



Biting Avoidance policy

Policy Statement

Many children go through a stage of biting. It doesn't last forever so don't be distressed if your child happens to show this sort of behaviour. If you are aware of your child biting others, please inform me of this before they start at my setting so I am prepared for any incidents that may occur. If your child suddenly starts biting when they are already attending my setting, please also let me know straight away so we can work on addressing the issue together.

Children can bite for a variety of reasons. Some of the reasons could be because they are:

- Teething.
- Frustrated or upset.
- Bored or under stimulated.
- Exploring using their mouth.
- Asserting their independence.
- Wanting to gain control.
- Wanting to gain attention.

Procedures (how I will put the statement into practice)

If your child is biting others, I will work with you to observe your child to see if certain conditions or situations trigger this behaviour. We can then work together to try to avoid the incidents occurring. This may involve altering the child's routine, giving them more one-to-one attention or purchasing additional resources so sharing is not such a major issue. If it is because a child is teething, suitable teething resources should be provided by you.

If your child does bite, I will explain to them using appropriate language and/or gestures that this is unacceptable behaviour. It may be necessary for me to remove the child from an activity until they are calm enough to return. I will also encourage the child to think about how they could comfort the child they have bitten and apologise if they choose to do so. I will ensure that the child who has been bitten is comforted and reassured and ensure that any first aid is given if required. I will record any incidents and ask that parents / carers acknowledge that they have received a copy of my report.

Biting can be a difficult issue for parents / carers of both the child who has been bitten, and of the child biting others. Please do discuss any concerns you may have regarding this issue with me.



Please ensure you have read and understand the Biting Avoidance policy and procedure.

All policies and procedures are reviewed regularly and updated when necessary.

This policy and procedure has been development in line with the EYFS welfare requirements and Ofsted guidance, and outlines the provider's responsibility to take all necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This policy and procedure has been written by **Miss Caitlin Smith**, the Ofsted-registered childminder responsible for the care of children at **The Flower Cottage**, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 7TQ.

THE FLOWER COTTAGE