



St. Margaret's Nursery

Behaviour policy

Nursery

Reviewed: August 2022

Date for review: July 2023

Behaviour policy

This behaviour policy should be read in conjunction with St Margaret's School 's 'Positive Behaviour Policy'.

At St Margaret's nursery we feel that good behaviour is a collective responsibility and all members of staff and families need to work together to maintain good behaviour both inside the building and outside at play.

However, it is our aim to create an environment in which we live and work harmoniously, respecting one another and caring for our surroundings.

In order to achieve this, aim we will promote positive behaviour through:

- ❑ providing clear and consistent boundaries within which children can work and play
- ❑ encourage and praise good behaviour
- ❑ be consistent and fair in our response to unacceptable behaviour
- ❑ help children to develop self-discipline
- ❑ encourage children to respect others and be sensitive to their needs
- ❑ expect children to be courteous and polite
- ❑ encourage children to be proud of their nursery
- ❑ providing positive role models in staff, families and other agencies

Children know what is expected of them in terms of following the golden rules of the nursery, which are expressed as positive statements and are designed to encourage good behaviour, namely

- ❑ We Listen: we don't interrupt
- ❑ We are kind and helpful: we don't hurt anybody's feelings
- ❑ We look after property: we don't damage things
- ❑ We are gentle: we don't hurt others
- ❑ We work hard: we don't waste time
- ❑ We are honest: we don't cover up the truth

Here are some of the strategies that are used to reinforce the good behaviour:

- ❑ All staff to be calm and clear when approaching the unwanted behaviour

- ❑ Remove children from the situation if their behaviour is persistent, dangerous or frightening others
- ❑ In group times the staff will reinforce the good behaviour through books and discussion
- ❑ Treat every child as an individual and plan strategies accordingly
- ❑ Discuss with the child's family their behaviour and agree on strategies being used

Where children misbehave, they should be dealt with as soon as possible; they should

- ❑ be reminded of the nursery rules
- ❑ be encouraged to apologise or put right the wrong that they have done
- ❑ be praised for some appropriate behaviour as soon as possible thereafter
- ❑ behaviour should be reported to the family and then encourage parental involvement.

All staff are aware of the nursery's policy relating to behaviour, good behaviour is positively reinforced by a range of rewards and privileges. Efforts will always be made to look for the more positive aspects of a child's behaviour.

In the event of a serious incident or continued unwanted behaviour which cannot be effectively dealt with at nursery, the nursery manager after consulting with parents will seek expert advice from West Sussex Early Year's advisors.

Procedure for Messy and Tactile Experience

"Sensory play is play that involves the use of one or more of a child's five senses. Our senses are our guide through the world around us and for babies and young children they provide endless opportunities for fascination and discovery." (Elaine Lambé)

Sensory play is an important part of children's development so it is vital that we agree on guidelines to ensure that children are not given mixed messages by different staff members.

Acceptable behaviour

- If the play is very messy but does not disturb the other children around them, then this is acceptable behaviour.

- If the behaviour is not interrupting other children, then do not respond and give as little attention to the behaviour so hopefully it will then not be repeated.
- If the child chooses to make a mess, then this child should be encouraged to clear up after their play has finished. Remember to praise the child for clearing up as this is behaviour that we would like to see repeated at another time.
- Children can wear boots in the nursery if they need the toilet or are going back out, in the case that the boots are covered then yes, it is acceptable to ask the child take them off.
- Any sensory play we need to provide aprons, a towel to wipe off excess slime and the staff member in charge of the activity needs to be aware of the bathroom mess and clear up at the end.
- Try to role model how to use sensory play.

Unacceptable behaviour

- If sensory play is thrown at others and is a concern to other children, then a staff member needs to intervene. Be direct 'No throwing and stop'. Thumbs up and down.