

Behaviour Management Policy

At The Learning Tree we aim to provide a positive and consistent environment in which students are able to play and learn. We also work in partnership with parents by communicating and offering advice and support, especially when dealing with behaviour issues.

Creating a caring learning environment

The Learning Tree believes that in order to enable an effective learning environment in which children can develop socially and academically good behaviour in all aspects of kindergarten life is necessary. We seek to create a caring learning environment for all children by:

- Encouraging and acknowledging good behaviour and having a consistent approach to unwanted behaviour.
- Promoting self esteem by encouraging children to value and respect themselves and others.
- Providing a safe environment.
- Promoting early intervention.
- Encouraging a positive relationship with parents and carers to develop a shared approach to involve them in the implementation of the kindergarten policy and associated procedure.
- Encouraging children to take responsibility for their behaviour.
- Explaining unacceptable behaviour.
- Being good role models.

Children need to learn to consider the views and feelings, needs and rights of others and the impact that their behaviour has on people, places, and objects. This is a developmental task that requires support, encouragement, teaching and setting the correct example. The principles that underpin how we achieve positive and considerate behaviour exist within the programme for promoting personal, social, and emotional development.

Encouraging positive behaviour

Positive behaviour is promoted through:

- Praise, rewards and encouragement, i.e. thumbs up, a pat on the back, smiles and positive language.
- Using it as an example to others to promote desired behaviour.
- Modelling and developing social skills such as: sharing, manners, hygiene and taking turns.
- Encouraging children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and that of others, i.e. supporting a child to tell another child 'please don't do that, I don't like it'.
- Each week we choose 3 students that have shown great progress, whether in terms of improving their sharing skills, practising their handwriting etc.. Those children are then awarded a Star of the Week certificate.

Managing undesirable behaviour

Our starting point is to take into account child's age and stage of development:

Unacceptable behaviour includes:

- Bad language and derogatory language
- Not complying with turn taking sharing and other social skills.
- Physical harm of the other children/self or staff.
- Repetitive damage of kindergarten property or of that belonging to another child.
- Persistent bullying.

Staff will try to prevent unwanted situations occurring by intervening before they happen.

We have a variety of strategies that we use to deal with unwanted behaviour. These vary according to the age and stage of the child, the situation and other factors such as tiredness.

These include:

- Verbal warnings with explanation
- Removal of equipment
- Distraction
- Removing of child from situation
- Reminders
- And if appropriate time out.

However, our focus is always on promoting positive behaviour and the prevention of unwanted behaviours.