Children & inclusion

Positive behaviour: working together

Kind, consistent boundaries that help children learn and regulate their feelings.

Draft for centre review | Prepared 16 November 2026

Operational review required

This is a centre-specific draft. It must be reviewed, completed and approved before adoption. It does not confirm staff appointments, registration or arrangements that have not been supplied.

What we aim for

Children are learning how to manage feelings and relationships. Staff model kindness, listening, respect and repair, with expectations suited to each child's age, communication and development.

Agree helpful strategies with families and listen to the child. Consider tiredness, hunger, changes at home, sensory needs and communication difficulties before interpreting behaviour.

Everyday practice

Use clear explanations, predictable routines, positive attention and specific praise. Involve children in simple group agreements and explain why a boundary protects people or property.

Offer distraction, co-regulation, a quieter supported space or a different activity when needed. Never shame, humiliate, threaten or use corporal punishment. Food, drink, toileting and necessary care must never be withheld as a sanction.

Any restrictive intervention must be lawful, necessary and proportionate to preventing immediate harm, and undertaken only within staff training and approved arrangements. It is never punishment or a routine response to distress.

When more support is needed

Support and record injuries or incidents, protect each child's confidentiality and inform the appropriate parents. Significant interventions are recorded and shared promptly.

For repeated concerns, agree an individual support plan with the family and seek specialist advice where appropriate. Review inclusion and reasonable adjustments rather than assuming the child is deliberately difficult.

Centre review before adoption

Confirm the behaviour lead, staff training and approved individual-support and intervention procedures.