



## Biting policy and procedures

### Rationale

At Selsdon Park Pre-School we understand that biting can be an uncomfortable subject for parents of both the perpetrator and the child who has been bitten. At Selsdon Park Pre-School we will take all incidents of biting seriously and deal with the issues sensitively and by following this policy and procedures.

### Implementation of policy

At Selsdon park Pre-School we will deal with incidents of biting by implementing the following procedures.

- We will discuss any concerns about a child biting with their parent or carer immediately. Parents are encouraged to discuss any issues they may have regarding this issue with their child's keyworker.
- The Pre-School respectfully asks parents to inform the pre-school if they are aware their child is prone to biting other children.
- The pre-school understands that children bite for a range of reasons and is often a sign of an underlying medical issue or frustration and children exploring their mouth.
- At Selsdon park we will work with you and your child to establish the reasons and what triggers the biting and deal with underlying reasons.
- The Pre-school will adopt a range of strategies to try and prevent biting which could involve, one to one attention, changing routines or purchasing teething rings.
- At Selsdon Park staff members will ensure that if a child is bitten they receive immediate first aid and comforted until they are ready to return to play. Staff members will ensure that any first aid is applied correctly if required and the incident will be recorded on an incident report log sheet and copied to the parents or carers concerned.
- If your child is the perpetrator of the biting they will be removed from the situation. A member of staff will explain to them if appropriate and understanding that biting is unacceptable behaviour.
- Children may need to be excluded from an activity by using the "time out" strategy until they are calm enough to return to the session. Children will be encouraged to apologise to the child they have bitten.
- Biting is a stage most children go through and is normal behaviour in a child's development. Selsdon Park Pre-School will never demonise children who bite and will take all the necessary steps to rectify this behaviour.

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To be reviewed: 27.01.18