

Behaviour Policy



Ballinderry Nursery Unit

This policy has been drawn up in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy for Year 1 -7 and therefore reflects the same principles.

POLICY STATEMENT

At Ballinderry Nursery Unit we wish to make sure that all children are happy and able to achieve their maximum potential. We want our children to learn new skills, information and build self-esteem.

We wish to work alongside parents to encourage children to develop as fully as possible. We want to help children grow academically, socially and personally.

We are particularly concerned with promoting good behaviour but we believe that good behaviour needs to be carefully developed both at home and at school.

Children need to know what is expected of them. This policy is about how we aim to do this. This policy covers all school circumstances, including educational visits and after-school clubs.

Pupils, teachers and other adult staff have talked about good behaviour, rules and consequences. We know that there are several benefits to be gained from having an orderly, calm school	
Pupils will: • learn what good behaviour means • learn to care for one another • learn the value of friendship • develop self-confidence and self-esteem • do as well as possible with their learning	Parents will: • feel confident that their children are making good progress • know that their children will be supported • feel welcome to discuss their child's progress in a positive atmosphere • be supportive to teachers in the achievement of their child(ren)'s success
Teachers will: • teach effectively • meet the needs of pupils • make positive contact with parents • develop a fair and positive discipline plan	We will encourage and praise good behaviour by: • recognising and rewarding good behaviour throughout the day • ensuring that all children are praised for behaving well • encouraging children to be responsible for their own behaviour by making the right choices • informing parents of good behaviour

Positive Reinforcement

In the nursery unit we aim create a stimulating learning environment by using regular positive reinforcement throughout each nursery session between staff and children and amongst the children themselves.

We will use the following strategies on a daily basis to praise children and develop self-esteem.

- a smile
- verbal praise such as "well done", "good job", "super duper" etc between adults and children or children to one another
- thanking children in relation to appropriate behaviour
- a clap
- High five
- Verbal feedback to parent or message/text home if parent not collecting his/her child
- special visits to the Principal or other adults
- Work/photograph placed on stars board
- Whole school certificate awards (Gold Award) for variety of achievements each month

Additional strategies which may be used when necessary

- Reward charts for individual children which will be done privately (from the rest of the class) but with full parent knowledge
- Reward charts for whole class to address specific issues e.g. tidying up, kindness etc
- Pupil of the day/week

Strategies for dealing with negative behaviour.

These may include:

- Giving choices of alternative activity to redirect for productive play experiences
- Tactically ignoring
- Making eye contact as a warning
- Praising the children who are playing well, walking, sitting well etc
- Praising as soon as a child follows the desired behaviour
- Referring to class photograph charter and various visuals to highlight appropriate behaviours

Sanctions

It may be necessary to put sanctions in place to deal with negative behaviour.

An essential part of our behaviour management policy is the fact that a pupil knows sanctions will be imposed for unacceptable behaviour.

Teachers will use strategies appropriate to the age and make-up of the class as well as those with which they feel comfortable.

Sanctions may include a child being:

- Asked to change activities
- Separated from those whom s/he is behaving inappropriately
- Taken aside and spoken to quietly by a member of the staff.

The adult and child will discuss what has happened and talk about the consequences of the child's actions e.g. how they have made the other child feel.

- A visual warning system may be necessary e.g. cloud, traffic lights or alternative strategies to suit individual year group
- Sit out of play for a 3 or 4 minute period (based on child's age) with a timer if necessary
- Rectify and make good any damage they have caused. This may be a hug, high five, or verbal apology which should explain what they are sorry for (where understanding is suitable)
- Parental discussion and home/school support if necessary e.g. behaviour chart that is done with parent/child/teacher daily/weekly
- The child may be placed on daily report if necessary
- Referral to the Principal

For serious negative behaviour, or if above strategies have not been successful, a child need not proceed through the various stages and the Principal may choose to contact the parents immediately.

In some cases it may be necessary to contact the Behaviour Management team for support and guidance on strategies and safe handling techniques.

RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES and RULES

Everyone in our school community has rights and responsibilities to ensure that everyone enjoys the learning to which they are entitled.

Our Behaviour Policy is based on a set of Rights and Responsibilities [developed by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and recognised globally] which are supported by rules and some activities.

RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION	
Pupil Action	to complete activities to be willing to learn in a positive way to allow others to learn
Parent Responsibilities	to support their children and have a positive attitude towards school to ensure children arrive on time for school and ready to work to attend parent consultations
Staff Responsibilities	to maintain a positive learning environment to provide a challenging and interesting curriculum
Example Rules	follow instructions be at school on time

RIGHT TO SPEAK AND BE LISTENED TO	
Pupil Action	to give opinions in a constructive manner to respect others' opinions to listen to staff and other children
Parent Responsibilities	to encourage children to talk about school and listen to what they have to say each day
Staff Responsibilities	to allow all children to voice their opinions to model speaking and listening skills
Example Rules	use an indoor / outdoor voice give positive feedback

RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE	
Pupil Action	to behave in a way which keeps self and others safe to follow rules and accept consequences
Parent Responsibilities	to help their children behave properly and support the school in addressing problems to encourage children to sort out difficulties without hitting, fighting or swearing
Staff Responsibilities	to teach school rules and provide a good example of appropriate behaviour to implement rewards and consequences system fairly and consistently
Example Rules	keep hands, feet & objects to self using kind hands and feet no running or shouting don't leave the classroom without permission no bullying

RIGHT TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT	
Pupil Action	to behave respectfully towards others to be polite and cooperative
Parent Responsibilities	to encourage their children's respectful attitude to be cooperative and deal directly with staff about any concerns
Staff Responsibilities	to encourage respect for all by modelling and providing appropriate guidance to treat all children and families fairly
Example Rules	listen to others

RIGHT TO A CLEAN AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT	
Pupil Action	to look after equipment and school grounds to value each other's property
Parent Responsibilities	to help develop a positive attitude towards other's property
Staff Responsibilities	create a safe and pleasant environment to promote responsible behaviour towards property, equipment and facilities
Example Rules	put litter in the bin put things away use equipment properly

*All teachers in Ballinderry Primary School and Nursery Unit develop a **Classroom Charter** (which includes photographs for the nursery) with children so that they are very clear about how they are expected to behave.*

OUTDOOR PLAY

Children are also expected to follow rules, which they are made aware of and reminded of regularly, during outdoor play to ensure safety and a positive learning environment. The above strategies will be in place and enforced during outdoor play. The children will be aware that they can run safely outdoors and use a louder voice than during indoor play.

Bullying

Bullying is not acceptable in Ballinderry Nursery Unit. If it occurs we deal with incidents promptly and effectively.

Please refer to our anti-bullying policy for further details of how we deal with bullying.

Conclusion

We place inappropriate behaviour into three categories:

- Abusive behaviour;
- Behaviour which prevents others from learning or teaching;
- Dangerous behaviour.

Each situation which arises is different and will be treated with sensitivity by the staff and governors at the school. Provocation is always taken into consideration and all points of view taken into account. We wish to work in partnership with parents to help children with behavioural/emotional difficulties. We are prepared to listen and be flexible in our response.

Ultimately, if a child continues seriously to violate the rights of others and/or shows no sign of wanting to change, part-time attendance, reduced hours or exclusion will be considered.

Policy will be reviewed annually.

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