

Behaviour Management Policy



We believe that each child or volunteer is an individual best supported in an ordered environment in which everyone knows what is expected of them, and children are free to develop their play without fear of being hurt or hindered by anyone else.

Our aim is to encourage the children in safe stimulated play in an environment which is fun to be in.

In order to achieve this, the following broad principles are applied:

- No smacking or other physical chastisement is permitted.
- No verbal abuse or foul language is permitted.
- Physical restraint should be used only to prevent a greater physical harm from occurring and as a very last resort of imminent danger. Play leaders should be called for IMMEDIATELY. Protracted physical restraint is almost never necessary and should be no more than the minimum required for ensuring the child's safety.
- Consider the use of time out, or change the activity. The child may be bored or dislike the current activity.
- Consider the guidelines and information available about a particular child and try to anticipate challenging behaviour before it occurs. As you become familiar with a particular child, warning signs are often evident.
- Do not allow the child to anger you by their behaviour. Retain control. Hand over responsibility for the child to a suitable volunteer or playleader. Take a break.
- Try to understand what is precipitating the behaviour. Be aware of the possible impact of the child's disability on their intent and understanding. Try to reason with the child and remove him/her from the situation.
- Children should be encouraged, within their limits, to participate positively in HOPS and to respect and show sensitivity to those about them. Reinforce good behaviour in a positive fashion, with lots of praise. Good manners and respect for other children and volunteers should be encouraged.

This policy was adopted by: HOPS	Date January 2016
To be reviewed annually	Signed: