

STANDARD 1

– Child Protection



EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe	2.1 Respecting each other 2.2 Parents as partners	3.4 The wider context	

Standard 1.7 Biting and scratching


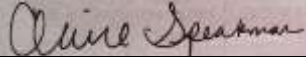
Policy Statement

Physical acts of aggression such as biting/hitting/scratching are amongst the biggest concerns voiced by parents. While its shocking when you child becomes physical, it's not unusual behaviour for children of a young age. When children are overcome with emotions such as fear, anger, frustration, or disappointment, for example because another child has a toy they want, they do not have the language to express themselves. Many children go through stages in their development that others find unacceptable. Biting and scratching, in particular, is a very unpleasant form of behaviour. Temper tantrums are another form of behaviour that most children of a similar age or developmental stage go through. Happily, just as temper tantrums eventually diminish with age so, usually, does biting.

Procedures

- We will comfort the bitten/scratched child and administer appropriate first aid.
- Explain to the biting/scratching child why it is unacceptable. Also, removing the child from the circumstances that provoked the biting/scratching for a short period of time.
- We will always inform the parents of the child that has bitten/scratched and discuss with them how they deal with such incidents if they occur outside Preschool.
- We will notify the parent of the child that has been bitten but we will not disclose the identity of the child that has bitten, as it is vital to maintain confidentiality.
- We will discuss the incident with all staff members so that the situation may be monitored.
- In some cases, where biting/scratching seems persistent it may be appropriate to enlist the help of other professionals e.g. Health Visitor to look closely at any other issues that may be causing the child to act in this way.
- It is not our policy to exclude a child for this behaviour, as it only removes the child and does not address the problem.
- We would ask that the parents/carers have their child's immunisations up to date including tetanus and hepatitis, as possible infections may occur if the bite/scratch breaks the skin.
- The bitten area should continue to be observed by parents and staff for signs of infection.

This policy was adopted by	Horsted Keynes Preschool
On	1 st October 2017
Reviewed 1st Oct 2018	<i>Alice Speakman</i> <i>C. Humphreys</i>
Reviewed 1st Oct 2019	<i>C. Humphreys</i> <i>Alice Speakman</i>
Reviewed 1st Oct 2020	
Reviewed 1st Oct 2021	
Reviewed 1st Oct 2022	

Signed on behalf of the provider	
Name of signatory & Role of signatory	Clare Humphreys Manager
Countersigned by Chair of committee	
Name of Counter signatory	Claire Speakman