



QUEENS PARK MONTESSORI DAY NURSERY

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Proprietor: Mrs Alison Toms

Ofsted Reg: EY242933

Positive relationships

- 2.1 Respecting each other
- 2.2 Parents as partners

**MAKE A POSITIVE
CONTRIBUTION**

A Unique Child

- 1.3 Keeping Safe
- 1.2 Inclusive Practice

**STAY SAFE
MAKE A POSITIVE
CONTRIBUTION**

Learning and Development

- 4.1 Play and Exploration

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

EYFS: 3.1, 3.2, 3.53, 3.54

PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

At Queens Park Montessori Day Nursery we believe that children flourish best when they feel safe and secure and have their needs met by supportive practitioners who act as good role models, show them respect and value their individual personalities. Children are supported through co-regulation, where adults and children work together towards a common purpose, including finding ways to resolve upsets from stress in any domain and return to balance leading on to a path to self-regulation. The nursery actively promotes British values and encourages and praises positive, caring and polite behaviour at all times, and provides an environment where children learn to respect themselves, other people and their surroundings.

We implement the early year's curriculum supporting children to develop their personal, social and emotional development. This involves helping children to understand their own feelings and others and beginning to regulate their behaviour. We support children to do this through working together with parents, having consistent approaches, structure, routine and age/stage appropriate boundaries. We help build confidence and self-esteem by valuing all children and giving lots of praise and encouragement.

Children need to have set boundaries of behaviour for their own safety and the safety of their peers. Within the nursery we aim to set these boundaries in a way which helps the child to develop a sense of the significance of their own behaviour, both in their own environment and that of others around them. Restrictions on the child's natural desire to explore and develop their own ideas and concepts are kept to a minimum.

It is our intention to provide an environment within which socially acceptable behaviour is promoted, such that the children are aware of how they are expected to behave.

To support positive behaviour in our setting, we aim to:

- Recognise the individuality of all our children and understand that some behaviours are a normal part of some young children's development, e.g. biting
- Provide a warm, responsive relationship where children feel respected, comforted and supported in times of stress, and confident that they are cared for at all times.
- Encourage self-regulation, consideration for each other, our surroundings and property
- Encourage children to participate in a wide range of group activities to enable them to develop their social skills
- Ensure that all staff act as positive role models for children
- Encourage parents and other visitors to be positive role models
- Work in partnership with parents by communicating openly
- Praise children and acknowledge their positive actions and attitudes, therefore ensuring that children see that we value and respect them
- Encourage all staff working with children to accept their responsibility for implementing the goals in this policy and to be consistent
- Promote non-violence and encourage children to deal with conflict peacefully
- Provide a key worker system enabling staff to build a strong and positive relationship with children and their families
- Provide activities and stories to help children learn about accepted behaviours, including opportunities for children to contribute to decisions about accepted behaviour where age/stage appropriate
- Supporting and developing children's understanding of different feelings and emotions, self-regulation and empathy as appropriate to stage of development. This includes using strategies and naming and talking about feelings and ways to manage them
- Have a named person who has overall responsibility for promoting positive behaviour and behaviour support.

The named person for promoting and supporting behaviour is: **Alison Toms**

The named person for promoting and supporting behaviour will:

- Advise other staff on any behaviour concerns
- Along with each room leader will keep up to date with legislation and research relating to promoting positive behaviour
- Support changes to policies and procedures in the nursery
- Access relevant sources of expertise where required and act as a central information source for all involved
- Attend regular external training events, and ensure all staff attend relevant in-house or external training for behaviour management. Keep a record of staff attendance at this training.

Our nursery rules are concerned with safety, care and respect for each other. We keep the rules to a minimum and ensure that these are age and stage appropriate. We regularly involve children in the process of setting rules to encourage cooperation and participation and ensure children gain understanding of the expectations of behaviour relevant to them as a unique child.

Children who are displaying distressed/challenging behaviour, for example, by physically abusing another child or adult e.g. biting, or through verbal bullying, are helped to talk through their feelings and actions through co-regulation before thinking about the situation and apologise where appropriate. We make sure that the child who has been upset is

comforted. We always acknowledge when a child is feeling angry or upset and that it is the behaviour that is not acceptable, not the child or their feelings.

Our promoting positive behaviour procedure is:

- We support all children to develop positive behaviour, and we make every effort to provide for their individual needs
- We never use or threaten to use physical punishment/corporal punishment such as smacking or shaking, or use or threaten any punishment that could adversely affect a child's well being
- We only use physical intervention (where practitioners may use reasonable force to prevent children from injuring themselves or others or damaging property) to manage a child's behaviour if absolutely necessary. We keep a record of any occasions where physical intervention is used and inform parents on the same day, or as reasonably practicable.
- We recognise that there might be times where a child is displaying challenging/distressed behaviour and need individual techniques to restrain them to prevent a child from injuring themselves or others. This will only be carried out by staff who have been appropriately trained to do so. Any restraints will only be done following recommended guidance and training and only with a signed agreement from parents on when to use it. We will complete an incident form following any restraints used and notify the parents
- We do not single out children or humiliate them in any way. Where children are displaying challenging behaviour they will, wherever possible, be distracted/re-directed to alternative activities. Discussions with children will take place as to why their behaviour was not acceptable, respecting their level of understanding and maturity
- Staff do not raise their voices (other than to keep children safe). They will be firm but will not shout at the child.
- In any case of challenging behaviour, we always make it clear to the child or children in question, that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome
- We decide on particular strategies to support a particular type of behaviour depending on the child's age, level of development and the circumstances surrounding the behaviour. This may involve asking the child to talk and think about what he/she has done. All staff support children in developing empathy and children will only be asked to apologise if they have developed strong empathy skills and have a good understanding of why saying sorry is appropriate
- We help staff to reflect on their own responses towards challenging behaviours to ensure that their reactions are appropriate
- We inform parents if their child's behaviour is unkind to others or if their child has been upset. In all cases we deal with behaviour that challenges in nursery at the time. We may ask parents to meet with staff to discuss their child's behaviour, so that if there are any difficulties we can work together to ensure consistency between their home and the nursery. In some cases we may request additional advice and support from other professionals, such as an educational psychologist
- We support children in developing non-aggressive strategies to enable them to express their feelings and emotions
- We keep confidential records on any behaviour that challenges that has taken place. We inform parents and ask them to read and sign any incidents concerning their child
- We support all children to develop positive behaviour, and we make every effort to provide for their individual needs
- Through partnership with parents and formal observations, we make every effort to identify any behavioural concerns and the causes of that behaviour. From these

observations and discussions we will implement an individual behaviour plan where a child's behaviour involves aggressive actions towards other children and staff, for example hitting, kicking etc. The manager will complete risk assessments identifying any potential triggers or warning signs ensuring other children's and staff's safety at all times. In these instances we may remove a child from an area until they have calmed down

We recognise that children need their own time and space and that it is not always appropriate to expect a child to share. We believe it is important to acknowledge each child's feelings and to help them understand how others might be feeling.

At our nursery, staff follow the procedure below to enable them to deal with behaviour that challenges:

- We will explain what the child has done wrong and why they should not do it, naming their feelings if appropriate. They will also be given the chance to explain their feelings and give reasons for their behaviour (if age/stage appropriate)
- We will ask them to apologise (if age/stage appropriate).
- Warn them that if they continue with the behaviour that they will be removed from the activity, with a time out period if necessary.
- Two warnings will be given, the second being a firm warning.
- After the second time the child will be removed from the activity and either directed towards a different activity or removed from the room for a quiet time out period.
- If time out is used a member of staff will calmly take the child to a quiet area and will remain with them, whilst not giving any attention.
- If a member of staff feels they are unable to remain calm, or that they are unable to deal with a particular situation, they will seek assistance from another member of staff.
- If a child has a particular behaviour management plan in place, such as the use of the traffic light system, these will be used in conjunction with the child's key worker.
- If any parent has a concern about their child, a member of staff will be available to discuss those concerns. Working together can ensure our children feel confident and secure in their environment, both at home and in the nursery

In particular:

- Staff are encouraged to ensure that all children feel safe, happy and secure
- Staff are encouraged to recognise that active physical aggression in the early years is part of the child's development and that it should be channelled in a positive way
- Children are helped to understand that using aggression to get things, is inappropriate and they will be encouraged to resolve problems in other ways
- Staff will initiate games and activities with children when they feel play has become overly boisterous/aggressive, both indoors or out
- We will ensure that this policy is available for staff and parents and it will be shared at least once a year to parents and staff
- Staff and parents are also welcomed to review and comment on the policy and procedure
- All concerns will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Anti-bullying

We encourage children to recognise that bullying, fighting, hurting and discriminatory comments are not acceptable behaviour. We want children to recognise that certain actions are right and that others are wrong.

Bullying takes many forms. It can be physical, verbal or emotional, but it is always a repeated behaviour that makes other people feel uncomfortable or threatened. We acknowledge that any form of bullying is unacceptable and will be dealt with immediately while recognising that physical aggression is part of children's development in their early years. [Staff will intervene when they think a child is being bullied, however mild or harmless it may seem and sensitively discuss any instance of bullying with the parents of all involved to look for a consistent resolution to the behaviour.](#)

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By positively promoting positive behaviour, [valuing co-operation and a caring attitude, we hope to ensure that children will develop a positive sense of self, have confidence in their own abilities, make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These will provide them with a secure platform for school and later life.](#)

Biting

At Queens Park Montessori Day Nursery we follow a positive behaviour policy to promote positive behaviour at all times. However we understand that children may use certain behaviours such as biting as part of their development. Biting is a common behaviour that some young children go through and can be triggered when they do not have the words to communicate their anger, frustration or need.

Our procedures

The nursery uses the following strategies to help prevent biting:

- [Individual, one-to-one and small group times so that each child is receiving positive attention](#)
- [Quiet/cosy areas for children who are feeling overwhelmed to go to,](#)
- [Stories, puppets, discussion about emotions and feelings including Activities and stories that help support children to recognise feelings and empathise with characters and events. Additional resources for children who have oral stimulation needs, such as, biting rings. Vigilant staff that know the children well and are able to identify where children need more stimulation or quiet times. Adequate resources are provided and, where possible, more than one resource or toy is sought to minimise conflicts.](#)

Every child is treated as an individual and we work with families to support all children's individual needs. With this in mind, it will be necessary to implement different strategies depending on the needs of the child carrying out the biting.

In the event of a child being bitten we use the following procedures. The most relevant staff member(s) will:

- [Comfort any child who has been bitten and check for any visual injury. Administer any paediatric first aid where necessary. Complete an incident form and inform the parents via telephone if deemed appropriate. Continue to observe the bitten area for signs of infection. For confidentiality purposes and possible conflict we do not disclose the name of the child who has caused the bite to the parents.](#)

- Tell the child who has caused the bite in terms that they understand that biting (the behaviour and not the child) is unkind and show the child that it makes staff and the child who has been bitten sad. The child will be asked to say sorry if developmentally appropriate or helped to develop their empathy skills by giving the child who has been bitten a favourite book or comforter. Complete an incident form to share with the parents at the end of the child's session.
- If a child continues to bite, carry out observations to try to distinguish a cause, e.g. tiredness or frustration.
- Arrange for a meeting with the child's parents to develop strategies to prevent the biting behaviour. Parents will be reassured that it is part of a child's development and not made to feel that it is their fault.
- In the event of a bite breaking the skin and to reduce the risk of infection from bacteria, give prompt treatment to both the child who has bitten and the child who has been bitten.

If a child or member of staff sustains a bite wound where the skin has been severely broken arrange for urgent medical attention after initial first aid has been carried out.

In cases where a child may repeatedly bite and/or if they have a particular special educational need or disability that lends itself to increased biting, e.g. in some cases of autism where a child doesn't have the communication skills, the nursery manager will carry out a risk assessment and may recommend immunisation with hepatitis B vaccine for all staff and children.

This policy was adopted on:

Signed on behalf of the nursery:

Date for review: