



Zap Kids Club

Behaviour Management Policy

Zap Kids Club uses effective behaviour management strategies to promote the welfare and enjoyment of children attending the Club. Working in partnership with parents, we aim to manage behaviour using clear, consistent and positive strategies, and with adults modelling positive behaviour. The Club rules are clearly displayed at every session and are discussed regularly.

All rules are inclusive and take into consideration the age and developmental profile of your child. We do understand that some children with SEND may present with more challenging behaviours.

Wherever possible, we will encourage children to demonstrate the following:

- Use socially acceptable behaviour
- Comply with the Club rules: 'Kind Words, Kind Hands, Kind Feet'.
- Respect one another, accepting differences of race, gender, ability, age and religion
- Develop their independence by maintaining self-discipline
- Choose and participate in a variety of activities
- Ask for help if needed
- Enjoy their time at the Club.

Encouraging positive behaviour

At Zap Kids Club positive behaviour is encouraged by:

- Staff acting as positive role models
- Praising appropriate behaviour
- Sticker rewards
- Informing parents about individual achievements
- Offering a variety of outdoor and sensory play opportunities during breaks and lunchtime to meet the needs of children attending the Club.

It is inevitable that as children develop and learn, there are times when they need support and guidance to understand that their behaviour is not acceptable. Staff at the Club will try to determine the cause or triggers of challenging or inappropriate behaviour to prevent the situation from recurring.

Dealing with challenging behaviour including meltdowns

Firstly, we recognise that all behaviour is a form of communication. And for our children, this may not always be in a way that is deemed by others as socially acceptable. We will try our very best to ensure that children are supported daily to access as much of the club offer as possible.

- Challenging behaviour will be addressed in a calm, firm and positive manner. Strategies employed will include distraction, or guiding children away to a safe space (sensory room etc). We endeavour work with parents to utilise the best strategies to help children calm and come out of crisis episodes. This is known as de-escalation.
- In the first instance, a child may be temporarily removed from the activity and given time and space to calm under adult supervision.
- If the child is able to (developmentally) understand, staff will discuss why the behaviour displayed is deemed inappropriate and suggest alternative methods to show their feelings.

- When appropriate, staff will encourage and facilitate mediation between children to try to resolve conflicts through discussion and negotiation.
- Staff will consult with parents to formulate clear strategies for dealing with challenging behaviour.
- No staff member will ever threaten any punishment that could adversely affect a child's welfare or well-being (eg withdrawal of food or drink).

If after consultation with parents and the implementation of behaviour management strategies, a child continues to display significantly challenging behaviour which, despite time and strategies being used, is causing distress to the child themselves; the club manager will speak with the family to explore how best to move forward.

Physical Intervention

Physical intervention will only be used as a last resort, when staff believe that action is necessary to prevent injury to the child or others, or to prevent significant damage to equipment or property. If a member of staff has to physically restrain a child, the manager will be notified, and an **Incident record** will be completed. The incident will be discussed with the parent or carer as soon as possible.

If staff are not confident about their ability to contain a situation, they should call the manager.

All serious incidents will be recorded on an **Incident record** and kept in the child's file. This may be used to build a pattern of behaviour, which may indicate an underlying cause. If a pattern of incidents indicates possible abuse, we will implement child protection procedures in accordance with our **Safeguarding** policy.

Corporal punishment

Corporal punishment and physical chastisement or the threat of these will *never* be used at the Club.

We will take all reasonable steps to ensure that no child who attends our Club receives corporal punishment from any person who cares for or is in regular contact with the child, or from any other person on our premises.

This policy was adopted by: Zap Kids Club Ltd	Date: August 2024
To be reviewed: August 2025	Signed: Mikayla Osborn, Director

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Managing behaviour [3.50-3.52]*.