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| **POLICY** | **BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINE FOR CHILDREN AT THE SETTING** |
| **SETTING** | **OVERTON PLAYCENTRE** |
| **AIMS** | To work towards a situation in which children can develop self discipline and self esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and positive encouragement. |
| **Objectives, Statements and Procedures** | Good behaviour and discipline are essential to ensure the smooth running of the Playcentre. The foundation is provided for the development of morals and values, whilst advocating acceptable behaviour in children. We recognise that building self esteem and confidence will encourage positive behaviour as will encouraging mutual respect, sharing and tolerance. Each child is valued as an individual and their feelings and viewpoints will always be considered when planning and running sessions. Deliberate bad behaviour is never acceptable.  *ADULTS IN OVERTON PLAYCENTRE WILL:*   * Provide a positive role model for children with regard to friendliness, care, courtesy and offer strategies for resolving conflict. * Provide a social environment where activities are stimulating and appropriate for the developmental stage of the children. * Create situations where each individual child can enjoy freedom without threatening the enjoyment of others. * Be understanding of age/stage appropriate behaviour. * Encourage children to develop self discipline. * Be positive, constructive and fair, rewarding and praising good behaviour. * Be able to differentiate between deliberate and accidental occurrences and act appropriately. * Be aware of any underlying problems when unacceptable behaviour occurs and act appropriately. * Use appropriate language and establish eye contact when talking to children. * Work with carers to promote and encourage acceptable behaviour. * Always respect confidentiality. * Positive steps will be taken to avoid situations where by children receive excessive adult attention for undesirable attention. * Bullying and discriminatory remarks made by children, parents or any other adult are unacceptable. Our response will aim to demonstrate support for those discriminated against or bullied and help those responsible to overcome any prejudices; whilst making it clear that such behaviour/remarks will not be tolerated. * Positive reinforcement will be used to praise and reinforce desirable behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share. * Children will be encouraged to help in the day to day tasks such as tidying up.   *IF A CHILD BEHAVES IN A SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE WAY:*   * Staff at Overton playcentre will explanation and encourage the child to realise why certain behaviour is unacceptable and explain other positive methods to achieve what the child wants. * Positive reinforcement of good behaviour will be used. * Staff will use methods of distraction * Staff will be consistent and set positive examples with clear boundaries. * If a child is in danger of hurting themselves or others, they will be removed from the situation by staff and taken to a quiet area. * Only staff with a current CRB certificate will be left alone with a child in a time out situation. Time out will only ever be for short periods of time and the door will be left ajar for the safety of the child and staff member. * If a child cannot be soothed by that staff member, advice will be sought from senior staff and if the child is still not able to be soothed, advice will be sought from the parent/carer. * In a serious situation the Play Leader or Key Worker will discuss the child’s behaviour with parents/carer at home time. * If a child regularly presents recurring serious unacceptable behaviour, advice from outside agencies may be sought to learn stratergies to help the child.   *INCIDENTS /PHYSICAL RESTRAINT*   * Physical restraint will **ONLY** be used to avoid a child or other children being hurt, or serious damage to property. Such an event will be recorded and reported to the child’s parents/carers. * Other children witnessing the incident will be reassured by a staff member and parents/carers will be informed of the incident without naming the child involved. * Staff will handle situations in a developmentally appropriate manner. * Consistent or extreme unacceptable behaviour will be discussed with the child’s parents/carers. * A child’s key worker will monitor and record such behaviour. Joint targets will be agreed and recorded in conjunction with the child’s parents/carers and staff team. * Staff and parents/carers will work together to eliminate negative behaviour and encourage positive behaviour   **CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE OF OVERTON PLAYCENTRE WILL NEVER BE SMACKED, SHAKEN, HUMILIATED, RIDICULED, THREATENED, LEFT IN ISOLATION OR MADE TO FEEL UNWANTED OR UNDERVALUED.**  If Misbehaviour does not improve the child’s parents/carers will be given written notification that exclusion is under consideration. Final action will be exclusion from the Playcentre. During this process the advice of the area PPA representative will be sought. Parent’s/Carers will be informed of their rights and given all relevant contact details of agencies who can assist and offer support. |

**This document is approved and authorised for the application with Overton Playcentre.**