

Aldinga Community Kindergarten

Behavior management and anti-bullying Policy

Aldinga community Kindergarten will strive towards providing a safe, inclusive, supported learning environment which is free from bullying, harassment, bias and violence .

We believe:

Everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time.

Children learn best when they experience success and have positive self-esteem..

We accept that children feel angry, frustrated and upset at times and need to express these feelings appropriately.

Staff and parents need to share responsibility, being consistent at all times, creating a safe, secure environment for children and modeling appropriate behavior

Strategies must address the needs of individual children, including those with disabilities developmental delay, gifted and talented and those with emotional needs.

Encouraged Behavior

Respecting and caring for others
Sharing and taking turns
Confidence
Being co-operative
Participating in activities, working co-operatively
Being friendly
Listening
Self-control
Using appropriate actions (e.g. please stop I don't like that)
Valuing other people's property
Being resilient
Safe constructive play
Taking responsibility for own behavior
Positive language

Discouraged Behavior

Name calling and teasing
Excluding others
Threatening others
Hitting, Kicking, pinching, biting and spitting
Throwing objects inappropriately
Disrespecting other work or property
Ignoring adults requests and following through
Avoiding or disrespecting group norms
Manipulating
Deliberate withdrawal or refusal to participate

Ways we maximize positive behaviors

- ✓ Timetable is designed to allow children long periods of uninterrupted active play
- ✓ Children are encouraged to choose the activity they would like to be involved in.
- ✓ Behavior expectations are continuously enforced
- ✓ An atmosphere of acceptance, respect and trust is created by treating each member of the community (children, families and staff) as valued individuals.
- ✓ Empowering children to manage conflict situations using protective behavior strategies "stop it, I don't like it" often diffuses the situation
- ✓ Where children are having difficulty with this strategy they are encouraged to seek staff assistance.
- ✓ Redirecting
- ✓ Time away from the situation (Where safe)
- ✓ Encourage child to find their 'Calm Space" e.g. counting, breathing doing a quiet activity.

Ways to minimize challenging or bullying behaviors

- ✓ A gesture or expression may be a starting point for discussion
- ✓ Planned ignoring in order to reduce behaviors which are purely attention seeking but not dangerous is a strategy to use
- ✓ Role model and discussion about appropriate conflict resolution techniques or play.
- ✓ Adult guided choice of two activities given to aid the child manage their behavior.
- ✓ Redirecting the child after other strategies explored e.g. warning, Finding a quiet place to calm down and think. Adults role will be to support the child until their anxiety is reduced and the incident can be discussed and more appropriate strategies modeled and practiced.
- ✓ Assist the child to re-engage in the activity
- ✓ Find opportunities to give positive reinforcement.
- ✓ As a last resort it is sometimes necessary to gently restrain a child for their own safety or the safety of other children. Staff are to undertake this with care and sensitivity.
- ✓ Protective and anti- bullying curriculum will be taught to all students.

Consulting and informing parents

All parents are given a copy of this policy. If a child exhibits challenging behaviors including bullying, staff will discuss issues with the parents and share strategies being used at the kindergarten. If appropriate a behavior management plan will be developed and shared with relevant stakeholders.

Informing Children

- ✓ Discussion with children regarding the rules at the beginning of each term
- ✓ As incidents occur discussions will take place with those involved
- ✓ Children are reminded of the rules at pertinent times e.g. mat time

Informing Staff and Supporting Staff

- ✓ This policy in staff induction book
- ✓ Information regarding behavior management discussed at staff meetings
- ✓ Individual learning plans developed for children with additional needs.
- ✓ Be consistent in approach to behavior

Staff will be consistent in approach to behavior management and follow the policy and will discuss concerns about children with challenging or bullying behaviors.

Dated 18th March 2016

Policy review date September 2017