

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Community Playcentre @ Walberton uses effective strategies to promote positive behaviour to support the welfare and enjoyment of children attending the Playcentre. Working in partnership with parents, our aim is to use clear, consistent and positive strategies.

The Playcentre's designated member of staff responsible for promoting positive behaviour is the Playcentre Manager and deputies.

Whilst at Community Playcentre @ Walberton we expect children to:

- Use socially acceptable behaviour as defined by each child cohort, which may vary each year and is age appropriate.
- Respect one another, accepting differences of race, gender, ability, age and religion by using friendly and respectful words.
- Choose and participate in a variety of activities
- Ask for help if needed
- Enjoy their time at the Playcentre

Encouraging positive behaviour

At Community Playcentre @ Walberton positive behaviour is encouraged by:

- Staff acting as positive role models.
- Praising and acknowledging appropriate behaviour and attitudes.
- Express the child's feelings by naming them (you feel sad...).
- Informing parents about children's achievements and keeping them up to date with their child's development.
- Tell the children what they can do, rather than what they cannot.
- Offering a variety of play opportunities to meet the needs of the children attending the Playcentre.
- Encourage the children to verbalise their feelings in a non-aggressive way.

It is inevitable that as children develop and learn, there are times when they need support and guidance to understand why their behaviour is not acceptable. Practitioners at the Playcentre will try to determine the cause or triggers of the inappropriate behaviour to prevent the situation from recurring.

Dealing with inappropriate behaviour

Challenging behaviour will be addressed in a calm, firm and positive manner.

In the first instance, the child will be temporarily removed from the activity.

Practitioners may use a variety of observation methods to gain an understanding of any particular triggers or patterns in a child's behaviour.

Practitioners will discuss why the behaviour displayed is not appropriate.

Practitioners will encourage the child to think about how their behaviour affects others in an age appropriate way.

Practitioners will support children to resolve conflicts with other children.

Give children limited choices and promote turn taking.

Practitioners will consult with parents and carers to formulate clear strategies to promote positive behaviour and provide consistency at home.

We will not threaten any punishment that could adversely affect a child's well-being (e.g. withdrawal of food or drink).

If after consultation with parents/carers and the implementation of behaviour management strategies, a child continues to display inappropriate behaviour, the Playcentre may decide to exclude the child in accordance with our **Suspensions and Exclusions** policy. The reasons and processes involved will be discussed with the parent/carer prior to taking place.

Physical intervention

Physical intervention will only be used as a last resort, when staff believe that action is necessary to prevent injury to the child or others, or to prevent significant damage to equipment or property. If a member of staff has to physically restrain a child, the manager will be notified and an **Incident record** will be completed. The incident will be discussed with the parent or carer as soon as possible.

If staff are not confident about their ability to contain a situation, they should call the Playcentre manager.

All serious incidents will be recorded on an **Incident form** and kept in the child's file. This may be used to build a pattern of behaviour, which may indicate an underlying cause. If a pattern of incidents indicates possible abuse, we will implement child protection procedures in accordance with our **Safeguarding** policy.

Corporal punishment

Corporal punishment or the threat of corporal punishment will **never** be used at the Playcentre.

We will take all reasonable steps to ensure that no child who attends our Playcentre receives corporal punishment from any person who cares for or is in regular contact with the child, or from any other person on our premises.

This policy was adopted by: Community Playcentre @ Walberton	Date: 20 th July 2021
To be reviewed: by end July 2022	Signed:  Chair Trustees CP@W