We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and secure all of the time and that children should respect themselves, each other, staff and the environment.

We accept that children feel angry, frustrated and upset at times and need help to express these feelings appropriately.

**Staff will:**

- Role model positive behaviour, including expressing feelings and emotions through appropriate language or appropriate actions, as defined in the Child Protection Curriculum.
- Verbally reinforce positive behaviours in children at every opportunity.
- Define the limits of acceptable/unacceptable behaviours and safe/unsafe behaviours, including bullying.
- Maintain consistency in guiding children’s behaviour.
- Explain the reasons for intervention and consequences to the children – emphasise that the behaviour/actions are not acceptable rather than condemning the child.
- Staff will communicate and liaise with families regarding their child’s behaviour guidance to ensure continuity of care for the child where possible.
- Be aware of different cultural practices in regards to child behaviour guidance.
- Endeavour to provide useful resources to parents to assist them with behaviour guidance issues/concerns.
- Refer children with extreme behaviour issues to DECD support service and plan, implement, monitor and review individual behaviour plans in partnerships with families and support services.

**Unacceptable/Unsafe Behaviour:**

- Discuss why the behaviour is not acceptable. Suggest options or allow the child to suggest acceptable options to re-direct positive behaviour. Explain that the child will have only one more warning if the behaviour continues.
- If the child’s behaviour continues, the child will need to be redirected to a different area or activity or possibly require a ‘time away’ without play/activity.
● If the behaviour occurs for a third time, a child will be redirected away from that activity/area for the remainder of the session.
● After each ‘time away’ staff will review the circumstances of the incident/s with the child.

However, if the child’s behaviour is dangerous (e.g. potential harm to themselves/child/staff) or bullying another child, the child will be removed from the situation immediately and staff will review the circumstances and potential consequences of the incident with the child/ren and parent/s.

REVIEWED: August 2012
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