Behaviour Policy

Business name: Playtivity
Type of provision: Children's STEAM clubs (Saturday sessions and holiday clubs)
Age range: 5–11 years
Location: Frank Jordan Community Centre, Stone, Staffordshire
Policy owner: Playtivity
Date of policy: July 2026
Review date: July 2027

Behaviour Policy

Purpose

At Playtivity, our aim is to provide a safe, welcoming and inspiring environment where every child feels valued, included and excited to learn.

This policy outlines how we encourage positive behaviour, support children to make good choices and respond appropriately when behaviour becomes challenging or unsafe.

Our approach is based on positive relationships, engaging experiences and clear expectations, rather than punishment. We believe children thrive when they feel respected, understood and actively involved in meaningful learning.

Our Behaviour Philosophy – The Playtivity Way

At Playtivity, we believe behaviour is strongly influenced by the environment we create.

Children behave best when they:

- feel safe
- feel valued
- know what is expected

- are actively engaged
- experience success
- have positive relationships with adults.

Our sessions are carefully designed to be exciting, hands-on and highly engaging. We believe that children who are inspired by what they are doing are naturally more focused, motivated and cooperative.

Our first response to behaviour is always engagement.

Rather than relying on sanctions, we seek to capture children's curiosity through practical STEAM activities that encourage creativity, teamwork, resilience and problem solving.

We encourage every child to follow The Playtivity Way.

These expectations are shared at the start of every session and reinforced throughout the day by all members of staff.



Encouraging Positive Behaviour

Positive behaviour is actively encouraged throughout every Playtivity session.

We do this by:

Providing engaging experiences

Every activity is carefully planned to capture children's interest through exciting challenges, investigations, creativity and exploration.

Busy minds and busy hands leave little room for unwanted behaviour.

Building positive relationships

Our staff will:

- greet every child warmly
- learn children's names
- show genuine interest in children's ideas
- encourage participation
- model kindness, patience and respect
- celebrate effort as well as achievement.

Using positive reinforcement

Staff will regularly acknowledge and praise:

- kindness
- teamwork
- perseverance
- creativity
- resilience
- safe choices
- helping others
- problem solving.

Positive reinforcement may include:

- verbal praise
- certificates and stickers
- celebrating achievements with the group
- giving children responsibility
- positive feedback to parents at collection.

Staff are asked to follow the Playtivity Behaviour Reset Ladder:

Playtivity
PLAY • LEARN • DISCOVER

THE PLAYTIVITY RESET LADDER

Our aim is always to keep children engaged, learning and enjoying themselves.
We follow this ladder calmly and consistently to support positive behaviour.
Safety is always our highest priority.

1 ENGAGE

Prevent behaviour before it starts.

Keep children interested, involved and successful.

- Build relationships
- Give meaningful roles
- Praise effort
- Keep activities moving
- Notice and support early

EXAMPLES

"Come and help me with this experiment."

"Can you be today's Materials Manager?"

"I love how you've started thinking like an engineer."

AIM
Prevent behaviour

2 REDIRECT

Gently guide the child back to the activity.

Focus on something positive.

- Move closer
- Offer a different role
- Change partners
- Give a simple instruction
- Offer limited choices

EXAMPLES

"Let's see if you can solve this challenge with me."

- "Would you like to build this part or test it?"

AIM
Refocus attention

3 REMIND

Give a calm reminder of expectations.

Be calm, respectful, brief and private where possible.

Refer back to:

- Be Kind
- Be Safe
- Be Curious
- Be Respectful
- Have Fun

EXAMPLES

- "Remember, our job is to keep everyone safe."
- "Scissors are for making, not waving."
- "I need you to make a safe choice."

AIM
Encourage good choices

4 REFLECT

Give the child time to reset.

A short, supervised break to help regulate emotions. Not a punishment.

- Stay calm
- Supervise
- Talk briefly
- Agree how to return successfully

EXAMPLES

- What happened?
- What were you trying to do?
- Was it safe?
- What could you do differently?
- Are you ready to rejoin?

AIM
Regulate emotions

5 REMOVE FROM ACTIVITY

If behaviour becomes unsafe.

Staff may stop the activity, remove equipment or remove the child from the activity.

- Close adult supervision
- Reduce immediate risk
- Return when it is safe to do so

EXAMPLES

When a child is:

- Unsafe
- Misusing equipment
- Aggressive
- Refusing safety instructions

AIM
Protect safety

6 PARENT DISCUSSION

If behaviour is serious, repeated or unsafe.

We will inform parents and work together on next steps.

- Calm
- Factual
- Respectful
- Solution-focused

DISCUSS

- What happened
- Strategies used
- How the child responded
- Agreed next steps

AIM
Work together for success

IMMEDIATE ACTION (SKIP THE LADDER)

Some behaviours require immediate action.

Staff may move straight to Step 5 to keep everyone safe.

- Physical aggression
- Hurtful behaviour
- Running away from supervision
- Unsafe use of science equipment
- Misuse of tools or resources
- Serious bullying or threats

Our goal is always the same: to help every child feel safe, included and ready to learn.

Supporting Challenging Behaviour

We recognise that all children occasionally struggle to regulate their emotions or behaviour. Behaviour is often a form of communication, and our first response is always to understand what may be causing the behaviour before deciding how best to respond.

Where appropriate, staff will:

- use calm verbal reminders
- redirect the child to another activity
- offer choices
- provide encouragement
- reduce distractions
- allow time to regulate emotions
- speak privately with the child
- adapt activities where appropriate.

Playtivity welcomes children of all backgrounds and abilities.

We recognise that some children, including those with SEND, neurodivergence or additional emotional needs, may require different approaches or reasonable adjustments to help them participate successfully. This links with our Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & SEND Policy.

Serious Behaviour Incidents

The safety and wellbeing of every child and member of staff is our highest priority.

While we encourage positive behaviour through engagement and encouragement, there are occasions where immediate intervention is necessary.

Examples of serious or unsafe behaviour include, but are not limited to:

- deliberately hurting another child or adult
- aggressive or threatening behaviour
- bullying or intimidation
- discriminatory language or behaviour
- throwing equipment
- deliberately damaging equipment or property
- refusing to follow essential safety instructions
- running away from supervision
- behaviour that places themselves or others at risk.

Because Playtivity regularly uses science investigations, engineering equipment, construction materials, scissors, crafting tools, electrical components and other specialist resources, children **must** follow staff safety instructions immediately.

If a child's behaviour creates an unsafe situation, staff may:

- stop the activity immediately
- remove equipment
- remove the child from the activity
- provide a period of supervised reflection
- contact parents to collect their child early if necessary.

These actions are taken to protect everyone's safety and are not intended as punishment.

Any significant behaviour incident will be recorded.

Where behaviour raises safeguarding concerns, staff will follow Playtivity's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Working with Parents

Playtivity believes that positive partnerships with parents provide the best outcomes for children.

Where concerns arise, we will communicate with parents promptly, calmly and respectfully.

Discussions will focus on:

- what happened
- strategies already used
- understanding any underlying factors
- agreeing ways to support the child moving forward.

Parents will always be informed if:

- their child has been involved in a serious behaviour incident
- their child has been removed from an activity for safety reasons
- early collection has been necessary
- further support or monitoring is required.

Our aim is always to work collaboratively with families to help children succeed.

Suspension or Withdrawal from Sessions

Suspension or permanent withdrawal from Playtivity sessions is considered a last resort.

However, Playtivity reserves the right to suspend or withdraw a child where their behaviour:

- presents an ongoing risk to themselves
- places other children at risk
- places staff at risk
- repeatedly prevents sessions from operating safely
- involves serious aggression or violence
- involves deliberate misuse of equipment
- continues despite appropriate support and intervention.

Where possible, concerns will be discussed with parents before this stage is reached. In exceptional circumstances where there is an immediate risk to the safety of others, parents may be asked to collect their child immediately.

Playtivity reserves the right to refuse future bookings where it is unable to provide a safe environment for all children attending.

Where a child is asked to leave a session due to serious or unsafe behaviour, the fee for that session is non-refundable. If Playtivity subsequently withdraws the child's place from any future sessions that have already been paid for, those unused sessions will be refunded.

Staff Responsibilities

All Playtivity staff and volunteers are expected to:

- model respectful, positive behaviour at all times
- treat every child with dignity and respect
- build positive relationships with children
- apply this policy fairly and consistently
- intervene early to prevent behaviour escalating
- prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all children
- supervise activities appropriately
- ensure specialist equipment is used safely
- record significant behaviour incidents
- communicate concerns with parents where appropriate
- report safeguarding concerns in accordance with the Playtivity Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

All behaviour management will be carried out calmly, respectfully and proportionately, with the aim of helping every child feel safe, included and able to enjoy the exciting learning experiences that Playtivity provides.

11. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or guidance changes.



Signed:
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Date:8.7.26