



Behaviour Support Policy

The Children's Centre is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for its staff, children and visitors. We are committed to providing quality teaching in a supportive and caring learning environment.

Belief Statement

Behaviour is a form of communication and children need to express emotions such as anger, frustration and distress however they need help to express these feelings appropriately.

We believe children learn best when they experience success and have a positive self-image and have quality relationships with their educators. Developing and maintaining a supportive, positive, caring relationship with each child is vital in any learning situation and remains paramount.

We acknowledge that each child is an individual who comes to preschool with his/her own culture and already formed behaviour code however,

- All children have the right to feel safe
- Effective learning occurs when families and educators work together.
- No child should be made to feel rejected, insecure, embarrassed or ashamed

Expectations

Our expectations of behaviour are based on care and respect. We encourage children to develop empathy, understanding, self-respect, self-discipline and self-control.

We support all children through planning, modelling, mentoring and giving explicit instruction

We promote respect and care for each other, for our things, for our environment and promote use of socially acceptable language and actions.

Behaviours

Inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour can range from simply not following instructions to dangerous/hurtful or inappropriate actions or language, through to violence and bullying.

Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group. All bullying and single incidents are treated on an individual basis.

Response

At the Children's Centre we will use a variety of methods to nurture positive behaviour, reduce inappropriate behaviour and manage challenging behaviour including:

- Explicit teaching and reinforcing of appropriate rules
- Positive teaching techniques to reinforce appropriate behaviours, including distracting, positive reinforcement, redirecting, ignoring, early intervention, positive guidance and /or visual aids
- Teaching children to recognise and express feelings appropriately through informal and formal learning opportunities
- Supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately
- Intentional teaching of appropriate behaviours, communication and play skills
- Providing a nurturing environment that promotes a sense of belonging and self-worth, and values the individual
- Interacting positively, using positive language and acknowledging and modelling respectful behaviour
- Withdrawing children to be with a supportive adult when they are at risk of hurting themselves or others
- For ongoing or more challenging situations, an individually tailored behaviour plan will be developed and implemented. The Centre will also seek support from outside agencies when appropriate.
- Children who are having difficulty with big emotions and may be at risk of hurting themselves and/or others will be encouraged by educators to find a quiet space out of the main play area. This will involve them being supported by an educator or if explicitly expressed by the child, some time left alone where they can be visually monitored by educators until the child is ready and accepting of educator and/or peer interaction.
- Contacting the parent to collect their child from preschool, if behaviour escalates, and/or it is in the best interests of the child or other children

Informing parents/caregivers

Where possible every effort is made to inform parents of any general behaviour issues and/or behaviour issues that involve their child. Educators will not breach confidentiality by informing them of the names of any other child/children involved in any incident/s.

Grievance Procedures

It is an expectation of the Centre that parents do not approach any child or parent of that child about any behaviour incident at the Centre. Please consult the Grievance Policy and/or speak to the Preschool Director if you have any concerns.