



Last Review:	Nov 2025	S Fisher
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Behaviour Management Policy

Policy statement

We believe that children and adults flourish best in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them and where children can play and develop without the fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else.

By displaying all activities on child-sized units, Discoveries Montessori nursery school encourages freedom of choice and independence. This in turn develops self-esteem, self-discipline, self-dignity and confidence. For this to be successful there are certain ground rules which must be adhered to in order to ensure the safety and happiness of each individual child.

The ground rules are made known to each individual child and play a central part in the Montessori philosophy. They are carried out each day by both members of staff and children and involve activities such as, how to carry chairs, trays and scissors' safely and how to manoeuvre around the nursery remaining respectful of other children's activities.

The staff aim to develop a relationship of mutual trust, respect and friendship with each individual child and in doing so, to provide continued support and guidance of each individual child's personal development.

To assist the above:

- The staff at Discoveries Montessori nursery school will ensure that the ground rules are applied consistently so that the children have the security of knowing what to expect and can develop useful habits of behaviour.
- The staff will try to provide a positive role model for the children at all times.
- The staff will praise and endorse desirable behaviour such as kindness and willingness to share.

In the event of a situation involving inappropriate behaviour arising:

- The staff will talk to the child(ren) involved explaining to them why the behaviour was not appropriate and emphasising that it is the "action" that was wrong and not the child. By placing the emphasis on the action and avoiding such words as "naughty" the child's self-esteem and confidence is not affected.

- In some circumstances circle time will be used to reinforce ground rules and to discuss any inappropriate behaviour that may have occurred that day. The children will be encouraged to talk about which actions are acceptable and not acceptable. At no time will the child(ren) involved in the incident be named.
- In the event of an incident reoccurring with a particular child, then the child will be removed from the activity and encouraged to become involved in something else with a member of staff. This time may be used to discuss the inappropriate behaviour.
- Physical punishment such as smacking will neither be used nor threatened.
- Techniques intended to single out and humiliate individual children such as the “naughty chair” will not be used.
- In cases of serious misbehaviour such as racial or other abuse, the unacceptability of the behaviour will be made clear by means of explanation rather than personal blame.
- The staff will endeavour not to shout or raise their voices in a threatening way.
- Recurring problems will be tackled in partnership with the child’s parents and observations will be used to establish an understanding of the cause.
- Adults will be made aware that some kinds of behaviour may arise from a child’s special needs.