



Policy Name	Biting Policy
Policy Reference	7.2

Policy Statement

Biting is a common behaviour that some children go through. This is part of some children's development and can be triggered when they do not yet have the words to communicate their anger, frustration or need. At Grovelands Park Preschool we follow our positive behaviour policy to promote behaviour at all times.

Procedures

Strategies to prevent biting include; sensory activities, biting rings, adequate resources and a stimulating, exciting environment. However, in the event of a child being bitten, the following procedure will be followed:

- The child who has bitten will be comforted and checked for any visual injury. First aid will be administered where necessary. An accident form will be completed and the parents may be informed via telephone if deemed appropriate. The bitten area will be continued to be observed for signs of infection.
- For confidentiality purposes and possible conflict the name of the child who has been bitten will not be disclosed to the parents. The child who has caused the bite will be told in terms that they understand that biting (the behaviour and not the child) is unkind, and be shown that it makes staff, and the child who has been bitten sad.
- If a child continues to bite, observations will be carried out to distinguish the cause e.g. tiredness or frustration. Meetings will be held with the child's parents to develop strategies to prevent the biting behaviour. Parents will be assured that it is part of a child's development and not made to feel that it is their fault.
- In the event of a bite breaking the skin, this can present a risk of infection from bacteria. To reduce the risk of infection, prompt treatment may be needed for both the 'biter' and the 'bitten'.
- If a child or member of staff sustains a bite wound where the skin has been severely broken, they may require urgent medical attention after initial first aid is carried out.
- Where a child may repeatedly bite, and/or if they have a particular special educational need or disability that lends itself to increased biting, e.g. In some cases of where a child doesn't have the communication skills, the setting will carry out a risk assessment and may recommend immunisation with hepatitis B vaccine for all staff and provide information on hepatitis B to parents.

If you are concerned about any child's behaviour or our responses, or would like to comment on this policy then please contact our manager.

Further Guidance

- Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (DFES 2017)

Policy Review

This policy is to be reviewed regularly to comply with preschool, Government and the Learning Alliance best practices and codes of conduct.

Version Control

Policy Owner	Grovelands Park Preschool
Approved By	Grovelands Park Preschool Committee
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