

Positive Behaviour Policy

Forest Kindergarten Sevenoaks

	Reviewed: October 2026

The forest kindergarten believes in promoting positive behaviour.

We aim to encourage self discipline, consideration for others, our surroundings and property. By praising children and acknowledging their positive actions and attitudes, we hope to ensure that children feel valued and respected.

We discuss with the children ways of acting kindly to each other and encourage the children to think of group rules.

Parents will be informed if their child is persistently unkind to others, or if their child has been upset.

In all cases inappropriate behaviour will be dealt with in the kindergarten at the time. Parents will be asked to meet with staff to discuss their child's behaviour, so that if there are any difficulties we can work together to ensure consistency between home and kindergarten. In some cases we may request additional assistance and support from other professionals, such as an educational psychologist or a child guidance counsellor.

By positively promoting good behaviour, valuing co-operation and a caring attitude, we hope to ensure that children will develop as responsible members of society.

It is a primary aim for every member of the kindergarten to feel happy, valued and respected, and for each person to be treated fairly and well. We are a caring community with mutual trust and respect for all.

The aim of this policy is to promote good choices which lead to effective relationships so that everyone can support each other, work together and learn well. It aims to promote relationships which are happy, safe and secure. This policy aims to help children to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the group. We reward good behaviour, believing that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation.

There are two key reasons for using the language of 'choice':

- it promotes self-management of behaviour and enables some reflection of what behavioural choices exist ie there are always different behavioural options (we don't accept / expect that some children will always behave in such a way) and;
- it avoids labelling children - instead, we refer to the choices we all make and that we should always try to make good choices.

Praise is key to nurturing motivated, engaged children who make good choices and consequently build positive relationships. We aim to 'catch' good behaviour.

We offer choices and encourage children to make good choices at all times and with everybody in kindergarten. This will lead to good behaviour and good relationships and includes using positive language (including body language).

All staff in our kindergarten have high expectations of the children in terms of their relationships, choices and behaviour and work to:

- treat each child fairly and with respect and understanding
- be a positive role model by demonstrating positive relationships with everyone

- liaise with external agencies, as necessary, to support and guide the progress of each child eg discuss the needs of a child with the education social worker or LA behaviour support service
- discuss with parents about the child's social and emotional development, including behaviour and relationships.

We use 'Hand in Hand' parenting method and material to support the development of positive behaviour in our setting.