the child is able to understand we will discuss their behaviour and try and get them to appreciate the consequences of their actions on others. We inform them that it is their behaviour that we do not like, not them. We use "kind hands" and "kind words" to encourage children to respect each other and treat each other kindly. We encourage parents and carers to also use these phrases at home for consistency. During one-to-one key worker meetings we will work closely with parents / carers to discuss behaviour management strategies used at home and strategies that suit your child.
- **Reflection time:** Once positive reinforcements and distractions are no longer working, the child is to sit with their key worker and they will also encourage the child to understand about good choices and to see how they can make things better and apologise if needed. The key worker will work with them to develop strategies to help them manage their feelings and emotions.

If incidents continue, we contact parents / carers and come up with an individual strategy.

Should challenging behaviours continue in the setting following this, we will discuss this with parents in a face-to-face meeting in order to work closely with parents / carers to resolve any issues.

We will never smack, shake or hurt your child. We will not humiliate your child.

If a child misbehaves, we will let you know at collection. Some children can become upset if the incident is retold in front of them, so if we feel this is the case we will message or ring prior to

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collection. We will also inform you of how the matter was dealt with. In most cases, the matter will not require any further action.

If a child's behaviour continues to be challenging and cannot be managed using the above techniques, or if a child's behaviour cannot be managed in a way that is safe for the child and others, then this must be brought to management. Management will review the situation and work with staff to compile a specific behaviour management plan for that child. This may include parents / carers being asked to collect early if the child or any other child in the setting cannot be kept safe. Due to legal ratios and Wild Explorers being an open site, we are unable to provide one to one care within our setting. Behaviour management plans will be kept on Blossom or as part of a SEN plan if the child has SEN needs. All incidents will be logged on notes on Blossom.

There may be times when we will need to physically intervene or restrain a child to prevent or stop an incident taking place. This could be when a child is, has or is about to scratch, bite or hit another child or run into a road etc. Any physical intervention will always be carried out with the children's safety and wellbeing as the highest priority and only used as a last resort.

For more information contact us:

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