

## **OSCAR programmes Rules and Boundaries:**

New children are informed about acceptable behaviour regarding others and equipment (and reminders are given to our regulars!) e.g. sharing, manners, respect, no swearing, no hitting etc., as well as the physical spaces they are allowed to play in.

The OSCAR programmes are designed to meet the recreational and social needs of children. At least two paid workers oversee the supervision of the children, as it is their safety that is of the utmost importance to us. We place great emphasis on the safety of individuals on our programmes.

We advocate that the child should want to be at the Programme and we make every effort to keep them at the Programme short of physical restraint. However, if a child decides to leave, we try and contact a parent/caregiver or emergency person. We cannot be held responsible for the safety of a child who decides to leave the programme, although we will still continue to try and contact the parent/caregiver at all costs.

## **Unacceptable Behaviour from a Child:**

As the child's well-being is paramount, we have a procedure in place for behaviours which are not acceptable –

1. **Severe unacceptable behaviour:** Behaviours which are abusive, aggressive and/or a danger to the child's own self or to others (e.g. fighting, bullying, malicious damage to property etc.).

Non-compliance and defiance are classified here as well.

These behaviours may warrant the supervisor taking immediate action and informing the parent to uplift their child. Until the parent arrives, the child needs to remain under supervision. If the parent is unavailable, the emergency contact will be informed and requested to uplift the child.

2. **General Misbehaviour:** (e.g. swearing, rudeness to staff and/or other children, disrupting the programme's routines, defiance and non-compliance to requests and/or instructions from staff etc.).

## **The WDP 'Stepping' System:**

**Step 1:** A staff member will explain why the child's behaviour is not appropriate and what will happen if it continues. The aim is to encourage self-responsibility and facilitate the process to put things right.

**Step 2:** A staff member will explain why time out is being used and/or removal from an activity. When using these consequences, the child's age and developmental factors will be considered.

**Step 3:** Contact is made with the parent/caregiver and perhaps the uplifting of the child (at the supervisor's discretion) may be appropriate. A discussion will take place with the parent/caregiver and child about the behaviours and consequences from that point on (e.g. 'help' reminder cards, a behaviour contract, and in extreme circumstances, withdrawal from the programme for a period of time etc).

In certain circumstances we reserve the right to refuse a child/young person entry to the programme. This is at the programme and Manager's discretion.