

Fun 4U Club

16.1 Anti-Bullying Policy

Principle

Bullying is not always easy to define as it can take many forms and can be either short term or long term. It has been defined as 'the wilful conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone. Tattum and Herbert (2000)

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all children and their families, so they can learn through play in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable

This policy can be linked to other policies, child protection, behaviour management, special needs, complaints, Equal opportunities, whistle blowing and confidentiality.

Procedures

Types of bullying

Verbal bullying	This is the most common type of bullying and it includes teasing name calling taunts and threats.
Non verbal bullying	Non verbal forms of communication include gesture (eg.A clenched fist body language and facial expression)
Physical Bullying	Physical bullying can range over a wide continuum of severity ranging from a push pinch or the form of physical assault
Exclusion Bullying	This can be heard in phrases such as "you're not playing with us". To be left out of a social group can be hurtful for children
Extortion Bullying	This may appear to be a strong word but it includes forcing someone to hand over play materials or valuables.
Missing things	Young children are sensitive about their possessions and become upset if their precious items regularly go missing.
Spoiling Bullying	Knocking down someone's work or destroying a game can be distressing.
Cyber Bullying	sending messages of intimidation and threats , posting or sharing personal images , harmful, hurtfull or dishonest information . Shring or sending any form of image or information which causes humiliation or embarassment.

Possible signs of being bullied

- Unwillingness to go to Fun 4U Club
- Visible signs of anxiety when entering certain situations
- Unexplained mood swings/becoming withdrawn at group situations
- Loss of concentration and enthusiasm when taking part in activities
- Reluctance to speak out/say what is troubling them.
- Becoming upset for no obvious reason.
- Complaining about feeling unwell.
- Toilet accidents

This is not an exhaustive list and we would encourage parents to raise with us any changes in behaviour they are concerned about in their child.

Procedure for dealing with bullying

To discourage bullying we will ensure that staff are aware of the signs of bullying and a consistent approach is used.

- Bullying is tackled through, role play and co-operative play to develop social skills.
- Quiet time alone can be a great opportunity to help deal with bullying issues within the group as this can be used as a forum for discussion in a safe and secure environment with a trusting and understanding adult. This provides children with the ability to deal with certain situations in an acceptable manner.
- Staff within the setting will monitor and evaluate the situations which occur within the group.
- Support is offered to both the child who is being bullied and the child who is bullying through building the self-esteem of both children.
- Staff have appropriate procedure for recording incidents
- Should a child become physically aggressive towards other children or staff within the setting, management will have to consider a period of exclusion, to allow the child time for careful reflection.