



## Biting Policy

### Rationale

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 come into my care so I am prepared for any incidents that may occur.

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

- teething;
- frustrated;
- exploring using their mouth;
- asserting their independence;
- wanting to gain control;
- wanting to gain attention.

### Procedure

If your child is biting others, I will work with you and your child to establish why they are biting.

- I will observe your child to see if certain conditions or situations trigger this behaviour and then work with them to try and 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.
- If your child does bite, I will remove them from the situation and explain to them appropriately 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 apologise to the child they have bitten, and will work with them to develop strategies to help them deal with the reasons why they felt like biting the other child.

- I will ensure that the child that has been bitten is comforted and reassured and ensure that any first aid is given if required.
- I will record any incidents in my Accident and Incident book and ask both (sets of) parents to sign this as acknowledgment of the incident.

Biting can be a difficult issue for parents 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.

Date policy was written	June 2019
Policy review date	June 2020
Action/Amendments to be taken following review	