



BEHAVIOUR GUIDANCE CODE

Documented guidelines regarding behaviour and guidance for children help ensure that children, families and staff have a safe environment, and consistency and clarity around acceptable behaviour and guidance measures that will be implemented.

As a staff team we believe:

- All children have the right to feel and be safe all of the time.
- Behaviour has consequences which increase or decrease the choices in life.
- No child should be made to feel rejected, insecure, embarrassed or ashamed.
- The main focus for the Behaviour Guidance Code is to maintain a positive approach.
- Children learn best when they experience success and have positive self-esteem.
- The Renmark West Preschool is accountable to the parents and community to provide a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment which will enhance the development of children's life skills and competencies, in which every child and family is valued and respected.
- We recognise that parents are important educators of the child and acknowledge that a partnership between parents and staff will lead to the most effective learning.
- Consequences for appropriate and inappropriate behaviour are logical.
- Rules help to respect our rights and to encourage responsibility.
- Children all have the right to learn and play in a friendly, safe, supportive environment.
- Staff all have the right to teach in a friendly, co-operative, supportive environment.
- Staff and parents need to share responsibility by:
 - Being as consistent as possible
 - Creating a safe, secure environment for children
 - Modelling appropriate behaviour.

As a staff team we promote positive behaviour and interactions by:

- Providing a secure, caring and stimulating environment which encourages children to cooperate, enhances their self-esteem, helps develop their ability to interact with others and promotes acceptable behaviour.
- Ensuring that our communication with children shows respect at all times.
- Using role modelling, explanations, voice intonations and facial expressions to encourage desired behaviours. Shouting and negativity will be avoided at all times.
- Using observational skills in order to identify potential problems and use methods such as redirection and diversion to either avert or manage situations.
- As required, receive training/support to recognise developmentally appropriate behaviours.
- Consulting with parents/guardians when a child continues to behave in an unacceptable manner, asking parents/guardians to work with the staff and outside agencies (if appropriate) to ensure positive techniques are consistent and clear, leading to acceptable behaviours.
- Behaviour guidance in the centre will comply with current relevant legislation and local and departmental policy.
- Preschool staff will assist with social skills development by:
 - Modeling appropriate behaviour



- Explicit teaching and rehearsal of appropriate behaviour

Ways we minimise challenging behaviours at Renmark West Preschool:

When we observe unsafe / unacceptable / aggressive behaviour occurring we will:

1. Remind the child of the right for people to be safe all the time at preschool.
2. Offer the option of staying at the activity by way of giving the child a choice.
3. Redirect the play or the child.
4. Encourage and model appropriate behaviour for the child to rehearse, to enable the child to participate more effectively in the group and be recognised for his/her success.
5. Inform parents as required.

We will respond to challenging behaviours by:

- Reminding children of expectations and limits and the reasons for these.
- Supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately using Restorative Justice practices (cooperatively acknowledging and resolving between all parties).
- Supporting children to empathise with others and restore relationships.
- Communicating with and involve families at the earliest opportunity to work together positively to assist the child's wellbeing and learning.
- Assessing individual children's learning and development and reflecting on and reviewing our planned program and how the active learning environment supports positive behaviours.
- Planning, implementing, monitoring and reviewing individual behaviour plans in partnership with families and support services.
- Being aware of our limitations and seeking assistance when required.
- Withdrawing children when they are at risk of hurting themselves or others, ensuring that an adult is with them all the time.
- Clearly expressing limits to behaviour in positive terms and reinforcing these consistently in a developmentally appropriate way, building on each child's strengths and achievements.
- Using a consistent approach.

Consulting and informing parents:

- Parents will be provided with access to the Renmark West Preschool Behaviour Guidance Code at the commencement of their child's preschool education.
- Information about children's behaviour will be shared with parents as required.
- For continued occurrences of inappropriate behaviours, a meeting between parents and staff will be arranged to discuss concerns, to ensure that there is no conflict between home and centre expectations and to formulate further strategies.
- Staff and parents will be encouraged to work collaboratively to ensure positive techniques are consistent and clear, leading to acceptable behaviours.

This Behaviour Guidance Code has been developed in consultation with the Governing Council, staff and families of the centre and will be reviewed and evaluated regularly and modified as required to ensure continued relevance for Renmark West Preschool. This code will be shared with all new staff and families and available in the preschool policies folder.



Policy Issued: October 2012
Policy reviewed: May 2015
Policy reviewed: March 2017
Policy review date: May 2019