

Positive Behavior

The Boom Active team believe that children flourish best when they know how they and others are expected to behave. Children gain respect through interaction with caring adults who act as good role models, show them respect and value their individual personalities. The club encourages and praises positive, caring and polite behavior at all times and provides an environment where children learn to respect themselves, other people and their surroundings.

Children need to have set boundaries of behavior for their own safety and the safety of their peers. Within the Boom Active Holiday Programmes and we aim to set these boundaries in a way which helps the child to develop a sense of significance of their own behavior, within their own environment and that of others around them.

Our Boom Active rules are concerned with safety, care and respect for each other.

We aim to:

- Recognise the individuality of all our children and that some behaviors are normal in young children
- Encourage self-discipline, consideration for each other, our surroundings and property
- Encourage children to participate in a wide range of group activities to enable them to develop their social skills
- Ensure that all staff act as positive role models for children
- Encourage parents and other visitors to be positive role models and challenge any poor behavior shown
- Work in partnership with parents by communicating openly
- Praise children and acknowledge their positive actions and attitudes, therefore ensuring that children see that we value and respect them
- Encourage all staff working with children to accept their responsibility for implementing the goals in this policy and to be consistent
- Promote non-violence and encourage children to deal with conflict peacefully
- Provide a key person system, enabling staff to build a strong and positive relationship with children and their families
- Provide activities and to help children learn about accepted behaviors, including opportunities for children to contribute to decisions about accepted behavior where age/stage appropriate
- The Director has overall responsibility for behavior management.

The Director:

- Advise other staff on behavior issues
- Will keep up to date with legislation and research
- Support changes to policies and procedures in the programme
- Access relevant sources of expertise where required and act as a central information source for all involved
- Attend regular external training events, and ensure all staff attend relevant in-house or external training for behavior management. Keep a record of staff attendance at this training.

Children who behave inappropriately, for example by physically abusing another child or adult e.g. biting, or through verbal bullying, are helped to talk through their actions and apologies where appropriate. We make sure that the child who has been upset is comforted and the adult will confirm that the other child's behavior is not acceptable. We always acknowledge when a child is feeling angry or upset and that it is the behavior that is not acceptable, not the child.

If the child does not moderate their behavior, parents will be required to collect their child with immediate effect and no refund will be given. This is done to ensure the ongoing enjoyment of children at our programmes.

When children behave in unacceptable ways:

- We never use or threaten to use physical punishment/corporal punishment such as smacking or shaking
- We only use physical intervention for the purpose of averting immediate danger or personal injury to any person (including the child) or to manage a child's behavior if absolutely necessary. We keep a record of any occasions where physical intervention is used and inform parents on the same day, or as reasonably practicable
- We do not single out children or humiliate them in any way. Where children use unacceptable behavior they will, wherever possible, be re-directed to alternative activities. Discussions with children will take place as to why their behavior was not acceptable, respecting their level of understanding and maturity
- Staff will not raise their voices (other than to keep children safe)
- In any case of misbehavior, we always make it clear to the child or children in question, that it is the behavior and not the child that is unwelcome
- We decide how to handle a particular type of behavior depending on the child's age, level of development and the circumstances surrounding the behavior. This may involve asking the child to talk and think about what he/she has done. All staff support children in developing empathy and children will only be asked to apologise if they have developed strong empathy skills and have a good understanding of why saying sorry is appropriate
- We help staff to reflect on their own responses towards challenging behaviors to ensure that their reactions are appropriate
- We support children in developing non-aggressive strategies to enable them to express their feelings
- We keep confidential records on any inappropriate behavior that has taken