



## CHILD BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

### Policy Statement

Pipitea Childcare Centre believes that by providing a warm caring environment that encourages peaceful, co-operative and non-competitive interactions among children, 'positive behaviour outcomes' will be promoted. To achieve this, we will ensure that there are clear guidelines to follow for the management of behaviour at Pipitea Childcare Centre; that parents/caregivers, children and staff are aware of these guidelines; and that every child at Pipitea Childcare Centre feels safe and secure.

Staff will focus on the positive elements of children's development and behaviour, constantly nurturing and developing their self-esteem. Positive behaviour will receive praise and encouragement (positive reinforcement), while negative behaviour will receive no reward and little or no attention.

### Procedure

- Children will always be encouraged to solve problems positively and verbally so that they do not harm themselves or others at the Centre.
- The teaching team will set clear limits for behaviour. Where these are exceeded a teacher will immediately discuss the behaviour with the child.
- Techniques of 'redirection', 'anticipation' and 'elimination' of potential problems are also used as appropriate in the modification of child behaviour.
- Children are encouraged to care for each other and respect each other as individuals. Teachers will provide good role models, respecting each child, listening and interacting warmly with each child individually. Teachers will recognise and treat each child as an individual.
- Feelings are considered important and encouraged. Opportunities are given to release negative feelings in a positive way, for example by outside play etc.
- Guidelines and limits are set and explained to the children. They are administered by teachers in a firm, consistent manner coupled with attitudes of warmth, understanding and respect.
- 'Time Out' i.e. withdrawal from the activity or group is used when a child is in danger of causing harm to her/himself, other children, teachers or centre equipment. At no time will any children be left unattended.
- Teachers encourage children to verbalize their dislike of a situation e.g. "please don't hit me, it hurts". This teaches them to problem solve themselves rather than involving adults.

# Pipitea Childcare Centre



- Teachers will not use corporal punishment or any other humiliating or frightening discipline techniques. Blame, harsh language, belittlement or degrading responses, or deprivation of food, drink, warmth shelter or protection will not be tolerated. Children will not be subjected to any form of physical ill treatment.
- Short term relievers and students should refer to teachers for advice with regard to behaviour management.
- Children will be encouraged to participate in dramatic play. Teachers will take particular care to be aware of any 'super-hero' dramatic play where children are using make-believe weapons, or using aggressive or threatening behaviour. Teachers will:
  - redirect children if they feel there is any danger of the child being hurt or scared,
  - take the opportunity to talk to the children about how real weapons hurt,
  - discourage children from pointing make-believe weapons at other children.
- Should a child persist with certain negative behaviour, the parents/caregivers will be informed and involved in the development of a Behaviour Management Plan. This plan will be discussed with all teachers to ensure consistency in dealing with the behaviour. Parents/caregivers will be encouraged to apply the Behaviour Management Plan at home. The supervisor will review the progress of any Behaviour Management Plan with parents/caregivers after an agreed specified length of time (e.g. one month).
- Teachers will be encouraged to attend behaviour management training courses as appropriate. *This will be a requirement of staff training and performance.*
- Parents are encouraged to advise staff of any issues that may affect their child's behaviour at the Centre, or any specific behavioural problems they are experiencing at home.

## Related Policies

Nil

## Ratification

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Centre Supervisor

Convenor

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