

Biting is a common behaviour that some young children go through. This is part of some children's development and can be triggered when they do not yet have the words to communicate their anger, frustration or need. In Roedean Moira House Nursery, we follow our positive behaviour policy to promote positive behaviour at all times.

The nursery uses the following strategies to prevent biting: sensory activities, biting rings, adequate resources and staff who recognise when children need more stimulation or quiet times. However, in the event of a child being bitten the following procedures will be followed:

- The child who has been bitten will be comforted and checked for any visual injury.
- First aid will be administered where necessary.
- An accident form will be completed and the parents may be informed via telephone if deemed appropriate.
- The bitten area will continue to be observed for signs of infection.

For confidentiality purposes and possible conflict the name of the child who has caused the bite will not be disclosed to the parents.

The child who has caused the bite will be told in terms that they understand that biting (the behaviour and not the child) is unkind and will be shown that it makes staff and the child who has been bitten sad. The child will be asked to say sorry if developmentally appropriate or develop their empathy skills by giving the child who has been bitten a favourite book or comforter. An incident form will be completed and shared with the parents at the end of the child's session.

If a child continues to bite, observations will be carried out to try to distinguish a cause, e.g. tiredness or frustration. Meetings will be held with the child's parents to develop strategies to prevent the biting behaviour. Parents will be reassured that it is part of a child's development and not made to feel that it is their fault.

In the event of a bite breaking the skin and to reduce the risk of infection from bacteria, prompt treatment may be needed for both the child who has bitten and the child who had been bitten.

Where a child may repeatedly bite and/or if they have a particular special educational need or disability that lends itself to increased biting, e.g. in some cases of autism where a child does not have the communication skills, the setting will carry out a risk assessment.

Related policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:

Employee Handbook
Staff Handbook
Code of Conduct for Employees
Health Safety Handbook
Boarding Staff Handbook
National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools
ISI Handbook for the Inspection of Schools, Regulatory Requirements
Teachers' Standards
Departmental Handbook
Keeping Children Safe in Education
Safeguarding Policy



ROEDEAN MOIRA HOUSE NURSERY - BITING POLICY 2018-2019

Nursery Policies
Complaints Policy (Parents)
Complaints Policy (Pupils)

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL: May 2018

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: June 2018

NEXT REVIEW: May 2019