



BALLYORAN NURSERY

Positive Behaviour Management Policy

February 2016

Rationale

At Ballyoran Nursery we are committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating play environment and believe that children flourish best when their personal, social and emotional needs are met and where there are clear and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour. An ordered environment allows everyone to know what is expected of them and means the children are free to develop their play and learning without fear.

As our Nursery setting provides for a range of cultures and faiths, our aim is to teach children to behave in socially acceptable ways and to understand the needs and rights of others. This in turn will lead towards a situation in which children can become responsible for their own actions and have an understanding of action and re-action. We aim to provide an environment where children can develop self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

We operate a positive approach to behaviour management at Ballyoran Nursery based around Rules, Rewards and Consequences.

Our Strategies

There are many effective ways in which we will help children to manage positive behaviour and the policy of Ballyoran Nursery includes:

- Setting clear rules, rewards and consequences which are developmentally appropriate and ensure that everyone has the knowledge of the rules and why we have them. Use visual reminders as necessary to reinforce these rules. Especially during the settling-in period rules must be sensitively enforced as children are just coming to terms with Nursery.
- All staff have agreed on what standard of behaviour is acceptable and be consistent in applying rules to the everyday routine.
- Rewarding good behaviour.
- Praising children for acceptable behaviour and discouraging the unacceptable.
- Giving children roles of responsibility and showing that you value them.
- Practicing good communication – our facial expressions, tone of voice and body language should leave no doubt as to what we expect.
- Ensuring ample provision of popular activities and resources to avoid conflict when possible.
- We require all staff, volunteers and students to provide a positive model of behaviour at all times and encourage them to incorporate positive behaviours into all aspects of the daily routine.
- In some situations it may be necessary to use physical restraint, such as holding, but only to prevent physical injury to children or adults and/or serious damage to property. (See Reasonable Force and Safe Handling Policy)
- Always familiarise new staff and volunteers at Ballyoran Nursery with our Behaviour Management Policy and its guidelines for behaviour.

Bullying involves the ***persistent*** physical or verbal abuse of another child or children. It is characterised by intent to hurt, often planned, and accompanied by an awareness of the impact of the bullying behaviour. At Ballyoran Nursery we take bullying very seriously and such behaviours will not be tolerated.

When children behave in unacceptable ways we will use the following strategies:

- Remove and distract the child from the situation. Provide one to one adult support to ascertain the cause of the inappropriate behaviour and the child or children will attempt to resolve the problem through appropriate concise discussion with all parties involved. It must always be made clear to the child that it is the behaviour that they displayed that is unacceptable and not the child.
- When appropriate a period of 'time out' within the classroom may be used to encourage the child to reflect on their actions without any interruptions.
- Recurring behaviour difficulties will be tackled by the Nursery, in partnership with the child's parents. Parents and Guardians will be informed of any serious incidents which occur during that same day and in the case of extreme misbehaviour parents/guardians will be called immediately. However we encourage parents not to dwell on issues outside of school as it will have been fully dealt with during the school day. We aim to involve and work with parents to address recurring inconsiderate behaviour, using our observation records to help us understand the cause and to decide jointly how to respond appropriately.
- Adults will be made aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child with special needs or a child in the transition of a difficult period in their lives eg a bereavement, new baby in the family etc.
- Each class has an Incident Report Book which is used to record severe incidents of misbehaviour and the Principal will be informed when appropriate.
- The Nursery Co-ordinator and/or the Principal may be involved in more extreme cases of misbehaviour if appropriate.
- The SENCo will be consulted when appropriate and a child may be placed on a Record of Concern or Individual Education Plan.
- In extreme circumstances it may be necessary to shorten the child's day.

Parents and Behaviour Management

Parents play a very important role in the transition from home to school and so at Ballyoran Nursery we feel it is vital that parents are informed and involved whenever possible. We believe that parents and school should be a strong partnership in their child's education and therefore we expect that parents will support our efforts to encourage the holistic development of their child or children through the acceptance of our policies. Co-operation between home and school ensures the strategies are recognised and can be implemented effectively. It must always be remembered that staff will always deal with behavioural incidents with patience and a positive manner.

If at any time you have a query or concern about this policy or about the behaviour of your child, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

On the following page is a copy of the Behaviour Management Plan that we follow in Nursery and which parents have received.

Our Behaviour Management Plan

Rules

We are gentle
We are kind and helpful
We listen
We are honest
We work hard
We look after property

Rewards

Happy words
Sticker
Superstar certificate
Pom pom in the jar
(class reward)

Consequences

Spoken to by an adult
Brought to the rules
Thinking time
Contact with home

