

TINY HORIZONS DAY NURSERY

BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE POLICY.

At Tiny Horizons Day Nursery, we want every member of the nursery community to feel valued and respected, and for each person to be treated fairly. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for each individual. Our behavior policy is therefore designed to support the way in which everybody can live and work together in a supportive way. We believe that all children are entitled to be cared for in environments which they feel safe; therefore, we aim to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, valued and secure.

Aims and values

Personal, Social and Emotional Development is a core element of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The EYFS states that “children must be provided with support which will help them to develop a positive sense of themselves and of others; respect for others; social skills and a positive disposition to learn.”

We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers in supporting children’s development in all areas, including behavior, taking into account children’s previous experiences and developmental stages. We recognize that there may be different expectations for children’s behavior at home and at nursery. We therefore work closely with parents/carers to explain ways in which we promote positive behavior and to explain the ways we can work together to promote the same message to children.

At Tiny Horizons Day Nursery, we aim to provide appropriate opportunities for all children to develop:

- Respect: to encourage all children to have respect for themselves, for other people (their feelings, beliefs and values) and for the nursery environment.
- Understanding and Compassion: to help children to understand other people’s views and experiences, and to be caring and tolerant to others.
- Responsibility: to enable children to have an increasing ability to make choices and take responsibility for their own actions. In particular, we help children to develop an understanding of consequences for their behavior.
- Fairness and Equality: to give children an understanding of how to be fair to all, how to share and give everyone an equal chance (within the context of everyone having different needs). All staff will demonstrate this behavior in their actions also.
- Kindness: to promote acts of kindness to each other and to assist in ways of being gentle towards each other.

To support children’s development, staff will promote these aims and values through examples and hope that parents/carers using the nursery will join us in partnership.

Strategies we use to support our aims and values

We help children look after themselves by:

- Praising them: focusing on the positive things they do.
- Helping them to recognize their feelings and express themselves in an acceptable way.
- Encouraging them to ask for help from peers, as well as adults.
- Encouraging their attempts and identifying their interests to incorporate into planning.
- Building their independence through self-help skills.
- Encouraging them to see the good in others
- Encouraging them to learn from each other.

We help children to care about others by:

- Using conflict resolution and keeping calm.
- Modelling appropriate behavior.
- Using language such as kind hands, listening ears, looking eyes and walking feet.
- Working on and reinforcing the understanding of feelings e.g. in circle time.
- Naming and making feelings clear, including the consequences of their actions: reflecting back to children.
- Being aware of the power of language, e.g. not being confrontational or negative.
- Boosting self-esteem.
- Giving time to listen and acknowledging their responses sensitively.

We help children to be polite by:

- Saying “good morning” and where appropriate “please” and “thank you” (we model behaviors we want them to copy).
- Encouraging children to wait their turn.
- Talking one at a time: listening to each other without interrupting when someone is already speaking.
- Giving children clear messages and setting an example.

We ask children to look after equipment by:

- Teaching them about health and safety.
- Encouraging them to help mend broken toys.

At Tiny Horizons, each room implements the rules of the setting, to promote positive behavior. These are called our ‘golden rules’ and are embedded throughout all areas of our practice. These golden rules are as follows; walking feet, kind hands, listening ears and looking eyes.

Examples of Behavior and Strategies:

Children display a range of behaviors, most of which can be expected at their age and in particular when they are new to nursery. Staff expect to deal with behavior, such as inappropriate shouting out, snatching and walking away at tidy-up time etc.

Intervention will be low key and may include one of the following:

- Using a positive statement e.g. “if you want to throw something, you could go outside and throw a ball”.
- Explaining any concerns e.g. “if you lean back on your chair you may fall over”.
- Giving choices

- Having a group discussion or circle time about the wanted behaviors, to reinforce positive behavior.

Staff will deal with a more serious misbehavior by:

- Reinforcing positive behavior i.e. when a child is running- “please can you use your walking feet”.
- Using non-confrontational language e.g. “when sand is thrown...” instead of “when YOU throw sand”.
- Informing parents/carers.
- We will use distraction techniques if a child is observed to use unwanted behavior i.e. engaging with the child in a different activity.

Members of staff will not use any punishment deemed inappropriate, physically or emotionally. On occasions where physical intervention is necessary, to avert immediate danger or as a last step to manage a child’s behavior, an accurate written record will be kept on an incident form and parents/carers will be informed as soon as possible or upon collection.

The named practitioner responsible for Behavior Management is Leanne Kentish and Emma Austin.

Policy amended in August 2016

Policy review date August 2017

Signed on behalf of Tiny Horizons Day Nursery.....