

Choochoos Day Nursery - Achieving Positive Behaviour

Our '**Behaviour Strategies**' we implement at Choochoos Day Nursery.

We would be most grateful if you could read through these strategies & let us know if you have any further thoughts or any comments you would like to make, enabling us to work together.



Positive Behaviour Strategies

Consider the age/stage of development of the child – be realistic.

Acknowledge and label the child's emotions – then give them time/space to calm down.

Set clear consistent boundaries which all staff follow. Staff will use the same strategies.

Use a calm but firm voice.

Say the child's name to get their attention before you tell him what to do.

Have positive language **eg change 'no' to 'stop'** – use visual clues such as 'signing' or cards to reinforce message.

Explain the behaviour you do want, not the behaviour you don't – 'Walk' instead of 'Don't run'.

Do not use 'would you'? or 'could you'? when giving instructions/requests. Instead phrase it in the expectation it will be complied with **eg 'Sweep the sand off the floor, thank you'**.

Remember instant reinforcers such as praise, smiles & signs to show approval are strong reinforcers.

As far as possible ignore unwanted behaviour, at the same time praise children nearby who are showing wanted behaviour.

Praise the child in front of parents/carers.

Look out for good behaviour and praise accordingly; ensure you tell the child why you are pleased **eg 'Well done for sharing the toys.'**

Try these words:- 'When you have done ... then you can' eg 'When you have put the book on the shelf you can play on the computer.'

Use visual supports eg 'now' & 'then' boards or key rings to ensure the child knows what they are going to do.

Provide small tasks which the child can carry out to be helpful. These provide opportunities where the child can feel important, helpful and responsible and also provides the opportunity for adults to give praise and attention for the right reasons.

Teach social strategies where needed – such as 'turn taking', then ensure these are generalised in every day activities.

Redirect the child where possible. If you know there will be a problem be proactive and deal with the situation before it happens.

NEVER discuss incidents with parents/carers in front of the child.

If you need to intervene when unwanted behaviour is being exhibited make sure you limit the time spent with the child.

Give attention first to the 'victim' of unwanted behaviour before focusing on the child.

Be aware if you are the correct person to deal with a situation at the time. Make sure there is 'buddy' to deal with the situation if you have been hurt or feel temporarily unable to cope with your emotions.

Provide a calm quiet space for the child to withdraw to if they are distressed. Teach them how to use the space when they are calm.

Do not discuss the incident until the child is calm.

Give the child the opportunity to see the consequences of their actions – 'You made your friend angry/sad when you ...' 'How can you make it better?'

