



Registered Charity No 1035670

## **Biting policy**

This is Beckley Preschool's policy on biting.

### **Statement of intent**

Beckley Preschool ensures the well-being of everyone in the setting but recognises that children may have issues which cause them to act in inappropriate ways. We use the following procedure to minimise inappropriate behaviour.

### **Method**

When a child either bites another child or a member of staff whilst at nursery the following policy is used to deal with the situation.

#### 1) The child who has been bitten:

They should be inspected immediately for any visible injury. Any unbroken skin injury should be treated with a cold compress to alleviate any swelling. If the child has a broken skin injury a dry compress should be applied until any bleeding has subsided. Then a suitable dry dressing used to cover the wound.

The incident should be recorded on an incident form as soon as possible, where possible this should be completed by any member of staff who has witnessed or was in close vicinity of the incident. Any witnesses should be recorded on the incident form.

The child's parents or guardian should be informed at the first available opportunity. They should not be shown the incident form as this will name the child who has bitten their child. Due to confidentiality purposes and possible conflict this information shall not be disclosed.

#### 2) The child who has caused the bite:

This child should be taken aside and told that they should not have done that. The words naughty or bad should NOT be used to deal with the situation.

On the first occasion this incident is able to go unreported to the parents unless the bite is particularly big or involves broken skin. The Preschool accepts this could be a one off incident and in many children this behaviour will not be repeated.

If the child shows any intention to bite another child at Preschool on a second occasion, or actually bites for a second time, then the Manager should approach the child's Parents/Carer's and inform them of the situation. If the Manager is not available then the Deputy Manager should be responsible for informing parents.

The parents of the child who has bitten another child can be told the name of the injured child if they ask for this information. If they do not ask then this information will not be provided. The main purpose of keeping the named children confidential is to prevent any possible conflict between the two parties. Any discussions of this nature should be done in a private matter, away from other parents and children.

#### 3) Recurrent biting:

If a child continues to bite on more than one occasion, the child who is biting should be immediately removed to stop any further harm coming to the children around him/ her. Holding is permissible to stop further occurrences in the short term. Further help should be immediately sought and management informed.

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Any problems arising from a biting incident that is not discussed in this policy should be addressed by either the Achieving positive behavior lead or the Management Committee.

This policy was adopted by the Management Committee of Beckley Preschool on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008. It has been reviewed on 7th October 2014.

Signed on behalf of the management committee:

Name of signatory:

Role of signatory:

Date: