



Behaviour Management Policy

Introduction

Taunton Home Education aims to create a safe, fun and friendly environment for all children and parents that attend our events/meets ups or classes. We aim to celebrate and encourage the diversity within our community, and encourage positive and kind treatment of each other. We encourage open communication and positive resolution if difficult behaviours occur, promoting positive friendships and respectful interactions.

This policy outlines our expectations of parents and children in terms of how we behave towards each other and emphasises parents' responsibility to supervise their own children. It also describes what action we will take when behaviour by children or adults is considered unacceptable to the group.

Behaviour Code and Procedures

How we behave towards each other

We **all** need to:-

- Treat each other with courtesy, respect and kindness.
- Avoid discriminatory language towards others and discriminatory treatment of each other and respect our different identities (in line with our Equality Policy).
- Take care of each other's things and not damage other people's belongings.
- Refrain from threatening or using physical aggression or doing anything that would compromise someone else's safety.

For parents this also means we also need to be mindful of our language and the appropriateness of the topics of our conversations at classes and events when there are young children present.

For children these expectations are summarised on our **'Staying Safe and Happy'** posters which are clearly displayed at all events. Note the wording of the posters is tailored to be as relevant and clear as possible for the children:

DO

- Talk politely to each other
- Listen to each other
- Respect each other's differences
- Be kind and helpful

DON'T

- Don't pick on anyone or call them names
- Take or damage other people's things.
- Hurt anyone or threaten to hurt anyone – whether that's hitting, kicking, biting or anything else. This is never OK.
- Run in the kitchen or where babies are playing

The message to kids is: If you don't feel safe and happy or start feeling angry/overwhelmed you need to get help from a grown-up who you trust.

Parental Responsibility

Parents/carers are responsible for the children in their care **at all times**. This means you are responsible for making sure your child is safe and acts safely and respectfully towards others at all times.

In particular, please maintain **active** supervision of your own small children. Don't let your toddlers out of your sight and especially do not let them wander outside on their own. It is also inadvisable to leave babies and small children for any length of time in your car unsupervised.

If you want your child to attend but are unable to yourself you can approach another parent to be in 'loco parentis' in which case this rule applies to them and they are expected to exercise the same level of care, skill and supervision as they would for their own children. Please make sure the person acting in loco parentis is aware of any specific needs or issues that affect your child's welfare, behaviour or safety and feels confident in managing any potential problems. Please also make sure any tutors for classes your child attends are aware of any particular

needs or issues your child has in advance so they can support them appropriately.

When difficult behaviour occurs - children

- In the first instance it is always better for the children to try to resolve matters themselves with adult supervision if needed. However aggressive behaviour is not acceptable so parents are asked to remove their child from the situation if this happens, to protect others.
- The parents are then encouraged to discuss things with each other and the children to try to understand how this can be avoided next time
- If the behaviour is serious enough or is part of a pattern of behaviour that is concerning, parents should refer the situation to a member of the committee who may hold wider information about the situation.
- The family will then be asked to a meeting to discuss the behaviour and steps that can be taken to improve this. If no positive solution is possible, they may be asked to take a break from group activities until problematic behaviours have improved.
- If, after following these steps, the behaviour is still not improving, the committee has the right to terminate membership to protect the safety of the other children.

Unacceptable behaviour in adults

If anyone is uncomfortable with, or feels bullied or intimidated by, another adult's behaviour, they should talk to a committee member if they feel unable to address this directly to the person involved.

The committee will then speak to the adult concerned to discuss their behaviour and try to positively resolve matters. If this is not possible, the member will be asked to take a break from the group and to reflect. If after a break, this behaviour has still not improved, the committee reserves the right to terminate their membership in order to protect the group.

This document will be reviewed and updated at the annual general meeting each year.