

# **Noah's Ark Harpenden Limited**

## **Noah's Ark Discipline and Positive Behavioural Policy**

### **Promoting positive behaviour**

As Practitioners, we create a busy but calm, caring, safe and peaceful learning atmosphere for children. If and when a leader needs to speak to a child individually about their behaviour or actions, she will approach the child at their level and speak quietly to him/her.

### **Free Play**

During free play, leaders will assist children to play co-operatively together. Learning to wait, take turns and share with other children. These are important stages of a child's development as suggested under the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Children are encouraged not to throw sand, water, toys or equipment etc. as they may hurt other children, themselves or cause damage to toys and equipment. If this happens, the leader will give an explanation to the child as why he/she should not throw and encourage the child to apologise, modelling good behaviour at all times.

### **Circle Time and Story Time**

The leader is aware that young children are easily distracted and therefore prepares activities accordingly. It is an important opportunity for children to learn to sit quietly and listen to the leader. The children are encouraged to participate in songs, stories, show and tell which helps them to learn how to concentrate, communicate, gain confidence and participate.

### **Snack Time**

During snack time, children are encouraged to use table manners such as please and thank you. If needed they can help to pour their own milk/water and help to spoon out their fruit and vegetables to gain independence.

### **Outside Play**

Behavioural guidelines are similar to those indoors. However the children are expected to play within a given area with adult supervision at all times i.e. on the tarmac during the winter and grassed area with welly boots when it is muddy. The children are encouraged not to wear any additional clothing such as dressing-up clothes, because of the dangers that may occur when playing with bikes or climbing frames. The children are supervised on the trampoline (pre-school) and only one child at a time is permitted.

### **Dealing with Negative Behaviour**

Physical behaviour such as kicking, hitting and tantrums are not acceptable and the leader will withdraw the child from the situation where safe and possible explaining firmly but kindly why. The leader will also try to find the reason behind the behaviour (maybe the other child has taken a toy, been excluded from play, or experiencing other issues outside Noah's Ark, so chatting to the parent/carer can be helpful).

Incidents may be recorded and the parent/carer will be informed at the end of the session.

### **Tantrums**

While tantrums are common with this age group, they are often rare at school. They often indicate frustration particularly where a child has not been given his/her own way or cannot communicate clearly their demands. Children deal with them in their own way, some like to have some personal space, while others like to be held and comforted. The leader will be sensitive to each child's needs. If a child wishes to be left alone, the leader will stay close by but be available to comfort as soon as the child is ready. We use Makaton signing

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which compliments the learning of language through hand signs and can help with frustration if a child cannot communicate their feelings or needs.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

Spitting, blowing bubbles, shouting etc. is not acceptable at Noah's Ark and we will endeavour to explain to the child why they are not acceptable in or out of school.

### Bad Language

Persistent use of swearing and unacceptable words will not be allowed. However, we realize that children of this age are only quoting words they have heard elsewhere. Therefore the words will be ignored the first time and the parent will be notified. If it happens again, the parent will be informed and they will have a discussion with the keyworker about it.

### Smacking

It is our policy not to smack any child at any time. A request or a reminder is given to the child i.e. "....., you must not throw the sand because it might go in someone's eyes."

Any difficult behaviour that is not in character is mentioned to the parents as it may be a symptom of something else outside the school environment.

Whilst allowances are made for children who are unwell, have English as an additional language, etc.. we do expect most children to be able to obey and follow simple instructions, especially when the leaders know they have been understood by the child. This will act as a foundation for their growing years.

Review and Revision Tracking		
Date	Type	Name
November 2018	Creation	DAS, CLM
May 2019/2020	Review	DAS,CLM
September 2020	Review	CLM
June 2021	Review	CLM