

**BAINS ROAD PRESCHOOL  
BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT POLICY**

Updated 11/2/2014

REVIEWED 16/9/2016

Our aim is to provide a safe, secure and supportive environment in which all children are able to be successful in their learning. We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe at kindergarten.

***Staff members have a duty of care that requires them to:***

- Work in partnership with families and other agencies to address children's learning and behavior needs.
- Use a positive approach to behavior that takes into account the needs of children and contextual factors.
- Provide early intervention and support for children who are presenting with behaviors of concern.
- Design and implement appropriate programs and procedures to ensure the safety of children.
- Ensure that premises and equipment are safe.
- Support children to express their emotions such as anger, frustration and distress in an appropriate manner.
- Children's behavior is a form of communication and adults need to listen to what the child's behavior is telling us about their needs.

***Our interactions will be guided by the following beliefs:***

1. A positive environment and approach is the most effective way of supporting the development of acceptable behaviour.
2. Provide a curriculum that supports children to be actively engaged in their learning.
3. Children feel cared for by staff and develop a sense of belonging.
4. Staff know the children well and build on their strengths.
5. Staff explicitly teach and model responsible behaviour and consistently reinforce expectations of individuals and groups.

***Our goal is to help children develop into considerate and effective learners who will be aware, self-disciplined and contributing members of society.***

***We will achieve this by:***

- Ensuring a physically and psychologically safe environment for all.
- Bully free environment.
- Providing a responsive, developmentally appropriate curriculum to promote healthy self-confidence as well as a sense of belonging and of self worth.
- Encouraging children's efforts to behave positively and appropriately.
- Modeling and acknowledging behaviour that demonstrates consideration and respect for others.
- Working in partnership with parents to provide consistent practices at kindergarten and home.
- Offering choices and explaining the rationale behind limits.
- Using redirection/distraction and early intervention to try to avoid confrontation or escalation of conflict.
- Teaching social, communication and problem solving skills.

- Using the 'Stop, Think, Do' approach to teach children to evaluate and monitor behaviour.
- Ensuring that children understand the link between behaviour and consequences.
- Using accompanied 'thinking time' for dangerous or seriously unacceptable behaviour.
- Seeking further advice and support for any dangerous or seriously unacceptable behaviour that persists.

We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time. We accept that we all can feel angry, frustrated and upset at times, and that children in particular need help to express these feelings appropriately. As we are dealing with 3 to 5 year old children in our kindergarten there is bound to be situations of conflict that need to be resolved.

#### **Behaviours we encourage are:-**

- Respecting and caring for each other.
- Sharing
- Taking turns
- Cooperating
- Trying and having a go at new activities
- Looking after each other, personal belongings and kindergarten equipment.
- Communicating needs and feeling appropriately
- Learning to recognize other peoples body language
- It is OK to say No to keep yourself safe.
- Listening and following rules.
- Children who find themselves in a conflict situation with another child will be encouraged to tell the other child what the problem is. In many cases a simple "Stop, I don't like ...." diffuses the situation.
- If the children are having difficulty they will be encouraged - to seek staff assistance to help them state their need and help the other child to listen & respond.

#### **As educators of your children:**

- We believe praise, encouragement, modeling and recognition of appropriate behaviours are the foundation for promoting appropriate behaviour.
- Staff will use "teachable moments" plus explicit programming to develop the kindergarten rules with the children and also their social development & protective behaviour skills ("stop I don't like it").
- Where a child behaves inappropriately their behaviour and consequences of that behavior will be discussed.
- Where an individual child's behaviour is consistently challenging Staff will discuss alternative strategies with Parents and Early Childhood Support Services if necessary

#### **As Parents you can help by:**

- Having a realistic view of what preschool children are capable of.
- Maintaining an open and honest relationship with staff
- Being aware of our behaviour support policy
- Encouraging your child's conflict resolution skills e.g. self help strategies (stop I don't like it), talking through their problems and helping them to deal with their emotions.
- If you have concerns about your child or another child please speak to a staff member or raise your concern with the Director.
- Our policies are regularly reviewed by our Governing Council. You are very welcome to attend any of our Governing Council meetings either as a member or a visitor..