

Behaviour Policy

Aim

In Sidcup Baptist Church Playgroup we are committed to establishing a learning environment that promotes positive behaviour and relationships where children and adults treat each other with care and respect. We have an inclusive setting that supports all children as they take increasing responsibility for themselves and their actions, and consider the welfare and wellbeing of others.

Implementation of the policy in Sidcup Baptist Church Playgroup

It is the responsibility of the management committee to:

- produce a written policy statement which includes the playgroup's commitment to developing children's positive and acceptable behaviour.
- identify in the policy statement specific procedures and guidelines that all staff, including students and volunteers, should follow to manage children's behaviour.
- ensure that a copy of the policy and procedures is given to all staff, including students and volunteers, and others working with the children in the playgroup.
- share the procedures for behaviour management with parents on admission to the playgroup.
- identify a named member of staff with responsibility for behaviour management issues. This person should have the skills to support staff and liaise with other agencies for further advice and expertise.

In Sidcup Baptist Church Playgroup the named person with responsibility for matters relating to behaviour management issues is Yvonne Parfett

- ensure that all staff have training in behaviour management.
- ensure that all staff, including students and volunteers, do not use any form of physical punishment.
- ensure that all staff, including students and volunteers, do not use any form of physical intervention to manage a child's behaviour, unless this is necessary to prevent children from causing harm to themselves, to others, to prevent serious damage to property, or in what would reasonably be regarded as exceptional circumstances. All such incidents are recorded and reported to parents on the same day.
- ensure that all staff, including students and volunteers, are made aware of the national guidelines relating to any form of physical intervention or restraint in educational settings, and follow these guidelines. (see attached guidance)

- ensure that all staff, including students and volunteers, when responding to unacceptable behaviour, do not humiliate children, or deprive them of food, warmth or comfort.
- specifically identify behaviour that is unacceptable within the playgroup for staff, parents and children.
- arrange appropriate use of staff to support young children in developing relationships with other children and resolving conflict successfully.
- actively promote high expectations of children's behaviour within the setting.

Our practice

- We organise the indoor learning environment so that it has a positive impact on behaviour in terms of space, access and choice of activities.
- We take a positive and consistent approach towards managing children's behaviour.
- We handle issues of behaviour in ways appropriate to the child's stage of development and level of understanding. This may be 'time out' of the immediate situation with support or comforting.
- We encourage appropriate behaviour in all interactions with children and staff and show that good behaviour is valued.
- We encourage children to be aware of the playgroup's routines and procedures.
- We establish clear expectations and boundaries for behaviour, appropriate to the children's level of understanding.
- We record all significant incidents relating to behaviour.
- We identify and implement strategies that encourage positive behaviour.
- We deal with negative behaviour at the earliest opportunity.
- In cases of serious misbehaviour, such as intimidating, bullying, racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes will be made clear immediately, by means of explanation rather than personal blame.

Encouraging positive behaviour

- We use praise specifically related to the children's actions or behaviours.
- If appropriate, we refocus the child's attention on another activity.
- We focus on activities and routines to encourage:
 - sharing
 - negotiation
 - co-operation.
- We encourage responsibility in caring for others and the environment. The children help with tidying, watering plants, setting out activities, handing out drinks, snacks and equipment.

- We encourage positive behaviour through play and learning activities such as circle time, stories, role-play and puppets.
- We model appropriate behaviours in different contexts.
- We consult with the children about the rules for behaviour within the playgroup.
- We involve parents in establishing rules for appropriate behaviour.
- We demonstrate that the child is still valued even if his/her behaviour is unacceptable.
- We discuss with children what behaviour is acceptable in all areas of learning and experiences.
- We encourage the children to express openly their feelings/likes and dislikes.
- We help the children to understand the consequences and effects of their behaviour on others.
- We help the children to develop assertive strategies to challenge bullying.
- We support the children to resolve conflicts with other children.
- We help to support children's self-esteem by enabling them to be successful in play experiences and activities.

Behaviour which is unacceptable at Sidcup Baptist Church Playgroup

- All types of physical violence to another child or to an adult, such as kicking, punching, biting etc.
- Intimidating/bullying behaviour of any kind towards another child or children.
- Throwing objects, including sand.
- Deliberately damaging equipment or toys.
- Verbal abuse of another child or adult (including remarks of a sexist, racist or other abusive nature).
- Ignoring an adult when a child has been asked to stop any of the above.

References

Reference to the Early Years Foundation Stage safeguarding and welfare requirements

Providers are responsible for managing children's behaviour in an appropriate way. Providers 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.

References

Department for Education: Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, (2017)

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