

Guidance and Behaviour Management Policy

Aim:

To create a policy that promotes positive behaviour management in order to develop self control and socially acceptable behaviour.

Explanation:

Behaviour Management is adult modeling and the encouragement of appropriate behaviour leading a child to an awareness of what is socially acceptable. Children need to know their limits within a group and need to develop an understanding of the consequences of inappropriate behaviour and its effects on others. Shoalhaven Community Preschool aims to assist children to make judgements about what they should / should not do, ultimately leading to co-operation throughout the centre. With adult support a child will learn to regulate their own behaviour, adults will ensure each child's self-esteem is enhanced and will encourage the ability to interact with peers and adults leading to self-discipline with each child.

Implementation:

When implementing this policy our aim must always be to:

- ensure the safety of every child attending the centre
- preserve and nurture each child's positive self concept
- encourage children to interact and co-operate with others through developmentally appropriate means - distraction, verbal guidance and re-direction.

Staff will

- Never physically (smack) or emotionally (humiliate publicly) abuse children.
- Acknowledge and reward desirable behaviour - giving little attention to behaviour they want to discourage
- Be persistent - realising it takes time to change behaviour.

Be an active observer - try to intervene before inappropriate behaviour occurs / when inappropriate behaviour occurs - analyse situation and try to change it.

- Emphasise the positive rather than negative by giving child alternative ways of behaving.
- Be consistent with expectations, limits and routines - giving clear rules, warnings ahead of time making transitions easier.
- Arrange environment in order to encourage positive social interactions.
- Be decisive - if decide to intervene then follow through.
- Focus on behaviour rather than child - it is behaviour we don't like, not the child
- Provide adequate staff supervision.
- Demonstrate and model appropriate behaviour and language.
- Foster behaviour that is based on control of self and understanding and appreciation of other peoples needs, rights and feelings by listening to children's feelings and frustrations.
- Discourage actions and behaviour which are harmful to self / others or equipment.
- Redirect in a positive manner with a verbal explanation of why an action was inappropriate, avoiding angry demands and judgemental labels (naughty, bad, wrong).
- Encourage children to communicate concerns with other children, verbally resolve conflict and therefore develop self discipline and alleviate the need for adult intervention.

Refer to alternative professionals as need arises.