



BEHAVIOUR GUIDANCE CODE

Documented guidelines regarding behaviour and guidance for children help ensure that children, families and staff have a safe environment, and consistency and clarity around acceptable behaviour and guidance measures that will be implemented.

As a staff team we believe:

- All children have the right to feel secure and to learn and develop in a psychologically and physically safe environment
- Children have a right to express their feelings and to be supported to develop positive behaviours that underpin the development of relationships with peers and adults
- Effective communication and learning occurs when families and educators work together to develop common goals for a child's well-being, learning and development. We respect their individual perspectives.
- That the consideration of children's individual/contextual needs are crucial to successful learning and the development of positive behaviours
- Children have the right to be supported by educators who model appropriate behaviours and ensure consistent limits are set
- No child should be made to feel rejected, insecure, embarrassed or ashamed
- That some children exhibit challenging behaviours that can reflect sensory needs, anxiety, disability or trauma.

As a staff team we promote positive behaviour and interactions by:

- Planning for and providing a safe, nurturing environment that promotes a sense of belonging, being and becoming and provides enhanced opportunities for learning through play
- Ensuring that limits set are reasonable and understood by all children and adults
- Providing an enriching and engaging program that enables each child to experience success, a sense of well-being and gives opportunities to express feelings through sensory and other forms of play
- Demonstrate empathy and sensitivity to each child being mindful of the variety of factors that influence behaviour
- Planning enabling opportunities for the development of skills including resilience, agency, entry and exit skills when playing, appropriate risk taking, conflict resolution, independence, leadership, respect for others and communication.

- Interacting positively, using positive language (verbal and non-verbal) and acknowledging and modelling respectful behaviour
- Valuing children as individuals within their family and cultural contexts
- Involving children in goal setting, developing group norms and the development of behavioural expectations and consequences
- Intentional teaching of appropriate behaviours and play skills, building on each child's strengths and achievements and providing choices when possible
- Encouraging open two way communication with families to ensure that each child's rights are met
- Ensuring children's sensory needs are met
- Employing auxiliary and augmentative communication as appropriate to ensure all children understand expectations and consequences.

We will respond to challenging behaviours by:

- Remaining calm and supporting the child in a calm and positive manner using consistent and agreed language
- Reminding children of expectations and limits and the reasons for these
- Supporting children to problem solve, negotiate, find resolutions and manage emotions appropriately
- Using Restorative Justice practices that support children to empathise with others and restore relationships
- Communicating with and involving families at the earliest opportunity to work together positively to assist the child's well-being and learning
- Planning, implementing, monitoring and reviewing individual behaviour plans in partnership with families and support services
- Being aware of our limitations, seeking assistance when required in order to maintain our own wellbeing.
- Withdrawing children only when they are at risk of hurting themselves or others, and ensure they are suitably supported.
- Supporting children to de-escalate through rhythmic activities (or preferred strategy) undertaken together with a staff member
- Ensuring the child has adequate support and applying for additional funding for extra support if required.

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Parks Children's Centre Preschool