

CHILDREN'S CODE OF BEHAVIOUR



Dear GOSH Families,

Here at GOSH we are committed to providing a safe, caring and supportive environment for all the children in our care. We feel that in a shared care environment it is important to respect and value each child's uniqueness, but also to ensure that all children feel secure, confident and protected.

Along with a focus on positive behaviour, it is the values and expectations at GOSH that help us to do this.

We wish to work with families to create a positive environment where children are comfortable to express their feelings and ideas, and also feel supported to manage their own behaviour, respond to the behaviour of others and to effectively resolve conflicts.

Each centre has a rewards program to encourage positive behaviour and to recognise children's contributions to the GOSH community and their peers.

However for the times when we encounter behaviour at GOSH which is inappropriate and unacceptable we also have a behaviour management system that encourages children to take responsibility for their actions and gives them the opportunity to reflect upon and change their behaviour.

We ask that families read through the expectations and values below and the documentation over the page regarding our behavior management card system and discuss it with their children.

GOSH EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES:

- **Be kind, caring and honest** – We will always be kind and caring towards our peers and staff and we will look after each other.
- **Show respect** – We will show respect to carers, peers and the equipment and environment at GOSH.
- **Listen** – We will listen to our peers and carers and follow instructions the first time.
- **Be sun safe** – We will remember to wear our hats and apply sunscreen.
- **Make sure everyone is included** – We will allow everyone to be included and will listen to everyone's ideas and opinions.
- **Keep GOSH clean and tidy** – We will always tidy up after ourselves and help to keep GOSH neat.
- **Share our feelings** – We will use our words to share our feelings, especially if we are upset or angry.
- **Think before we act** – We will be adventurous but cautious and make sure that we aren't being dangerous.
- **Try our best** – We will make an effort to have fun and get involved.
- **Not hurt others** – We will not hurt anyone, with our hands, our feet or with our words.

Our hope is that with the support of families, and an understanding of the guidelines and consequences at GOSH, that we will be able to encourage children to make the right decisions for themselves and for those around them.

Kindest Regards,

Team GOSH

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT CARD SYSTEM EXPLAINED



AIMS:

- To support children in their social development and encourage mutual respect, empathy and consideration of others
- To foster an environment where children feel safe, comfortable and supported
- To give children consistent clear boundaries that relate to appropriate consequences
- To encourage children to take increasing responsibility for their decisions and behaviour
- To use these incidents as learning experiences for ongoing and future social and emotional development

Step 1: Verbal Reminder

Children are reminded of GOSH expectations, disruptive behaviour is diverted to more positive activities. Discussion will take place with carer if required to talk about the situation or problem.

Step 2: Thinking Time

If a child disregards a verbal reminder and continues to engage in disruptive, dangerous or disrespectful behaviour a staff member may take them aside for an age appropriate amount of "thinking time". During this time the child will be asked to consider their behaviour, why it is negative and how they may change it. This is also a time for them to share their feelings with staff if there is something upsetting them.

Step 3: Card System

Yellow Card

If a reminder and 'thinking time' have been disregarded or if behaviour is consistently difficult, unsafe or aggressive, the following strategies may be employed:

- The behaviour or incidents are documented via a yellow card, which is to be discussed and signed by the parent and child.
Reflection time - the child is removed from the group or audience for a short period. They are given reflection time and asked to consider behaviour and what to do about it.
- Children may be restricted to an area of play for rest of the session to allow staff to monitor behavior.
- The parent is approached for an informal discussion, or a formal interview.

Orange Card

Verbal reminder (for those who have already received a yellow card with reference given to the next step of the orange card)

Orange Card notification is intended for increasingly difficult follow on behaviour deemed unsuitable or dangerous.

- The behaviour or incidents are document via a Orange card which is discussed with the coordinator and requires a parent & child signature
- Time out is given appropriate for age group. At this time a senior member of the team will take the time to discuss the issue with the child and reflect on the impact it is having on the people around them and talk about how we can make better decisions.
- Children may be restricted to an area of play for the rest of the session.
- Parents are approached for informal discussion or formal discussion if deemed necessary with reference given to the next step of the Red Card.

Red Card

A Red Card is the third and final step in this process whereby a red card is given and parents are phoned to notify and ask to come into the centre for a formal discussion.

An instant red card may be distributed by management for children who display behaviours that are deemed by the staff to be extremely unsafe or dangerous.

- First Red Card** – Child is excluded from the centre for their next booking day and a meeting arranged with parent to discuss the behaviour and notify of consequences of subsequent red cards
- Second Red Card** – Child is excluded from the centre for a week or a period deemed suitable, another meeting arranged with parent to discuss concerns about behaviour and notify of consequences of subsequent red cards
- Third Red Card** – Child is excluded from the centre indefinitely and a meeting held with parents (and school principal if required/suitable) to discuss ongoing care options for their child



Children's Behaviour Management Contract

(To be completed by child with the help of a parent/guardian)

We believe that GOSH should be a fun place where children can come and feel secure, are able to express their feelings and have the right to be themselves. It should be a place where people and their ideas will be respected and ideas can be shared. It will be a place of kindness and fairness.

The guidelines below will help us to ensure that GOSH is all that we need it to be.

Please read with your parent/guardian and if you agree please tick the box:

- I understand that it is necessary for GOSH to have values and expectations for the safety and security of all children & staff.
- I understand unacceptable behaviour includes:
 - o Consistently going in out of bounds areas
 - o Aggressive or disrespectful behaviour towards children or staff (both physical or verbal)
 - o Consistently breaking the rules
 - o Being destructive and disrespectful to GOSH equipment or other peoples personal belongings
- I agree to be guided by GOSH values and expectations and will try to provide a good example for my friends and other students.
- Even though I will try my best I understand that GOSH staff don't expect me to be perfect and that it is ok for me to make mistakes and the staff will help me to work through them.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____ Print or Sign: _____
Child's Name: _____ Class: _____ Print or Sign: _____
Child's Name: _____ Class: _____ Print or Sign: _____
Child's Name: _____ Class: _____ Print or Sign: _____

I/we have read through the Code of Behaviour document and discussed it with my/our children.

Parent Sign: _____ Date: _____