**ST.ANTHONY'S NURSERY SCHOOL**

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

The Board Of Governors and staff of St. Anthony's Nursery School strive to provide a safe and secure environment for all who come into the Nursery-children, staff, parents/ guardians, students and visitors.

Our Positive Behaviour Policy aims to positively promote the Social, Emotional, Intellectual, Physical and Spiritual growth of each child in our care.

Our Positive Behaviour Policy is based on good relationships between the Parent/ Guardian and the School.

AIMS OF ST. ANTHONY'S NURSERY SCHOOL

* To develop positive behaviour practices that will be lifelong and seek to establish effective learning and promote personal and social development and well being
* To provide opportunities for the children to develop understanding of safety, boundaries and social etiquettes that promote their safety and well being and that of others
* To provide opportunities for the children to develop self-confidence through achieving and celebrating their own and others success.
* To encourage sharing and turn taking and promote good relationships with adults and other children
* To foster respect for other persons, their work and property.
* To foster respect for the planet we live on and empathy and respect for the animals with whom we share the planet and the resources it provides
* To inform parents/guardians of the rules and procedures used to deal with inappropriate behaviour in the nursery.
* To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff, students/volunteers, visitors and parents/guardians

RATIONALE

Our Positive Behaviour Policy is based on the assumption that all members of the School Community have rights and responsibilities.

These are maintained and reinforced through rules and routines in daily classroom practice and in the Golden Rules- copies of which are given out to parents/ guardians in their Starter Pack and are displayed around the school.

We recognize the inherit individuality of each person and do not seek to eliminate difference in behaviour.

However, through positive reinforcement we aim to promote good behaviour to maximise the value of the child's time in nursery education and ensure the safety and well being of all our children, staff and students.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Parents/Guardians are their child's first and foremost educators. The staff in St. Anthony's aim to work in partnership with our parents/guardians to ensure the best educational attainment for our children-in a safe, secure and nurturing environment. To facilitate this-

* Parents/guardians will be made aware of the rules, routines and policies in the school and will be asked to reinforce these in the home.

**Our rules and routines are tried and tested and are in place to enable a smooth running Nursery day where children are safe and know the boundaries and what is expected of them in a happy, calm and nurturing environment.**

* Parents/guardians will be informed of inappropriate behaviour and any sanctions taken, if behaviour is not improving. We encourage the social etiquettes of "Saying Sorry" "Please" and "Thank you" and encourage children, and staff to use these words where appropriate. We view saying sorry to be a social and ethical etiquette which gives some comfort to the wounded party and beginning the healing and understanding process between the two parties involved.
* Sanctions include

- removal from activity/ re-direction,

- time out on the thinking chair using a timer -1 minute per child's age

-going to the Play Room with a member of staff, for some time out- 1 minute per child's age (this will only be sanctioned if your child's teacher believes it will have the desired impact and will never be used if it is felt a child's emotional well being may be affected)

**At all times your child's teacher will ensure that your child's emotional well being is supported- we assure our children it is the *behaviour* we do not like, not the child.**

* Staff may decide that small incidents have been dealt with adequately in school and may use their discretion in not reporting same.
* Where staff have concerns about a pattern of behaviour we will raise these with parents/ guardians and work together to develop a plan of action.
* Parents/guardians may be asked to meet with their child's teacher/ the Principal.
* Where staff continue to have concerns regarding behaviour, parents/ guardians will be invited to a meeting and an Individual Education Plan may be drawn up. Teacher and parent/ guardian will decide on the focus and targets will be set within a time frame. Parents/ guardians will be updated as required and teacher and parent/guardian will meet at an agreed date to discuss progress and decide if targets have been met and if a further IEP is required.

Parents/guardians may be asked for permission to refer their child to Educational Psychologist for assessment and advice; ASD service; Speech and Language Therapy

* Parents/guardians are encouraged to share relevant information with the class teacher which may have a direct impact on their child's behaviour.
* We expect our parents/guardians co-operation in managing behaviour which is affecting the smooth running of the classroom and affecting the safety of their child and/ or other children and our staff. The Principal and class teacher will use their discretion on deciding when behaviour is having a detrimental effect on classroom management and on the efficient education of all children. In this case the Principal and Class Teacher may decide that a child's day may be limited to a more meaningful time until they are more able to cope and their Nursery time is educationally meaningful. Where a child's behaviour has caused them to become distressed or is causing distress to other children the Principal/ Class Teacher may phone the parent/guardian and ask the parent/guardian to come to school and remove their child from the situation. The Nursery will work closely with our parents/guardians and this will only be considered when staff feel it is in the best interests of our children.
* Principal and class teacher will work in partnership with parties involved in individual child's care eg Social Worker, Health Visitor, Education Psychology etc.
* Principal and class teacher will strive to access support for a child where additional behavioural, social and emotional support is required.
* Principal and class teacher will sign-post services they feel may be helpful to parents/ guardians

BEHAVIOURS TO BE PRAISED IN NURSERY

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sharing  Using our quiet voice inside  Using gentle hands  Caring/ looking after our toys and books  Taking turns  Co-operating  Looking after our friends if they are sad/ hurt  Allowing others to join in  Finishing activities  Picking up things from the floor  Pushing in chairs  Sitting on chairs properly  Showing respect for others play  Showing respect for others possessions | Listening to our teachers  Showing respect for others work  Good sitting/listening to Story  Walking inside  Saying please and thank you  Saying sorry  Good table manners  Trying new foods  Remembering to put apron on/ hang it up  Participating in singing and rhymes  Overcoming a fear  Helping to tidy up  Flushing the toilet/ washing our hands    Respecting living creatures |

BEHAVIOUR THAT WILL BE DISCOURAGED

Hitting -other children /staff/students

Biting-other children/staff/ students

Scratching-other children/ staff/ students

Kicking-other children/ staff/ students

Throwing of resources or equipment

Using inappropriate language

Non co operation with reasonable staff requests

Hiding/ Running off/Throwing self on floor

Staff Response

The safety and wellbeing of all the children, staff, students/volunteers and visitors is a priority in St. Anthony's Nursery. Staff have been trained in Conflict Resolution and approach each situation with a realistic knowledge and understanding of the age and stage of our children.

Staff will

* Explain to child what he/she has done wrong and make sure the child understands why we are not allowed to behave this way.
* Encourage child to say sorry to persons involved.
* Reinforce our rules and routines often and in a manner understandable to our children's age and stage of development.
* If behaviour is repeated, withdraw child from area where behaviour is occurring and redirect child elsewhere.
* Deprive child temporarily of group activity e.g., water tray if this is where the problem occurs.
* Use facial expressions and body language to show disapproval.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

In St. Anthony's Nursery we practice a policy of positive reinforcement and praise the good behaviours as we see them occur. We use proximal praise to articulate the behaviours we encourage. This may mean we are selective in appearing to 'ignore' or 'not see' behaviours that we do not wish but emphasise the positive behaviours- in a sense 'catch them being good'.

We will not necessarily inform parents of every incident of mis behaviour if we - Class Teacher and Nursery Assistant decide it is not required

* For a serious breach of discipline, parents/guardians will be informed of the serious nature of the incident and the incident will be recorded. It is hoped that parents would support and reinforce the teacher's actions at home. If another child is affected or hurt that child's parent/ guardian will be informed
* Where a child is continually disruptive in the Nursery, sanctions may be applied- these shall always take into consideration the child's age and stage of development and should in no way cause added distress or a sense of alienation. The parent/guardian shall be involved in the strategies the Nursery is using.
* Staff shall always look to incentives such as Behaviour Charts, stickers and other rewards. Thinking Time may be given as a time out- 3-4 minutes to reflect child's age or stage.
* Where a child is continually disruptive in the Nursery and sanctions have been ineffective, the Principal may seek advice from Board of Governors, Education Authority or Education Psychology.
* An IEP may be drawn up with the parent/guardian and targets agreed to support positive behaviour. A Risk Assessment may be drawn up if the child's behaviour is deemed by the Class Teacher to put the child or others at risk.
* Should a child's behaviour, for whatever reason, be a cause of concern regarding Health and Safety a parent/guardian will be required to accompany their child on any educational outings or visits.
* In the event of a child's behaviour leading to injury to other children/ staff or students the parent/guardian shall be informed and the Board of Governors. The incident shall be recorded and an Accident Report completed- a copy of which shall be sent to Health and Safety at EA. The Chair of the Board of Governors and the Principal may meet with the parent/ guardian and a way forward agreed. The Board of Governors will seek advice from EA if required. At all times the legal responsibility and duty of care towards children and staff shall remain foremost in the decision of the Board Of Governors.
* It is hoped that parents/ guardians will work together with the Nursery to support and reinforce positive behaviour.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The role of the Board of Governors is to support the School in the implementation of the Positive Behaviour Policy.