

## BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

Childrens behaviour must be managed effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and particular individual needs. - EYFS 4.4

I believe that if children are occupied with something of interest, there is unlikely to be a display of poor behaviour. I have consistent expectations about acceptable behaviour. I want children to feel happy and relaxed in my house. However, for my own and all other children visiting my house, I have a general code of conduct for behaviour which I would enforce only as the need arises:

- ♦ Children should understand that ornaments often have some, if only sentimental, value to adults and should not be played with as toys.
- ♦ Outdoor shoes should be kept for outdoors only as small stones can be brought into the house and cause injury to little feet and hands and knees.
- ♦ Children will be asked not to stand on sofas and chairs in the lounge and dining room as this is dangerous and shortens the life of the furniture.
- ♦ Children will be shown positive examples of how to treat toys and books with respect in order to maintain them in good working condition.

I encourage good behaviour by constantly using praise for worthy acts and comments. I believe in good manners and encourage children to use 'please' and 'thank you' (or a version of these!) from an early age.

In the event of a display of unwanted behaviour, I would manage this positively and would never, under any circumstances, use physical punishment or threats of physical punishment. Apart from not believing that physical punishment or threats of them are right, these actions taken by a childminder are unlawful. Firstly, I will endeavour not to make a 'big issue' of the behaviour as this can often encourage young children to 'perform' further. I will remain calm and use a quiet, but assertive tone to my voice. I do not believe in using a 'naughty stair' or other similar action against unwanted behaviour as I feel that these are humiliating for a child. For unwanted behaviours, I will consider the age of the child and what may be appropriate action to take, for example I may use simple distraction techniques - lifting the child away from the situation and walking with them in to another room to look at pictures on the wall or look in a mirror etc. For an older child, and in the case of a more serious problem, I may ask them to stop the unwanted behaviour and warn them that if I get to 10 whilst counting, they will be removed from the room or have a toy taken from them temporarily etc. I will follow this action through.

I will discuss generally with parents the methods I would use to manage unwanted behaviour before a child is placed in my care. However, should the need arise, for example in the event of a child becoming very disruptive over a period of time, I will discuss and document a plan of action with parents and hopefully the unwanted behaviour will be tackled mutually.

Unless there is a necessity to prevent personal injury to your child or my children or me or seriously damage property in my house, I would not use any physical intervention e.g. holding to restrain. If there is a necessity to do this as a last resort, the incident will be recorded and the parent informed of the incident on the same day it occurred.

**Policy Completed by Jo Gilmour**

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