

Behaviour Guidance Policy

Our policy is based on the following beliefs:

- That children should respect themselves, each other and the environment.
- That everyone has the right to feel safe. .
- That children learn best in a positive environment where they experience success and develop a positive self-concept.
- That educators and parents/caregivers work together as a team to guide children's behaviour in a consistent and positive manner to ensure the environment is safe and secure for all children.

By focusing on what the child CAN do rather than what they can't, we aim to help all children develop the confidence and skills to:

- Deal with conflicts without hurting each other.
- Recognise their emotions and express them appropriately.
- Feel safe enough to venture out and explore their environment.

This will be achieved by:

1. **Indirect Guidance**

- A safe, stimulating environment will be provided to allow children to explore and extend their skills.
- A balanced, developmentally appropriate and challenging program is provided which considers the behavioural needs of the children to help reduce frustration and conflicts.
- Educators model appropriate problem solving behaviours to support children to learn what is acceptable and how to manage their own behaviour.

2. **Direct Guidance**

- Realistic, age appropriate guidelines are set for the children to help them learn to guide their own behaviours and ensure the health and safety of all. (children and families may be involved in the setting of guidelines where appropriate
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- Educators supervise carefully so that most problems can be redirected before they occur.
- Co-operative, helping behaviour will be encouraged.
- The development of problem solving, negotiation and self-help skills will be encouraged.

3. **Verbal Guidance**

- Clear, positive language will be used to redirect children's behaviour.
- Specific language will be used so that the child is aware which behaviour is being encouraged or rejected.
- Language used should be appropriate to the development of the child and help them to express their needs, wants and feelings
- An alternative will be offered when conflict arises.

4. **Emotional Guidance**

- Each child's efforts to achieve will be encouraged.
- Children will be accepted and respected without discrimination.

Sources:

Time In, Circle of Security <http://www.circleofsecurity.net>

DECD Supporting and Managing Children's Behaviour: An Early Childhood Resource

- Educators acknowledge children's appropriate behaviours to further encourage their understanding of appropriate and acceptable behaviour.
- In some situations it may be necessary to re-direct a child away from the group for a short period. Educators will not use time out, instead they will use Time In (see attached Time In Procedure).
- It is always the behaviour that is rejected, not the child
- Educators will model appropriate behaviour for the children in a positive manner

List Of Behaviours Identified By il nido Educators	
Appropriate Behaviours	Inappropriate Behaviours
Expressing emotions eg. Crying, laughing Using words to express emotions, needs and wants Sharing and taking turns Respecting others Greeting each other Respecting the equipment Helping others	Swearing Biting Hitting Kicking Spitting Hurting Bullying Damaging Property Throwing things

When unacceptable behaviour occurs staff will manage the behaviour according to the child's developmental level.

Strategies include:

1. Re-direct the play or the child
2. Offer choices
3. Talk about the problem
4. Ignore the behaviour if not dangerous and only seeking attention.

In cases of ongoing inappropriate behaviour parents/caregivers and educators will complete an Individual Learning Plan identifying the agreed guidance strategies and a review date.

PROMOTION OF PEACE

The Centre promotes non-violent methods of play. We do not allow toys in the Centre which promote violence or violent play and we discourage both speech and behaviour of a violent nature. Children will be taught and encouraged to use peaceful, conflict resolution skills and modelled by the educators.

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children, staff and families so everyone can enjoy a safe and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our Centre. If bullying does occur, everyone should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a *TELLING* centre. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the educators.

Need more information?

The following telephone numbers and internet websites can provide support and useful information about bullying.

DECD Parent Helpline: 1800 222 696 Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800

Sources:

Time In, Circle of Security <http://www.circleofsecurity.net>

DECD Supporting and Managing Children's Behaviour: An Early Childhood Resource

Child and Youth Health 1300 364 100

If you require further information regarding any of our policies, go to www.decd.sa.gov.au/

In accordance with Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

The program nurtures the development of life skills and complements children's experiences, opportunities and relationships at school, at home and in the community

Element 1.1.2 Each child's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests are the foundation of the program.

Element 1.1.3 The program, including routines, is organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning.

Element 1.1.6 Each child's agency is promoted, enabling them to make choices and decisions and to influence events and their world.

Relates to National Quality Area 2: Children's health and safety

All children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that provides for their physical and psychological wellbeing and provides support for each child's growing competence, confidence and independence.

Element 2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.

Element 2.3.3 Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented

Relates to National Quality Area 5: Relationships with Children

Promote relationships with children that are responsive, respectful and promote children's sense of security and belonging. Relationships of this kind free children to explore the environment and engage in play and learning

Element 5.2.2 Each child is supported to manage their own behaviour, respond appropriately to the behaviour of others and communicate effectively to resolve conflicts.

Element 5.2.3 The dignity and the rights of every child are maintained at all times

Reviewed: February 2017

Next Review: February 2018

Reviewed by: il nido Children's Centre

Sources:

Time In, Circle of Security <http://www.circleofsecurity.net>

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