



St. Mary's Preschool

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Positive Guidance Policy

Rationale

To ensure tamariki at St Mary's Preschool are treated with love, care and respect and consistency in positive guidance situations.

The principles of love, care and respect are at the heart of this policy. Every child will feel safe, secure and valued. We understand that children deserve the opportunity to solve their own conflicts at times and that adults need to model strategies, language and skills for them to do so. Each child has unique individual potential which requires nurturing through effective and gentle guidance.

Reg 43 - C-10

Procedures

Prevention Strategies

- Staff will ensure that the learning environment is set up with a range of experiences with which children of all ages can become fully engaged.
- Staff will see challenging behaviours as learning opportunities for all and will use positive interactions with children to support the learning.
- Staff will use recognition of effort and praise as positive reinforcement for children.
- Staff will develop and display a set of rules with the children.

Dealing with Inappropriate Behaviours

- Promotion of peaceful problem solving strategies which empower children.
- Re-direction of behaviour, i.e. guide the child towards more appropriate activity.
- Always offer the child an explanation of why certain behaviour is unacceptable and inform the child of the desired behaviour.
- Allow the child time to correct his/her behaviour i.e. by approaching the situation and asking, "What's happening here?", then offering choices to the child on how to try things differently.
- Depending on the situation, and the age of the child, kaiako may remove the toy, activity or object that is central to the inappropriate behaviour after a warning has been given.
- Extremely inappropriate behaviour may result in one on one time i.e. if the behaviour is distracting or upsetting other children. A kaiako will go with the child and together they will have some time away from the other children to regulate their behaviour.
- Kaiako will always talk calmly in terms of behaviour. It is defined as unacceptable behaviour, rather than the child being rejected.

- Parents are always informed of any occurrence of any extremely inappropriate behaviour and the methods used to modify this behaviour.
- Kaiako recognise the need to be consistent, and a calm and peaceful manner will be used to ensure children’s dignity is upheld and respected.
- In circumstances where inappropriate behaviour is repetitive or ongoing. Kaiako and whānau will work together to create a positive guidance plan. (Template attached to this policy)
- Where a positive guidance plan is used, kaiako will revisit this regularly.
- In serious circumstances, the Senior Teacher (in consultation with others) may deem the behaviour unmanageable in the centre environment. This is often when the behaviour is regularly harmful to the child, others or to the environment. Whānau will be asked to give permission for a referral to Special Education Services. Strategies and support will be given to the child, whānau and teachers.
- No child will be excluded from education at St Mary’s Preschool because of special education needs.

Date Reviewed	March 2022
Board Ratified	17 th March 2022
Next Review	April 2025