

## **Behaviour Management**

Blue Penguin aims to work towards a situation in which children can develop self esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement. In order to achieve this all adults in the setting ensure that the rules are applied consistently, so that the children have the security knowing what to expect and can build up useful habits of behaviour. Rules governing the conduct of the group and the behaviour of the children are discussed with all newcomers, both children and adults. All adults try to provide a positive role model to the children, they do not shout, or raise their voices in a threatening way. Adults praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness and wiliness to share.

In any case of misbehaviour, it will always be made clear to the child or children involved that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome. Any incidents of unwanted behaviour are handled in a calm and controlled manner. In the case of serious misbehaviour, such as racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour and attitudes are made clear immediately, but by mean of explanation rather than personal blame.

Adults will handle any behaviour problems in a developmentally appropriate fashion, respecting children's level of understanding and maturity. Physical punishment such as smacking or shaking will neither be used nor threatened, children will never be sent out of the room by themselves. We use physical restraint, such as holding, only to prevent physical injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property. If this were to happen details of such an event (what happened, what action was taken and by whom, and the names of witnesses) are brought to the attention of the manager and are recorded in the child's personal file. The child's parents are informed on the same day. Recurring problems will be tackled by the staff team with the child's parents, using objective observation records to establish an understanding of the cause. Adults will be aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child's special needs. They are given one to one adult support into understanding in what is wrong and work towards modifying that behaviour.

Blue Penguin recognises that it is essential to have a positive approach to behaviour at all times. To enable us to achieve this we have 'golden rules' within the setting. Our 'golden rules' are; we say please and thank you, we look after our classroom, we have kind hands, we walk, we listen and we are all friends.

If we use time out, it will be as a planned response carried out in a professional and appropriate manner. We follow the Bournemouth Early Years Guidelines to the use of 'Time Out'. We use a traffic light system giving the child three chances to stop unwanted behaviour before using "time out." Time out is then documented down and will be shared with parents/carers on collection of their child so that you are made aware of what has happened during your child's session. These are all kept in your child's personal file.

Blue Penguin will never exclude a child if possible and no action will take place until there has been extensive consultation with the child's parents/family. If the situation cannot be resolved, then we will consult with the Early Years Team for advice and support and with any other agencies involved.

### **Biting Procedure**

Blue Penguin handles all biting incidents in the same way. Any child that has been bitten would be consoled and the right aid applied to reduce any markings. Children that have been involved in a biting incident will both receive a form that parents/carers will need to sign to make them aware of the incident. The following information provides you with the steps we take when a biting incident occurs. They are applied in the same way to all children.

- The hurt child will be consoled and treated accordingly.
- The child that has bitten will be firmly, but fairly be told that their biting is an unacceptable behaviour that we do not want to see. The child will be shown the mark they have made.

- The child will automatically be put on “time out.”
- After “time out” has finished, a member of staff will explain to the child why we don’t bite and how it makes everyone feel.
- The child will be encouraged to say sorry to their friend, whether that is verbally or by a gesture.
- A form will be filled out for both children reporting the incident.

Please be aware that the name of the child who has bitten will never be told to another parent.

Our behaviour management officer is: Sara Fuller