

Our Lady's Preparatory School and Day Nursery

Behaviour Policy for the Nursery and Day Nursery 2.3

Background to the Policy

The emphasis within Our Lady's Nursery is very much on encouraging positive behaviour. We endeavour to encourage the development of a sense of right and wrong whilst bearing in mind each child's age level of understanding.

Children of Nursery School age are generally keen to please, and have a natural and sometimes unbounded enthusiasm for all that we offer them. We try to instil a sense of respect for themselves, their peers and their carers, and also instil traditional good standards in behaviour, such as please and thank you, proper table manners and other positive behaviours.

However, the children within our care are very young, and need sympathetic discipline rather than rigid or punitive discipline in order to achieve the best results. In spite of our best efforts, there will be occasions when a child carries out what may be considered anti-social or poor behaviour. In such an event, the child in question will be gently reminded of the correct way to behave and will be asked to explain why he/she has reacted in such a way. He/She will also be encouraged to apologise for his/her behaviour.

Any child whose behaviour is repeatedly unacceptable may be removed from the situation and constructively occupied under close supervision. When it is deemed necessary to do so, children may be referred to the more senior staff in order to deal with unacceptable behaviour e.g to the Nursery Manager, Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher. In order to support some children in dealing with their behaviour, it may be in their best interests to put an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) in place. Please also refer to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy.

The School's 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 attitude to learning."

We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers in supporting children's development in all areas, including behaviour and we take into account children's previous experiences and developmental stages. We recognise that there may be different expectations for children's behaviour at home and at nursery. Therefore we work closely with parents/carers in promoting positive behaviour so that we can work together to promote the same message to children. At Our Lady's 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 feeling, 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 towards 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 the consequences of their behaviour e.g. if a toy is thrown, it could hit and injure another child.

Fairness and equality: to give children an understanding of how to be fair to all; how to share and give everyone an equal chance (see our policies on Equality and Special Needs). All staff will demonstrate this behaviour in their interaction with the children.

Kindness: to promote acts of kindness to each other and to show children how to be gentle towards each other.

In order to support children's development, staff will promote the above aims and values through good example and endeavour to work with parents so that these aims and values will be attained.

What strategies do 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 recognise their feelings and express themselves in an appropriate and acceptable way.
- Encouraging them to ask for help from peers as well as adults.
- Encouraging their efforts and seek ways to plan for future learning.

- 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 calm methods to resolve any conflicts that may arise.
- Modelling appropriate behaviour.
- Working on and reinforcing the understanding of feelings, e.g. in circle time, working in small groups etc.
- Naming and making feelings clear including the consequences of their actions reflecting back to children.
- Being aware of the power of language, in order to not be confrontational or negative e.g. "use our words".
- Boosting self-esteem – praising, rewarding etc.
- Listening to children and their concerns and acknowledging why/how they may be feeling.

We help children to be polite by:

- Saying "Good morning" and where appropriate "Please" and "Thank you"
- Model behaviour we would like children to adopt
- 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 look after toys and equipment
- Playing games, e.g. in circle time and considering, "How do we look after this?"
- Washing the bikes, toys etc.
- Taking responsibility for when they break a toy by telling an adult.
- Looking after the equipment ourselves and modelling how to use it

We help children to care about the Nursery environment by:

- Making it as attractive as possible.
- Cleaning tables.
- Tidying up together.
- Displaying children's work.
- Picking up rubbish.
- Providing labelled storage.
- Looking after indoor and outdoor plants at specific times of the year.
- Explaining proper care and use of areas (painting area, home corner, sand-pit etc).
- Notice, acknowledge and praise 'careful handling' and model such behaviour.
- Sharing responsibility.

Corporal Punishment

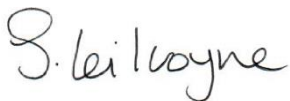
Corporal punishment is **never** used, threatened or ever permitted to instil discipline at Our Lady's Nursery.

Physical intervention, such as restraining a child, is allowable to avert immediate danger of personal injury to the child, other children or staff members. All such incidents are reported immediately to the Nursery Manager who records it on an Incident sheet that is signed by two members of staff and the parents of the child on the day of the occurrence. If it is necessary to restrain a child, this will be reported to the parents on the same day or as soon as possible.

Monitoring & review The Nursery will review this Policy every two years and will bear in mind the impact and effects of the policy in the Nursery upon children's behaviour, in the event that ad-hoc amendments or revisions are appropriate beyond this timeframe.

Reviewed: August 2017

Signed:



**Staff member responsible for Behaviour Management:
Sam Kilcoyne -Nursery Manager**

To be reviewed: 24 months from "Reviewed on" date