



Wild Things - Droitwich

Managing behaviour policy

Rationale

I believe that all children have the right to expect positive approaches to managing their behaviour, which foster self-esteem, respect, tolerance and self-control enabling them to develop to their full potential as individuals. By providing a happy, safe environment, where reasonable and appropriate limits to help manage the behaviour of the children are set, the children in my care will be encouraged to develop social skills to help them be accepted and welcomed in society as they grow up.

Procedure

How I help children to learn what is expected

I set clear and realistic boundaries for children that are appropriate to their age and level of understanding, and apply them consistently. A consistent approach benefits the child's welfare and helps to ensure that a child is not confused. I ensure that children have lots of attention so that they don't need to seek attention by misbehaving and listen to what the child has to say so that they feel valued.

I am aware of the different reasons why children misbehave and will endeavour to keep to routines so that the child feels safe, aware of what will happen next and are not over tired or hungry. I request that parents/carers inform me of any changes to the child's home circumstances that may affect their behaviour such as a new baby, parents/carers' separation or bereavement.

I aim to teach children a sense of right and wrong and to regulate their own emotions, so that they act considerately to others not because they might be punished. I encourage responsibility by talking to children about their choices and the possible consequences. I always explain the reason for a rule. Reasons are usually about keeping themselves or others safe, to protect others' property or

because the behaviour requested is polite. I involve the older children in agreeing the 'house rules' to encourage positive behaviour.

Positive behaviour reinforcement

I role model the positive behaviour I wish to see from the children including always saying please and thank you to the children. I always thank wanted behaviour as children love to please their important adults and praise the children to their parents/carers and other people when they have behaved as expected.

I support the development of children's intrinsic motivation by celebrating their successes with them, encouraging them to take pride in positive behaviour, and praising the child's behaviours and actions. I use celebrations such as high fives, thumbs up etc.

How I deal with unwanted behaviour

I do not expect young children to be 'good' at all times. They are in the process of learning what is expected of them and will make mistakes along the way that will be treated in a sensitive manner to increase the child's understanding of the desired behaviour.

In order to maintain a child's self-esteem, I only show disapproval of a child's behaviour and never of the child.

Distraction, explanation and accompanied removal of the child from the situation in order to co-regulate them (time in) are strategies that may be used to calm a situation of unwanted behaviour according to the child's level of understanding. I may ignore the unwanted behaviour providing it will not hurt themselves or others.

I never give corporal punishment to a child. I never threaten corporal punishment or use or threaten any punishment that would harm a child's well-being. I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that corporal punishment is not given by any person who also has contact with the child whilst in my care. I will only physically restrain a child where absolutely necessary to manage their behaviour or when necessary to avert immediate danger of personal injury to the child, another person or damaging property. A written record will be kept and shared with parents/carers on the same day or as soon as reasonably practicable.

If any sanctions are to be used they are always discussed and agreed with parents/carers first. Withholding food or offering food rewards will never be used as a form of punishment for unwanted behaviour or incentive for a desired behaviour.

If a child is injured by another child's behaviour, the injured child will be comforted and any first aid given as appropriate. The child who has caused the injury will be removed from the situation, assisted with co-regulation and be given an explanation of why their behaviour is not acceptable according to their level of understanding. They will be encouraged to consider ways in which they could help the injured child to feel better, such as with a hug or by offering a toy. A written record will be made and shared with both parents/carers retaining confidentiality. Parents/carers will be requested to sign this record on the same day or as soon as reasonably practicable.

Significant or repeated instances of unwanted behaviour that are unable to be managed by the steps identified above are shared with parents/carers. I aim to discuss this with you out of hearing of your child. This may mean an arrangement is made to discuss this either by telephone or in person at a more convenient time. Discussions are held with the parent/carer on new strategies to support the child's unwanted behaviour or obtaining advice from another professional service in order to gain additional help for the child.

Physical intervention

The EYFS talks in detail about behaviour management and clarifies that corporal punishment is illegal. It makes a distinction between corporal punishment and physical intervention which might be necessary to save a child's life or protect them from serious injury.

Physical intervention is where practitioners use reasonable force to prevent children from injuring themselves or others or damaging property. Providers, including childminders, must keep a record of any occasion where physical intervention is used, and parents and/or carers must be informed on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.'

If physical intervention is used to protect children from harm we must record what has happened and share a copy of the information with you. Physical intervention might include, for example -

- Stopping a child from hurting themselves

- Stopping a child from hurting another child
- Stopping a child from damaging property
- Managing a child's behaviour if other interventions (the positive behaviour management techniques used in the provision) have failed to support the child's needs

If we have written a 'Physical intervention record' about a child we will ask you to sign it on the same day or as quickly as possible after the event. This will help us to show evidence to Ofsted that you are aware of what has happened.

Signature: Meg Hearne

Date: 05 March 2024