



Biting Policy

As a pre-school team we are very aware that biting can be recognised as part of a child's development. We make every effort to discourage biting.

Biting is often a child's way of expressing feelings or frustration among their peers and causes an instant reaction from the child being bitten. However, we know that this is very upsetting for those being bitten.

Procedures

In the event of a child biting, we will firstly remove the child from the situation and speak to them in language appropriate to their age, and then try to identify the reason for the biting.

The child that has been bitten will be consoled and given treatment.

The pre-school will ensure that sufficient resources are available to discourage children from biting, for example, teething rings.

The child's key person will closely observe the child who has bitten and carry out observations to identify any pattern to their behaviour. All observations will be recorded on the individual child's record.

If the biting becomes persistent we will invite the parents/carers in to the pre-school to discuss further measures to prevent incidents in the future, discuss the child's behaviour and work closely with them at home to ensure that biting does not become a major issue.

The strategies detailed above are usually successful in preventing any further incidents of biting. Should further incidents occur, the pre-school will seek advice from Early Years Professionals that can offer the child and pre-school support in alternative ways to deal with this behaviour. Parents/carers will be kept informed at all stages.

Children who are bitten will be treated with a cold compress and checked on a regular basis.

All incidents will be recorded and will remain strictly confidential.

Nursery staff will not disclose any details of the child who has bitten.

Parents/carers will be asked to sign the incident record, which will be kept on the child's file.

If we felt that it was necessary, we may advise parents/carers to seek medical advice, for example if the bite has broken the child's skin. Parents/carers may be contacted at work at the manager's discretion.

All incidents involving a member of staff will be recorded in the staff accident book.

This policy was adopted by Footprints Pre-school

Date: _____

Signed by: _____
On behalf of Management (Manager, Owner, Chairperson)

Review Date: _____

Please note this is a guide to a policy and procedure. It is not meant to be directly copied and it is highly recommended that all members develop documents specific to their service and needs. This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other essentials required.