



Promoting Positive Behaviour

At Little Explorers Day Nursery and Preschool, we believe children flourish when they feel safe, secure and emotionally supported. Positive behaviour is promoted through strong, nurturing relationships with practitioners who act as positive role models, show respect and value each child as an individual.

We support children through co-regulation, where adults help children to understand and manage their emotions, resolve conflicts and return to a calm and balanced state. Over time, this supports the development of self-regulation, resilience and emotional wellbeing.

We actively promote British values, including respect, kindness, tolerance and understanding, and provide an environment where children learn to respect themselves, others and the world around them.

Supporting Children's Development

In line with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2025, we support children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) by:

- Helping children understand their feelings and the feelings of others
- Supporting children to manage emotions in an age-appropriate way
- Providing consistent routines, boundaries and expectations
- Building confidence and self-esteem through praise and encouragement
- Working closely with parents to ensure consistency between home and nursery

Our Approach to Positive Behaviour

We:

- Recognise every child as an individual
- Provide warm, responsive relationships where children feel safe and supported
- Understand that behaviours such as biting or hitting can be part of early development
- Promote self-regulation, empathy and respect
- Encourage positive social interactions and group play
- Use consistent, age-appropriate boundaries
- Praise positive behaviour and effort
- Model calm, respectful and kind behaviour at all times
- Work in partnership with parents and carers
- Support children to understand and manage feelings through discussion and guidance

Key Person System

Each child is supported by a key person who:

- Builds a secure relationship with the child and family

- Understands the child's individual needs and triggers
- Supports emotional wellbeing and behaviour
- Shares strategies with parents

Behaviour Lead

The named Behaviour Lead(s) is:

Claire Aquilina (Manager and SENCO) Megan Murphy (Floor Manager and EAL Coordinator)

They are responsible for:

- Supporting staff with behaviour concerns
- Ensuring consistency in approach
- Keeping up to date with legislation and best practice
- Accessing external support where needed
- Monitoring and reviewing behaviour strategies

Managing Behaviour

When children display distressed or challenging behaviour, we:

- Remain calm and supportive
- Acknowledge the child's feelings
- Use co-regulation strategies
- Help children understand the impact of their behaviour
- Support children to repair relationships where appropriate
- Comfort and support any child who has been upset
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We always make clear that:

It is the behaviour that is not acceptable, not the child

Use of Physical Intervention

We do not use physical punishment under any circumstances.

In line with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2025:

- Corporal punishment is never used or threatened
- Staff do not use any form of degrading or humiliating treatment

Physical intervention (reasonable force) will only be used:

- As a last resort
- To prevent a child from harming themselves or others
- To prevent serious damage to property

Where physical intervention is used:

- It will be proportionate and appropriate
- The incident will be recorded

- Parents will be informed the same day

Supporting Ongoing Behaviour Needs

Where behaviour is ongoing or more complex, we:

- Observe and identify triggers or patterns
- Work in partnership with parents
- Implement individual support strategies or behaviour plans
- Complete risk assessments where needed
- Seek support from external professionals if appropriate

Anti-Bullying

We do not tolerate bullying in any form.

We recognise that:

- Young children may display behaviours that appear similar to bullying
- True bullying involves repeated, intentional behaviour

We:

- Intervene immediately
- Support all children involved
- Work with parents to ensure consistent responses
- Promote kindness, inclusion and respect

Partnership with Parents

We:

- Share information about behaviour openly and sensitively
- Work together to ensure consistency
- Support parents with strategies where needed
- Treat all discussions with confidentiality

Monitoring and Review

We:

- Record and monitor behaviour incidents
- Reflect on staff practice
- Review strategies regularly
- Use information to improve practice

Outcome

By promoting positive behaviour through supportive relationships, clear boundaries and consistent approaches, we aim to ensure that children:

- Develop a strong sense of self

- Build positive relationships
- Learn to manage emotions
- Resolve conflicts peacefully
- Feel safe, valued and respected

These skills provide a strong foundation for school and later life.

Maintaining Safety Within the Setting

At Little Explorers Day Nursery and Preschool we are committed to supporting all children with their emotional wellbeing, behaviour, self-regulation, and social development through a nurturing, inclusive, and individualised approach. We recognise that behaviour is a form of communication and we work closely with parents/carers and, where appropriate, external professionals to identify underlying needs and implement supportive strategies.

However, the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff, and visitors within the setting must remain paramount at all times. Where a child’s behaviour becomes persistently dangerous, violent, or presents a serious risk of harm to themselves or others, despite appropriate support strategies, the nursery may need to consider whether it is able to continue meeting the child’s needs safely within the provision.

In exceptional circumstances, where all reasonable steps and supportive interventions have been exhausted and the nursery can no longer safely manage the level of risk presented, Little Explorers Day Nursery and Preschool reserves the right to terminate the childcare contract in line with the terms and conditions of enrolment. Any such decision would always be made fairly, proportionately, and as a last resort, with careful consideration of the needs and rights of all children and staff within the setting.

This policy was adopted on	Reviewed
<i>24/01/2022</i>	<i>19th May 2026</i>