**Behaviour Policy**

We believe in using a positive approach to encourage the children to behave well. We will never intimidate or physically discipline a child who is misbehaving. Alternatively, we will reward good behaviour usually with praise, stickers or using our flower pot behaviour chart or using our ‘teddy incentives’.

**Our flower pot behaviour chart consists of The Flower pot:** this is where the children begin at the start of the day. They will come into nursery find their name/ photograph and place this on the flower pot.

**The petals**: this is where the children will move to as a reward for good behaviour. Each petal has a different name such as ‘being kind’ or ‘sharing’. The children are encouraged to try and get on as many different petals as they can. If a child demonstrates challenging behaviour, then they will be placed back on the flower pot. This gives the child a chance to work hard to get back onto the petals before the end of the day. **Teddy incentives** are also used to promote good behaviour, the children can take home various different teddies such as ‘sharing shark’ ‘kind koala’ ‘respectful rhino’ for good behaviour.

If consequences are needed for challenging behaviour, then depending on the age of the child and the situation, the following procedure will be put in place:

* Redirecting the child away from the problem to an alternative activity/toy
* Moving the child off the petals (on our behaviour chart) and encouraging & motivating the child to demonstrate good behaviour to get back on the petals.
* Sitting with the child away from others, giving the child a chance to cool down before returning to play. Sometimes children just need time to calm down, before you can talk to them about their behaviour. This may mean leaving the child to tantrum safely, while looking out for signs that they are ready to talk. Some children may need an adult to help them calm down with a cuddle. Once the child is calm, we will then talk to them about the situation and help them understand what better choices they could have made. We have behaviour picture books to help start these conversations.

Children are eager to please and soon settle in with the rules and boundaries we set. However, if a child is constantly misbehaving, we will talk this over with their parents/carers and meetings can be arranged to discuss the matter further. A behaviour record will be started to monitor the child to see if we can discover any patterns or triggers that’s causing the child’s behaviour.

We take biting very seriously and understand how devastating this can be for the child/family who is on the receiving end. However, we also empathise with the child who is going through this common stage and understand how upsetting it can be for their parents too. If we are aware that a certain child is going through this stage, then we will do our utmost to resolve the situation. If a child continues to be severely disruptive and this is having a negative effect on the other children and members of staff, then we have the right to terminate the child’s contact. Having said this, we will always do our best to help the child and their family.