**Understanding and Supporting Behaviour Policy**

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Supporting and understanding children’s behaviour

3.58 Providers are responsible for managing children’s behaviour in an appropriate way. EYFS (2021)

The staff member(s) responsible for Understanding Behaviour are Tori Pattison and Lizzie Booth.

We believe that children and adults flourish in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them and children are free to develop their play and learning without fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else. We aim to work towards a situation in which children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

In order to achieve this:

* Rules governing the conduct and the behaviour of the children will be explained to all newcomers,
* All adults in the Preschool will ensure that the rules are applied consistently, so that children have the security of knowing what to expect and can build up useful patterns of behaviour.
* All adults will provide a positive model for the children with regard to friendliness, care and courtesy.
* Adults in Preschool will praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as good manners, kindness and willingness to share.
* Children are expected to behave in an appropriate manner, showing consideration for others, e.g. sharing toys and taking turns
* Children are encouraged to handle toys, books and equipment with care and help to tidy up after themselves
* We will take positive steps to avoid a situation in which children receive adult attention only in return for undesirable behaviour.

When children behave in unacceptable ways, adults will take into account children's level of understanding and stage of development.

* Adults will not shout or raise their voices in a threatening way.
* Physical punishment, such as smacking or shaking, will not be used nor threatened.
* Techniques intended to single out and humiliate individual children such as ‘naughty chair’ will not be used.
* Children who misbehave will be given adult support e.g by explaining why their behaviour is unacceptable and the effects of their behaviour on others. Where appropriate this might be achieved by a period of ‘time out’ with an adult.
* In any cases of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children in question that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome, and we do not label children.
* Recurring problems will be tackled in partnership with the child’s parents, using observation records to establish an understanding of the cause.
* Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child’s additional needs or stage of development.
* We only use physical restraint, such as holding, if we feel that the child or others in the group are in danger of being harmed (bodily) Details of such an event (what happened, what action was taken and by whom, and the names of witnesses) are recorded on our Incident Form which is kept with the child's records. A parent/carer is informed on the same day and signs the Incident Form to indicate that he/she has been informed.
* We are aware of and take bullying very seriously. If a child bullies another child/children, we intervene immediately to stop the child and explain why his/her behaviour is inappropriate and support them in understand the effects of their actions on others.
* When children bully, we discuss what has happened with their parents/carers and work out with them a plan for supporting the child’s behaviour.
* We give reassurance to the child/children who have been bullied, and we share what has happened with their parents/carers, explaining that the child who did the bullying is being helped to adopt more acceptable ways of behaving.
* Incidents are recorded in Accident/Incident Book for future reference. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

This policy was signed on behalf of the preschool – T Pattison (Preschool Manager)