



**Epsom Playhouse** Pre-School

**Behaviour Policy 2020 Covid-19  
Addendum Guidance  
Early Years Educational Effectiveness  
June 2020**

## **Behaviour Policy 2020 Covid-19 Addendum Guidance**

The principles as set out in Epsom Playhouse Pre-school's Behaviour Policy remain and should continue to be followed. This addendum should not be used as a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the existing policy. It sets out the expectations of Epsom Playhouse Pre-school in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for children to behave differently when they return to setting. It describes the new systems in place and how children will be supported to adhere to them.

This addendum follows the advice and guidelines provided by the DFE.

- *Please also refer to Epsom Playhouse pre-school's Covid-19 policy for more guidance*

### **All children will be supported in the following ways:**

- Throughout the setting there will be signs/posters/visual prompts to remind children and staff of the new safety measures in place that should be followed.
- All adults will explain new routines sensitively and help children to feel safe and reassured by the rules in place.
- The new routines and expectations will be explained and repeated by the staff every day and throughout the day. This will reassure all children and particularly the most anxious.
- All adults will explain hygiene rules sensitively every day and provide gentle reminders throughout the day.
- Whilst new expectations are established, we will focus on routines, safety and well-being.
- Setting staff will pay particular regard to families and children who are classified as clinically vulnerable so that appropriate additional support is put in place to reduce anxiety as appropriate to the circumstance.

### **Support for pupils who have additional or special educational needs:**

- Children will have their individual support plan and risk assessment reviewed in light of the new circumstances.
- If there are concerns that appropriate support is not possible during this period, despite our best endeavours, a meeting will be held with parents (and relevant external professionals) to discuss next steps and what additional adaptations may be possible to ensure the child's safety.

### **Positive Touch and Physical Intervention**

There may be times when a child's behaviour requires staff to use physical intervention to ensure the child's own safety, the safety of other children and staff, or that property is not seriously damaged.

Epsom Playhouse Pre-school will be guided by the following principles in these circumstances, in line with the advice from the Surrey Accredited Training Centre:

- Given the current pandemic, staff will also need to consider the possible risk of infection if they physically intervene, contrasted with the possible risks of infection should they not intervene.
- Any decisions made should be in accordance with Public Health and Government guidelines on Covid-19.
- Advice remains firmly focused on restraint reduction. The emphasis is on de-escalation, reducing triggers, and early interventions to manage risk.
- When deciding to use restrictive interventions, any such restriction must be a last resort, reasonable, and proportionate action.
- Staff need to ensure their decisions consider the risks of doing something contrasted with the risks of doing nothing.
- Settings should continue to explore non-restrictive alternatives that maximise safety and minimise harm at the point of risk behaviour.
- At the heart of all decisions is our desire to maintain the Care, Welfare, Safety and Security of everyone, staff as well as children.

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