

Policy: Goals for adult behaviour

Adults working with children will:

- foster harmonious working relationships with other adults, including parents/caregivers and staff;
- model appropriate behaviour and relationships with other adults as well as with children;
- affirm the positive in their approach to child guidance;
- be consistent and reliable in their behaviour with children;
- demonstrate empathy with children's feelings;
- help children to recognise their feelings and to express them in appropriate ways;
- have realistic expectations of what children at different stages can be expected to do or cope with;
- establish a few clear, constant rules about what is acceptable and what is unacceptable behaviour;
- encourage children to care for equipment, the environment, and other people;
- use the management of behaviour as a positive opportunity for learning appropriate social skills, and for thinking about concepts such as justice;
- use clear, simple, and friendly direction;
- value mistakes as learning opportunities;
- be objective when assessing children's behaviour;
- consider the child's behaviour within the context of the environment.

Inappropriate practice for adults working with children includes:

- inflicting verbal or physical punishment;
- isolating children;
- labelling children with derogatory words;
- shaming or comparing children;
- ignoring unacceptable behaviours.

Physical restraint will not be used except as necessary to ensure a child's safety or that of others, and then only for as long as is necessary for control of the situation. Any staff observed or accused of any of these practices may be suspended or given leave without pay pending investigation or may be given a job that does not require interaction with children.

Date adopted:

Signed:

Licensee

Review date: