

## Behaviour Policy

### Introduction

The aim of this policy is to give staff, parents and children a clear understanding of the ethos of our setting and how this guides the way we work and our expectations of behaviour. The views of parents, children and staff have been consulted and we aim to have a consistent approach across Low Hall Nursery School And Walthamstow West Children's Centre.

### Our ethos

All members of the Nursery School and Children's Centre have the right to be treated with respect and to be part of a welcoming, supportive, stimulating, calm and safe environment. We concentrate on positive behaviour and give praise and encouragement rather than highlighting negative behaviour.

We strive for an environment that is inclusive, valuing and appreciating everyone as a unique individual. In the nursery we aim to create an environment that promotes appropriate behaviour by:

- allowing a child time to adapt to a new environment with different expectations and boundaries
- clear and consistent communication from staff
- appropriate expectations of a young child's behaviour
- activities that are developmentally appropriate for young children
- building children's self-esteem so that they expect to be treated with respect and to be valued and supported
- enough resources to go around to avoid disputes regarding sharing
- supportive staff who understand the needs of young children and the challenges of parenting
- Implementing effective strategies for children whose behaviour may be challenging
- supportive staff who understand the needs of each other.

The following guidelines apply to everyone who uses the Nursery School and Children's Centre:

- show respect for other people
- show respect for Nursery School, Children's Centre property and other people's property
- listen to what others have to say and show respect for their point of view
- look after each other
- treat others as you would like them to treat you
- be polite, co-operative, considerate and friendly to other people

- do not accept bullying
- do not join in with aggressive behaviour, name-calling or malicious gossip
- tell a member of staff if you see someone being unkind or being hurt
- welcome others to join in with your group.

We particularly encourage children to:

- be friendly with every one, no hurting in any way
- look after each other
- understand about taking turns (very difficult for young children and flexibility and understanding is needed here)
- listen quietly at carpet time
- help each other
- walk in the Nursery and Children's Centre, we can run in the garden
- take care of our toys and books
- keep our toys at the Nursery and Children's Centre, do not take them home.
- Know that BULLYING is not acceptable. If another child is unkind or unfriendly to them, empower them to say 'no' and also tell an adult.

Managing behaviour and supporting children can be challenging and we aim to work in partnership with families to support them. Unacceptable behaviour is always dealt with immediately. We explain why the behaviour is unacceptable whilst stressing that the individual is cared for and valued. We encourage children to apologise if they have hurt or upset another child. We will inform parents if their child has been hurt or have hurt another child.

#### NO FORM OF PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT IS USED

Although we allow active play and "super hero" play, we actively discourage verbal and physical aggression. When there is a conflict we support those involved to resolve the problem. The child will be taken into a quiet area of the setting to calm down and consider their words and actions. Time out for two to three minutes may be used as a strategy if necessary.

The appropriate staff team (which may include the Head teacher, Children's Centre Co-ordinator, Family Support Worker, Teacher, Crèche leader, key worker and so on) will work in partnership with parents to develop strategies to improve behaviour for children who find it difficult to follow the nursery rules. Key workers will discuss with parents how to use positive reinforcement as a strategy to improve their children's behaviour. If necessary, outside agencies such as the Educational Psychologist and Speech and Language Therapist may be involved.