THE LADY GEORGE KINDERGARTEN

Behaviour Guidance Policy

INTRODUCTION

We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time.

Part of the provision of a high quality service involves a consistent, positive approach to behaviour management that accounts for the needs of individual children and the wellbeing of all.

TO IMPLEMENT THIS STAFF WILL

• Be fair and patient.
• Be consistent and follow through when managing behaviours.
• Practice a guidance approach to behaviour using modelling and provide opportunities for practising safe behaviour.
• Ensure a physically and psychologically safe environment.
• Provide a nurturing environment that promotes a sense of belonging and self worth.
• Provide opportunities to extend children’s development, build their confidence to meet new challenges and provide opportunities for children to take calculated risks and experience success.
• Supervise children so that they comply with rules and practices designed for their own safety and of others.
• Warn children about dangerous situations or practices.
• Ensure that the Centre and its equipment are safe.
• Work in partnership with parents and inter/intra agency staff to develop and implement policies and strategies.
• Consult and inform parents of the behaviour management policy.
• Use developmentally appropriate practices for all children.
• Use positive reinforcement and encouragement of appropriate behaviour.
• Use redirection/distraction.
• Teach communication and problem solving skills that encourage self-awareness and self-discipline by modelling and facilitating appropriate behaviours to develop self-awareness and self-protection.
• Encourage open communication with families to ensure that each child’s behavioural and developmental needs are met

CHILDREN WILL BE

*safe  *happy  *problem solvers  *confident  *assertive  *take responsibility for their own actions  *effective communicators  * able to express feelings  * respect others needs and wants  *take calculated risks  *show initiative  *able to share
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR</th>
<th>UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respecting and caring for each other</td>
<td>Hitting, Spitting, Pinching, Pushing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing</td>
<td>Throwing things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking turns</td>
<td>Bullying, name calling, threats, verbal abuse, racial comments or taunts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being co-operative</td>
<td>Kicking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being polite</td>
<td>Biting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in activities</td>
<td>Scratching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being friendly</td>
<td>Hair pulling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening</td>
<td>Screaming or yelling directed at an individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping</td>
<td>Inappropriate self-stimulating behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using appropriate communication and interactions</td>
<td>Calculated aggression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children to recognise their feelings and appropriately handle their feelings</td>
<td>Aggressive resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children take time to play alone and/or with others</td>
<td>Head butting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuing other people’s property</td>
<td>Swearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking inside the building</td>
<td>Climbing fences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Destruction of property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Running inside</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THIS MEANS THAT STAFF WILL:**

- **use a positive approach in managing children’s behaviour.** Behaviour, both verbal and non-verbal will be viewed as a form of communication from the child to his/her world. Staff will examine what the child is attempting to communicate and then teach more functional and appropriate ways of communicating needs.

- **teach and reinforce positive, appropriate behaviours.**
- **be consistent and follow through when managing behaviours**
- **consider each child’s level of development and match their expectations to this.**
- **anticipate potential difficulties and plan programs and routines around these.**

**INTERVENTION**

Consequences for inappropriate behaviours will always be used as part of a comprehensive behavioural approach with the focus on encouraging/reinforcing appropriate behaviours. Staff
discuss and identify antecedents and refer on to other appropriate professionals if necessary (see summary) whilst endeavouring to maintain a calm alert state through sensory integrated activities to assist with the development of self-regulation

WHEN UNSAFE OR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR OCCURS, STAFF WILL

- Distract and redirect wherever possible.
  Staff will make behavioural expectations of children explicit;

- Offer other choices

- Talk about the problem

- Give a warning saying what is appropriate and what is inappropriate.

- If inappropriate behaviour continues staff may remove the child away from their current activity to maintain their or others safety (Time Away)
- If behaviour continues upon return to activity then child is directed to remain with a staff member as they observe play in the general area.
- If upon resumption of activity, behaviour is still inappropriate, time away in an appropriate place depending on the situation – time away will only be for a brief period and children will not be left on their own. Time away will only be carried out by staff members (not volunteers or students)

TIME AWAY

Time away may be used for dangerous/unacceptable behaviour, **but the child will still be supervised at all times by a staff member.** Time away will take place in a pre designated place in both the inside and outside play area. Staff will work with the child to facilitate re-entry to the play and positive reinforcement could result from more appropriate behaviour at this time.

SUMMARY

Unacceptable/dangerous behaviours that are repeated or prolonged, require careful investigation and may require further referral to special services staff from either DECD or other agencies. Staff will share information related to specific management strategies and wellbeing of all children to ensure a consistent approach is maintained.

DECD is responsible for ensuring that as far as is reasonably practicable the employee is safe from injury and risks to health (Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act, 1986.) Staff have a “duty of care” to every child under their supervision. We are obliged to take reasonable care to protect children from foreseeable risk of injury.

This behaviour code will be monitored regularly to maintain relevance for the Centre.

Endorsed and ratified by Governing Council parents and staff at Governing Council,

Reviewed October 26th, 2015