



# PORT AUGUSTA WEST CHILDHOOD SERVICES CENTRE BEHAVIOUR POLICY

## We believe:

Port Augusta West Childhood Services Centre believes in working in partnership with families and caregivers to address children's behaviour needs and providing a safe, secure and supportive learning environment which will increase the success in learning appropriate behaviours. We further believe that the use of a positive approach to address challenging behaviours in a timely and appropriate manner will increase the success in learning appropriate behaviours.

This behaviour policy has been adapted from the DECD 'protective practices guide.' There are two main guiding principles we follow;

1. *Staff will use a positive approach in managing children's behaviour*
  2. *Consequences for inappropriate behaviours must reflect this dignity and rights of the child*
- Behaviour is a *response* to a thought, feeling or need
  - Everyone needs to and has *the right to feel safe and secure*
  - A *respectful* environment facilitates the rights of children and teachers to *learn and teach*
  - A *partnership* between staff, children and their families is crucial. We share the responsibility for modelling appropriate behaviours and sharing information with each other.
  - *Early behaviour intervention* is effective in preventing and minimizing the development and long term effects of ongoing challenging behaviours
  - Strategies must address the needs of individual children, *including* those with disabilities, developmental delay, gifted development and children with emotional needs
  - Appropriate behaviours are to be *encouraged* and embedded into teaching practice

## Encouraged behaviours:

- Language that encourages others
- Giving, sharing and taking turns
- Positive attitude
- Caring and kindness
- Working together cooperatively
- Safe / constructive play
- Being polite
- Listening to others
- Taking responsibility for own behaviour
- Self-control

## Discouraged behaviours:

- Using inappropriate language
- Name calling, teasing
- Excluding others
- Hitting, kicking, pinching, biting, spitting
- Throwing objects inappropriately
- Disrespecting others work or property
- Ignoring adult request and following through
- Avoiding or disrespecting group norms
- Deliberate withdrawal and refusal to participate
- Threatening others

## Staff will:

- Provide all children with developmentally appropriate strategies, social skills and model a variety of different appropriate behaviours
- Ensure all children are encouraged, taught and given opportunities to self-regulate and choose appropriate calming methods
- In the event of physically harmful behaviour the child will be placed in a safe restricted place within the play area under view of an educator until the child has calmed down and is ready to return to the group. Physical restraint will only be used when considering the physical safety of all children, occupational health safety and welfare of staff and the child's developmental level. Educators will seek advice from DECS Support Services where required.
- In the event of discouraged behaviours staff will first give the child a reminder (visual or verbal.) If the behaviour continues children will be warned of possible consequences such as removal of the toy or redirection to another area
- Ensure all families are aware of any discouraged behaviours that are regularly happening at preschool

This Behaviour Policy will be shared with all new staff and families and children will be informed of behaviour expectations at the commencement of pre-school, to ensure consistency in behaviour management approaches.

The Port Augusta West Childhood Services Centre Behaviour Policy is a dynamic document and will be reviewed annually and to meet the current needs of children accessing the site.

**Governing Council Chairperson**

**Preschool Director**

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Policy Created: June 2021***

***To be reviewed: December 2024***