



# Maple Medical PRU *Young Parents' Centre*

## Behaviour Management Policy

Our named practitioners responsible for Behaviour Management are:

Julie O'Brien and Jane Scott

Our aim is to provide an environment where babies have happy, stimulating lives thus preventing babies feeling the need to behave inappropriately. To this end we will:

- Praise babies for good behaviour on a regular basis.
- Model good behaviour by treating babies and adults around us with respect.
- Provide interesting and stimulating activities within a baby friendly environment thus preventing babies from becoming bored and irritable.
- Observe babies closely and use our daily notes to provide for their individual needs.
- Work closely with parents to support baby's exploration of appropriate and inappropriate behaviour.

If babies behave in a consistently inappropriate manner e.g. hurting other babies or destroying play equipment, then we will:

- Use our observations to try to pinpoint trigger points and to improve our environment if appropriate.
- Help babies who find it difficult to get on with others by showing them how to play and be friendly with other babies.
- After consultation with parents. Babies less than two years of age (which is the vast majority of our cohort) will be distracted from any situation which the staff feel is a problem and supported to join in more appropriate activities.



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Where this does not result in an improvement of behaviour we will ask mums for permission to seek outside help.

Staff at this nursery will not use corporal punishment or any other punishment which physically hurts the baby or may humiliate them. Mums are asked not to smack their babies or shout at them whilst on nursery property in order to ensure consistency for all babies.

Physical intervention will only be used to manage a baby's behaviour if it is necessary to prevent personal injury to the baby, other babies or an adult, to prevent serious damage to property or in what would reasonably be regarded as exceptional circumstances. Any occasion where physical intervention is used to manage a baby's behaviour will be recorded and mums will be informed about it on the same day.

## **Biting**

Many children go through a stage of biting other children and staff. We know this is an emotive subject and when this occurs, particularly if a baby bites regularly, the following procedure will be followed:

The victim will be comforted by the nursery staff and any required medical treatment given.

The perpetrator will be taken from the play area and told, in a manner appropriate to the baby's age that the behaviour was unacceptable. The baby will not be shouted at and only one member of staff, preferably the nursery staff will deal with this.

Sanctions will be applied as stated in the behaviour management policy.

Staff will use their written observations and knowledge of the baby to try to pinpoint trigger points and reasons.

The incident will be reported in the First aid file

Parents of both babies will be informed.

**Date of Policy**                      March 2017

**Date of Review**                      March 2019

**Signed**

**Nursery Manager**.....

**Chair of Management Committee**.....