



## **Behaviour Management (Including Bullying)**

**In2Sport recognises the importance of positive and effective behaviour management strategies in promoting children's welfare, learning and enjoyment.**

- The aims of our Behaviour Management policy are to help children to  
Develop a sense of caring and respect for one another.
- Build caring and co-operative relationships with other children and adults.
- Develop a range of social skills and help them learn what constitutes acceptable behaviour.
- Develop confidence, self-discipline and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement.

**In2Sport's designated member of staff responsible for behaviour management is Chris Glover.**

Whilst at the club we expect children to:

- Use socially acceptable behaviour
- Respect one another, accepting differences of race, gender, ability, age and religion
- Develop their independence by maintaining self-discipline
- Choose and participate in a variety of activities
- Ask for help if needed
- Enjoy their time at the club
- Encourage positive behaviour

### **Behaviour Management Strategies**

In2Sport's coaching staff will manage behaviour according to clear, consistent and positive strategies. Parents/carers are encouraged to contribute to these strategies, raising any concerns or suggestions.

Behaviour management will be structured around the following principles:

- The coaching staff and children will work together to establish a clear set of 'ground rules' governing all behaviour. These will be periodically reviewed so that new children have a say in the rules.
- The 'ground rules' will apply equally to all children, staff and parent/ carers.
- The 'ground rules' will be made available to all children, staff and parent/carers **if requested**.
- Positive behaviour will be reinforced with praise and encouragement.
- Challenging behaviour will be addressed in a calm, but assertive manner. In the first instance, staff will try to re-direct children's energies by offering them alternative and positive options. Staff will be open by stating and explaining non-negotiable issues.
- When dealing with challenging behaviour, staff will always communicate in a clear, calm and positive manner. For those children who need support in order to behave in an appropriate manner, staff will investigate strategies and offer consistent care whilst at the club.
- Staff and parent/ carers will make every effort to set a positive example to children by behaving in a friendly and tolerant manner themselves, promoting an atmosphere where children and adults respect and value one another.
- Staff will work as a team by discussing incidents and acting collectively and consistently.
- Staff will try to discuss concerns confidentially with parents/carers at the earliest possible opportunity in an attempt to help identify the causes of inappropriate behaviour and share strategies for dealing with it.

## **Dealing with Inappropriate Behaviour**

When confronted with negative behaviour, staff will be clear to distinguish between 'disengaged', 'disruptive' and 'unacceptable' behaviour.

- 'Disengaged' behaviour may indicate that a child is bored, unsettled or unhappy. With sensitive interventions, staff will often be able to re-engage a child in purposeful activity.
- 'Disruptive' behaviour describes a child whose behaviour prevents other children from enjoying themselves. Staff will collectively discuss incidents and agree on the best way to deal with them.
- 'Unacceptable' behaviour refers to non-negotiable actions and may include discriminatory remarks, violence, bullying or destruction of equipment. This may for the child to be removed from the course.

Staff will be clear that consequences will follow from such behaviour, including in the first instance, temporarily removing a child from the activity session.

When an incidence of inappropriate behaviour occurs, staff will listen to the child or children concerned and hear their reasons for their actions. Staff will then explain to the child or children what was unacceptable about their behaviour, and that such actions have consequences for both themselves and for other people.

Staff will make every attempt to ensure that children understand what is being said to them. Children will always be given the opportunity to make amends for their behaviour and, unless it is judged inappropriate, be able to rejoin the activity. Consideration will be given to the child or young person's individual needs. Every effort will be made to communicate in the most appropriate manner in order to assist in an improvement in behaviours.

Children who need help in order to behave in an appropriate manner will be given support and consistent strategies to address the matter. Staff will seek appropriate training in order to reflect upon the triggers and effects for some children who find some aspects of the play environment stressful.

In the event that unacceptable behaviour persists, more serious actions may have to be taken, in accordance with the Suspensions and Exclusions policy. At all times, children will have the potential consequences of their actions explained to them.

It is recognised that an incident of unacceptable behaviour is a stressful situation for staff and children alike. However, staff will be aware that there is also a need to be mindful of confidentiality and will only discuss such incidents on a 'need to know' basis. Where causes of incidents suggest possible abuse, child protection procedures will be followed.

## **The Use of Physical Interventions**

Physical intervention may be recognised as part of an Individual care plan and training will be sought.

Staff will only use physical interventions as a last resort and only then if they have reasonable grounds for believing that immediate action is necessary to prevent a child from significantly injuring themselves or others or to prevent serious damage to property.

Before reaching this stage, staff will have used all possible non-physical actions, such as dialogue and diversion, to deal with the behaviour. The child or children concerned will be warned verbally that physical intervention will be used if they do not stop.

A dialogue will be maintained with the child or children at all times, so that the member of staff can explain what they are doing and why they are doing it. Staff will make every effort to avoid the use of physical interventions if they are alone with the child or children. Only the minimum force necessary to prevent injury or damage should be applied. For example; by diverting a child or children by leading them away by a hand or by an arm around their shoulders.

**Staff will only use physical intervention as an act of care and control and never punishment.**

Physical interventions will not be used purely to force a child to do what they have been told and when there is no immediate risk to people or property.

As soon as it is safe, the physical intervention should be gradually relaxed to allow the child or children to regain self-control.

The force of the physical intervention will be always appropriate to the age, size and strength of the child or children involved.

If staff are not confident about their ability to contain a particular situation or type of behaviour, consideration will be given to calling the lead coach or, in extreme cases, the police.

Where a member of staff has had to intervene physically to restrain a child, the head coach will be notified. **All Serious incidents will be recorded and parents/carers asked to sign the report.** This may be used to build a pattern of behaviour, which may indicate an unknown underlying cause.

If patterns of incidents indicate possible abuse, we will implement child protection procedures in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy.

### **Bullying**

**In2Sport is committed to providing an environment for children and staff that is safe, welcoming and free from bullying. Bullying of any form is unacceptable in our sessions, whether the offender is a child or an adult. The victim is never responsible for being the target of bullying. Such behaviour will not be tolerated or excused under any circumstances.**

The Club defines bullying as the repeated harassment of others through emotional, physical, verbal or psychological abuse. Examples of such behaviour are as follows:

**Emotional:** Being deliberately unkind, shunning or excluding another person from a group or tormenting them. For example, forcing another person to be 'left out' of a game or activity, passing notes about others or making fun of another person.

**Physical:** Pushing, scratching, spitting, kicking, hitting, biting, taking or damaging belongings, tripping up, punching or using any other sort of violence against another person.

**Verbal:** Name-calling, put-downs, ridiculing or using words to attack, threaten or insult. For example, spreading rumours or making fun of another person's appearance.

**Psychological:** Behaviour likely to instil a sense of fear or anxiety in another person.

## **Preventing Bullying Behaviour**

The staff will make every effort to create a tolerant and caring environment in each session, where we will foster an anti-bullying culture by:

- Encouraging caring and nurturing behaviour
- Discuss friendships
- Encourage children to report bullying without fear
- Discuss the issues surrounding bullying with the children, including why bullying behaviour will not be tolerated
- Exploring the consequences of bullying behaviour with the children.

## **Dealing with Bullying Behaviour**

In2Sports recognises that, despite all efforts to prevent it, bullying behaviour is likely to occur on occasions. In the event of such incidents, the following principles will govern the response:

- **All incidents of bullying will be addressed thoroughly and sensitively.**
- Children will be encouraged to immediately report any incident of bullying that they witness. They will be reassured that what they say will be taken seriously and handled carefully.
- Staff have a duty to inform the lead coach if they witness an incident of bullying involving children or adults at any session.
- If a child or a member of staff tells someone that they are being bullied, they will be given the time to explain what has happened and reassured that they were right to tell them.
- The individual who has been the victim of bullying will be helped and supported by the staff team. They will be kept under close supervision and staff will check on their welfare regularly.
- In most cases, bullying behaviour can be addressed according to the strategies set out in the Behaviour Management policy. The bully will be encouraged to discuss their behaviour and think through the consequences of their actions. Where appropriate, they will be encouraged to talk through the incident with the other person concerned.
- Where bullying behaviour persists, more serious actions may have to be taken, as laid out in the Suspensions and Exclusions policy.
- A member of staff will inform the parents/carers of all the children involved in a bullying incident at the earliest possible opportunity. If appropriate, staff will facilitate a meeting between the relevant parents/carers. At all times, staff will handle such incidents with care and sensitivity.
- All incidents of bullying will be reported to the head coach and will be recorded on a sheet of paper. In the light of reported incidents, the head coach and other relevant staff will review the procedures in respect of bullying.