



St Mary's Nursery School

• Principal: Mrs Sinéad Markey MEd •

St. Mary's Nursery School Promoting Positive Behaviour Statement

The Golden Rules in our school are:



It is our intention to work with parents to promote a safe and secure environment in the Nursery where children can play and learn free from harm. Parents and staff (including temporary staff and students) will be given a copy of the school's Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy. Behaviour Management in the school will be in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the EA Psychology Department. All staff are trained in conflict resolution in the Nursery and follow an agreed policy on resolving conflict.

We will encourage Positive Behaviour by -

1. Modelling appropriate behaviour; ensuring the children see and hear us displaying good manners to each other as adults; ensuring they hear us saying please and thank-you.
2. Praising and highlighting appropriate behaviour; catching the children being good and commenting on it; keeping sentences short and precise. (Overloading with long sentences means the child will only hear and retain the last part.)
3. Actively talking and listening to the child.
4. Playing with and alongside the child.
5. Promoting the development of Early Literacy through our Language Policy.
6. Teaching the children to be both assertive and co-operative.

The staff will endeavour to promote a consistency of approach that is both fair and firm. We will include the parents in our policy by keeping them informed and involving them fully in the life of the school.

Dealing with inappropriate behaviour

The staff will look out for early triggers or warning signs that inappropriate behaviour is imminent. We will alert other staff members and attempt the following de-escalation strategies.

1. Interruption
2. Distraction
3. Redirection
4. Ignore
5. Humour
6. Remove

Strategies for Conflict Resolution - adopted in St Mary's Nursery School

Everyone's feelings should be respected.

Children are learning -

- The language of social interaction
- To respect different opinions
- To express their feelings
- To respect the feelings of others

Strategies for Conflict Resolution - adopted in St Mary's Nursery School

Approach calmly

Acknowledge feelings

Gather information

Restate the problem

Ask for ideas for a solution

Give follow-up support

Conflict Resolution in the Nursery

What children learn from resolving conflict.

- Their self-esteem is supported by the win-win approach.
- It is OK to have a variety of feelings including anger, but to express feelings appropriately.
- Children acquire a feelings vocabulary. Acknowledging feelings helps children to calm down.
- Other children also have feelings and wants.
- Problems can be talked about and sorted out.
- Adults are supportive, helpful and trustworthy.
- It builds relationships between children.
- Children can become independent problem solvers if they see the process modelled over and over again.
- Children learn to be assertive and not aggressive.
- Timid or passive children can also learn to be assertive.
- The process helps children to become resourceful, socially adept and emotionally resilient.

Safeguarding our Children Policy Statement (Child Protection)

It is the policy of the staff of St Mary's Nursery School to safeguard the welfare of children by protecting them from all types of harm.

At St Mary's we shall ensure that:

- All staff and parent volunteers have completed relevant vetting procedures before taking up post or working with children in St Mary's Nursery School.
- Our Designated Child Protection Officer is Mrs Markey and the Deputy Designated Child Protection Officer is Mrs Friel in Mrs Markey's absence. Both Mrs Markey and Mrs Friel have undertaken the appropriate training and update this as needed.
- Strict procedures are set up and followed with regard to -
 - Toileting
 - Arrival and departure
 - Story time
 - Outdoor activities
 - School trips.

- Strict procedures with regard to reporting and recording of suspected harm are adhered to. Any concerns should initially be directed to Mrs Markey, our Designated Teacher for child protection.
- Parents are made aware of our procedures - initially at the Parents Meeting in May, after which a full copy of our Child Protection Policy is available on request, or alternatively, policies are available for download on our school website

Intimate Care Policy

All children have the right to be safe and to be treated with dignity. These guidelines are designed to safeguard children and staff. They apply to every member of staff involved with the intimate care of children at St Mary's Nursery School

Principles of Intimate Care

The following are the fundamental principles upon which this policy and guideline are based:

- Every child has a right to be safe
 - Every child has the right to personal privacy (as far as possible)
 - Every child has the right to be valued as an individual
 - Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and respect
 - Every child has the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities
 - Every child has the right to express their views on their own intimate care and to have such views taken into account (where appropriate)
 - Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.
1. ***Involve the child in their intimate care.*** Try to encourage a child's independence as far as possible in his/her intimate care. Where the child is fully dependent talk with him/her about what task you are going to do.
 2. ***Treat every child with dignity and respect and ensure privacy appropriate to the child's age and situation.*** Intimate care of a child may be carried out in a one-to-one manner, however, staff will always make another staff member is aware of the task being undertaken.

3. ***Make sure practice in intimate care is consistent.*** A consistent approach to intimate care is essential
4. ***Be aware of own limitations.*** Staff only carry out intimate care activities that they understand and feel competent to carry out. If any staff member is in doubt - **ask the Principal.**
5. ***Promote positive self-esteem and body image.*** We recognise that confident, self assured children are less vulnerable to sexual abuse. The approach St Mary's Nursery School staff take to intimate care can convey lots of messages to a child about their body worth. Routine intimate care of the child should be relaxed, enjoyable and fun.

Anti-Bullying Policy

It is intended that the Anti-Bullying Policy in place within our school should be implemented hand in hand with our Safeguarding (Child protection), Pastoral Care and Promoting Positive Behaviour policies.

It is the policy of St Mary's Nursery School that all pupils, staff, parents and students be protected from any forms of bullying whilst in attendance or working for the school.

As a staff, we have defined bullying as any unwanted or unwelcome behaviour towards any person.

Incidents which occurs between children

Examples which might be seen in relation to children within the Nursery school include:

- The persistent hitting of a child
- Taking things off a child
- Encroaching on a child's space
- Destroying creations
- Preventing child from moving

Staff deal with any such incidents in accordance with our Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy.