

Physical Contact Policy

We are aware that each child has different needs, and that it is normal and healthy for children to express affection with their peers. Some children like to be affectionate and show it through hugs, kisses etc.. whilst others are not so tactile.

We deliver the NSPCC “Pants” guidance for children as soon as they are able to understand. We will have to respect the wishes of older children who can verbalise that they do not wish to be aided during toileting. If we suspect a child has had a toileting accident and they are of an age where they have insisted they do not want us investigating (by checking in their pants) then we will have to call you to collect them immediately. This scenario is something you may wish to discuss with your child, so they know how to manage this kind of issue with us as their carers. As childcare professionals we must respect the child’s right to privacy. Especially since we are highlighting and advocating the “Talk Pants and stay safe” programme.

We will restrain a child only if they are at risk of inflicting harm on themselves or others. We will separate children if they are harming one another, or if they try to run into the road when we are out. If we have cause to restrain your child we will record it in the incident book and ask you to sign for our records; this is to protect all parties involved.

We will need to have physical contact with your child to ensure they receive the best possible personal hygiene care we can give. This applies to younger children who either are still in nappies or still needing help with toileting. This may include any of the following – face and hand washing, assisting with bathroom duties appropriate to the child’s stage, nappy changing, examining rashes or unusual marks, nose blowing, assisting them to change clothes if required, administering first aid, applying creams or medication or any situation where they ask for help or require help.