



## Adventure Playground

### Behaviour Management Policy

The Adventure Playgrounds are a multi-cultural diverse setting, whereby all children and their families have equal rights in which to use our service. Children have the right to play in an environment free from discrimination, bullying, physical and verbal abuse. We believe that children flourish and develop best in an environment where there are boundaries and rules and so we have a behaviour management system in place at all 4 of our venues.

We strive to promote positive behaviour as this encourages children to make a positive contribution to society and not engage in negative behaviour, this is a way in which we can educate and help children understand the consequences of such behaviour in later life and also give staff the opportunity to support children who may be experiencing underlying issues, as this is something that should always be explored.

The Adventure Playgrounds Behaviour Policy has been developed in partnership with the children. All children, adults and staff will be expected to conduct themselves in line with this policy and promote the welfare and enjoyment of everyone using this service

The behaviour policy, rules and procedures will be applied consistently and fairly, so that children have the security of knowing that all children will be treated with equality and without discrimination.

Unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with in an appropriate manner in accordance with the Adventure Playgrounds behaviour system.

If a child behaves in an unacceptable manner (including making abusive racist or otherwise hurtful comments) it will be made clear to the child that such behaviour will not be tolerated at the Adventure Playgrounds. **Staff will make it clear that it is the behaviour and not the child that is unwelcome.**

Restricting a child's attendance is something that the playgrounds do not take lightly, and is always a last resort, however play assistants have the right to restrict access if the behaviour is abusive, physical and persistent. Parents will be contacted and a record of the behaviour will be kept on file. Parents may be invited to the playground to discuss behaviour.

All adults will behave in a manner which supports the playgrounds values, any adult that does not act in accordance with this policy, or our zero tolerance policy, could be banned from using the service.

## Procedures

By coming onto an Adventure Playground site all children and adults accept to adhere by this policy, the playgrounds rules and the Councils zero tolerance policy with regards to:

- Violent Behaviour
- Threatening Behaviour
- Swearing
- Disrespect to members of staff and the public

When unacceptable behaviour is encountered:

- Children will be encouraged to communicate and talk through their problems and apologise if appropriate.
- When necessary the child will be taken away from the situation or removed from the activity where he/ she is exhibiting the unacceptable behaviour.
- The child will be spoken to and made aware that the behaviour is not acceptable. Ensuring the child acknowledges it is their behaviour we are rejecting and not them.
- Staff will not take sides or show any favouritism and will attempt to listen to all sides of the 'argument' before taking any action.
- Any action taken will be appropriate to the age of the child/ children and the behaviour exhibited.
- Under no circumstances will physical punishment be used. Likewise verbal abuse, humiliation or frightening a child.
- If a child is displaying negative behaviour which is effecting others, they will be issued with a verbal warning, which aims to prevent any further negative behaviour and also to give the child a chance to talk about how they could have approached the situation differently.
- In the event of serious or dangerous misconduct, staff have the authority to exclude the child immediately. Consistent or extreme anti-social behaviour may result in a child being excluded from the playground for a day, one week, or longer if appropriate. This decision will be at the discretion of the Manager or Lead Assistant, and will be in-line with their playgrounds behaviour policy and procedures.
- Whenever a child is to be excluded from the playground for a week or more staff will contact the parent/carer to inform them and invite them to discuss

the matter with the Playground Manager or Lead Assistant. This way we can also be informed of anything that might be effecting the child's emotional welfare and look to support that child if appropriate

- In some cases a Behaviour Contract will be raised in partnership with parents, where we will look at putting together a set of objectives and goals which identifies areas of behaviour that need improving and work with the child to encourage positive behaviour.
- If a child returns from a ban and continues to display negative behaviour, they may be asked to leave the playground and their parents called.
- In some rare occasions where a child's behaviour is frequent and cannot be controlled or supported by staff, we may have to contact the police or speak with the council Anti-Social Behaviour team, who will work in partnership with us to resolve the situation, this may result in a permanent exclusion from the playground .

**Reviewed 20.09.2019**

**Next Review 20.09.2020**

**Signed on behalf of the playgrounds: Danny Taber & Matthew Stedman**