

## BEHAVIOUR POLICY

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### Policy statement:

As a registered childminder I recognise the need to set out reasonable and appropriate boundaries to manage the behaviour of children in my care.

By providing a happy, safe environment, the children in my care will be encouraged to develop social skills to help them be accepted and welcome in society as they grow up.

### Procedure:

I keep up to date with behaviour strategies and relevant legislation by taking regular training provided by Essex County Council Early Years and by reading relevant publications, such as the EYFS regular newsletters.

All parents receive or have access to a copy of my Behaviour policy.

I will not administer physical punishment, cause pain, discomfort, humiliate or hurt any child in my care.

I endorse positive behaviour strategies as an effective way of setting boundaries for children.

I agree strategies to manage children's behaviour with parents before the placement starts. These are discussed with parents during initial visits before the contract is signed.

Wherever possible I try to meet parents' requests for the care of their children according to their values and practices. Records of these requirements are agreed and kept attached to the child record forms. These records are revisited and updated during regular reviews with parents.

I expect parents to inform me of any changes in the child's home circumstances, care arrangements or any other change which may affect the child's behaviour such as a new baby, parents' separation, divorce, new partner or any bereavement. All information shared will be kept confidential unless there appears to be a child protection issue.

I work together with parents to make sure there is consistency in the way the children are cared for. A consistent approach benefits the child's welfare and helps ensure that the child is not confused. I offer regular review meetings with parents to discuss their child's care and any issues or concerns, preferably when the child is not present. These meetings may be in person or by electronic methods if required.

I will only physically intervene, and possibly restrain, a child to prevent an accident, such as a child running into the road, or to prevent an injury or damage. Should this be necessary I will record any instances of physical intervention in writing in my incident book and inform parents on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

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I record all significant behaviour incidents in an incident book. I will discuss these with the parents of the child concerned so that together we can work to resolve any behavioural issues and share strategies.

I acknowledge the strength and range of children's feelings and try to help children to find constructive solutions for managing these.

I encourage responsibility by talking to children about choices and their possible consequences.

I aim to be firm and consistent so that children know and feel secure within the boundaries I set.

I will respond positively to children who constantly seek attention or are disruptive.

I will help children maintain their self-esteem by showing I disapprove of challenging behaviour, not the child themselves.

If I have concerns about a child's behaviour which I cannot resolve in partnership with parents, I will ask for permission from the parents to talk it through with another childcare professional. I may contact Coram PACEY, the NSPCC, health visitor or the local early years team (or other relevant advice service) for confidential advice.

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| Date policy was written                             | 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 |
| This policy is due for review on the following date | 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 |
| Policy reviewed                                     | 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2027 |

**This policy supports the following Early years foundation stage statutory framework for childminders requirements:**

Section 1 – Learning and development

Section 2 – Assessment

Section 3 – Safeguarding and welfare requirements

- Supporting and understanding children's behaviour