

SITE BEHAVIOUR CODE

Overview

At Tumby Bay Kindergarten we believe that everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time. We want children to develop as happy, responsible and confident individuals who work together as members of a group. To be able to develop these skills, children need to learn that within society there are behaviours that are not acceptable.

At our kindergarten we encourage & support managing behaviour in a positive manner. We encourage children to:

- Care for themselves and keep safe
- To respect and care for others
- To care and respect the Kindergarten environment and equipment
- To make choices, decisions and find solutions
- To understand there are consequences for their actions

Children are constantly learning to be social and to know the accepted ways of living, playing, working and being with others. As they develop they are learning to share, take turns, to resolve conflict, to listen, to play together and to communicate and share their ideas.

When children come to our centre they will have the opportunity to experience children from families who have different values and expectations from their own. There will be children from diverse cultural backgrounds, children with special needs and children with disabilities.

Acceptable Behaviour

Acceptable behaviour that we encourage and model for children include:

- Respecting each other – accepting each other as an individual, their differences, culture and beliefs
- Being kind and compassionate to others
- Listening to others – everyone has something to contribute
- Using positive language
- Being co-operative
- Helping each other
- Taking turns
- Sharing – equipment and materials
- Participating in activities and experiences
- Being kind and compassionate to others

These behaviours provide the foundation to life long learning and teach children to respect, value, understand and care for each other.

Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour that is not fair to others such as:

- Those which physically hurt or frighten others eg kicking, punching, biting, spitting, pushing and shoving
- Those which are dangerous to the children themselves or to others eg throwing equipment, running inside
- Those which hurt or frighten others through language eg name calling, insults, put downs
- Those which spoil other's achievements or work eg deliberately knocking down or ruining other children's work
- Those which interfere with the routines around the centre such as deliberately disrupting group time/ pack up time.

Minimising challenging behaviours

Staff use a range of strategies to promote positive behaviours :

- We understand all children are individuals and will have different levels of understanding and have experienced different types of rules.
- Some children who have learning difficulties may have greater difficulty coping with frustrations and understanding rules and consequences.
- We believe that staff and parents need to share the responsibility for managing challenging behaviours by being consistent at all times, by creating safe and secure environments for children and by modelling appropriate behaviours .
- Children learn best when they experience success and feel good about themselves but sometimes children do feel angry, frustrated and upset and need help to express their feelings appropriately.

Staff at our centre support positive behaviours by:

- Following protective behaviours such as using statements as ' Stop , I don't like that '
- Explicitly teaching skills to deal with conflict and problem solving
- Providing experiences to develop social skills , fairness and bullying
- Understanding behavioural development
- Being consistent and having high expectations
- Inform children of their behaviours and possible consequences
- Allow children to ask questions and make choices

When unacceptable and challenging behaviours occur staff will:

- Talk about the problem with the children involved
- Offer choices
- Redirect play or the children
- Ignore the behaviour if it is not dangerous, does not physically or emotionally hurt another person , or is attention seeking (e.g. throwing a tantrum)
- Use visuals to talk about the behaviour and explain conflict resolution/ consequences of behaviour

If unacceptable behaviour continues or dangerous behaviour has occurred, we will:

- Use time in

Time in is when the child will be with a staff member for a short period of time. They will discuss why they were removed from the play and the staff member will show them how to re-enter play:

- Redirect the play and model appropriate behaviour
- Encourage children to move away and choose another activity
- Remove equipment if it becomes a danger to children

Communication with Families

The Staff will ensure that the child's parents are informed of any significant behavioural issues that occur. This will provide the opportunity for staff and parents to work together to minimise unacceptable behaviours and encourage positive interactions. Parents can help support our Behaviour Code by:

- Working together with staff and following consistent strategies at home and at kindergarten
- Being a positive role model.
- Informing staff of any changes or concerns about your child.

We want to ensure that our centre is a place where children feel safe, secure and respected – a place where children, staff and parents work together to maximise children's learning, have fun, take risks and learn through play. This will provide the foundation to successful lifelong learning.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS: Quality Area 5 : Relationships with children

Standard 5:1 Respectful and equitable relationships are maintained with each child.

Standard 5:2 Each child is supported to build and maintain sensitive and responsive relationships
