Behaviour management policy

All children have the right to be cared for in a happy environment, therefore, it is important to ensure that all children know what is expected of them what the boundaries are.  In order to achieve this, I have some house rules which set reasonable and appropriate limits to help manage the behaviour of the children.  I help the children understand my house rules, which are realistic, and I am consistent in enforcing them.

It is vital that children have good role models of behaviour so that they may make similarly good choices and be better able to understand if an adult or other child is behaving in a negative way. Teaching children what is appropriate behaviour means and what we can do when someone does something that is not appropriate. This helps to protect children from harm and promote their welfare as well as ensuring that children feel safe in talking to an adult that they trust. When a child tells me or a member of staff that a child has done something inappropriate or unkind we will ensure that we approach it in a way that is fair and consistent.

I will ensure that:

* what I expect from the children is reasonable and achievable, depending on their age and ability.
* I make myself clear giving an explanation of what behaviour was unacceptable and why.
* I am a good role model.
* I listen to what the children have to say
* I reward good behaviour
* Physical punishment or threat of physical punishment is not used, including smacking.
* Physical restraint is not used unless it is necessary to prevent damage to themselves; other people or property.  Parents will be informed should this happen.

There are several ways to deal with a child who is misbehaving, and I will use different ones depending on the age/stage of ability of the child and the situation:

* Distraction. Remove the child from the situation and give them an alternative activity.
* Ignore and divert. Depending on the situation I may ignore the bad behaviour as I feel it is being done to get a reaction and divert the child’s attention to a positive activity.
* Discuss with Child. If the child can understand I will discuss their behaviour and try and get them to appreciate the consequences of their actions on others.
* Time Out. Removing the child from the activity and sitting them quietly for a few minutes depending on age
* Removal from an activity and explain that their behaviour has meant that they cannot participate. For example if we are using tools and a child is not being safe, if we are doing a specific activity and they are disrupting other children or if they are not being safe on the play equipment .
* I will never smack, shake or hurt your child. I will not humiliate your child.

If a child misbehaves, I will let you know upon collection and I will also inform you of how the matter was dealt with. There may be times when I will need to physically intervene or restrain a child to prevent or stop an incident taking place, this could be when I child is, has or is about to scratch, bite or hit another child or run into a road etc.

I will explain to the child, according to their age and understanding that their actions are unacceptable behaviour. For younger child this may be by my tone of voice and facial expressions rather than lots of words.

It may be necessary for me to exclude the child from an activity and use time out, I will also encourage the child to apologise to the other child and work with them to develop strategies to help them deal with the reasons why the incident took place or was about to take place