



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 act in inappropriate ways. We use the following procedure to minimise inappropriate behaviour.

Biting is a natural developmental stage that many children go through. It is usually a temporary display of behaviour and commonly occurs between one and two years of age.

Why do some children bite?

- Teething
- Exploration
- Attention
- Frustration

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 or staff member who has been bitten:

They should be inspected immediately for any visible injury. Any unbroken skin injury should be treated with a cold compress and antiseptic wipe to alleviate any swelling. If the child has a broken skin injury a dry compress and antiseptic wipe 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 accident 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 accident form also.

The child's parents or guardian should be informed at the first available opportunity by telephone. No other names should be mentioned on the accident form.

Even if the child that has been bitten does not have a mark at all, the parents/guardians should still be informed and an accident form filled out as above.

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 where appropriate explain why biting is not acceptable. The words naughty or bad should NOT be used to deal with the situation. This will need to be filled out on an incident form and parents/carers informed by the manager or the key worker. No other names should be mentioned on incident form or verbally. Any discussions of this nature should be done in private, away from other parents and children.

3) Recurrent biting:

If a child continues to bite on more than one occasion, we should look into implementing a behaviour plan to look at the reasons behind the biting and if there is anything we can do to support the child in understanding the right actions they need to be taking. A risk assessment may also be considered.

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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 20th May 2024.

Signed on behalf of the management committee:

Name of signatory:

Role of signatory:

Date: