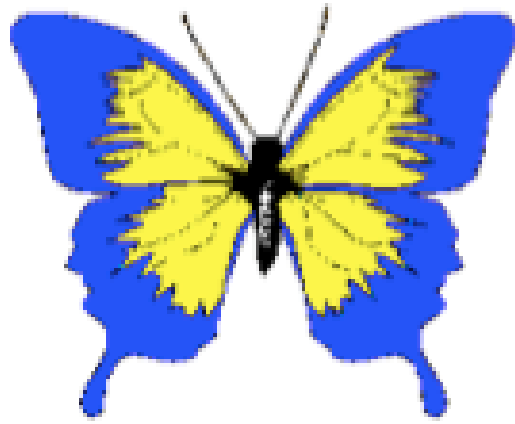


New Monkland Nursery Class



Getting it Right for Every Child

Biting Policy

Updated: May 2022

Rationale:

Biting within Early Years can be a common behaviour for some young children to display. It is often a form of communication for a young child when learning to deal with a variety of different situations, emotions and conflicts. At New Monkland Nursery Class, we will promote, encourage and model positive behaviour at all times and support our youngest learners during this stage of their development, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of your child is our highest priority.

Event and Recording Action:

In the event your child has been bitten we will ensure that we have comforted your child and checked for any immediate injury – a first aider will be called to assess your child's bite mark and first aid will be applied if necessary. You will then be informed by a member of staff in the first instance by telephone before being asked to sign an incident form when collecting your child (If your child requires urgent medical attention, you will be notified of this as a matter of urgency). Nursery staff will continue to monitor your child's bite and record any changes accordingly on the incident form.

If your child has bitten another child, you will be notified in the first instance by telephone and be asked to sign an incident form when collecting your child. Nursery staff will communicate with you and inform you of the severity of the bite. Your child will be gently spoken to and Nursery staff will use a variety of approaches based on your child's needs/understanding to minimise future bites. If your child has bit a member of staff, then the School Senior Management Team will be notified and additional paperwork completed.

Confidentiality

Please note that staff members are unable to disclose the identity of children due to confidentiality - we would advise that you do not encourage your child to tell you who has bit them while in the nursery/school grounds.

Monitoring:

If a child continues to bite, Nursery staff will carry out observations to determine when/where the bites are happening, and what may be provoking them to do so. Parents/carers will be notified of the observations and updated. A personal risk assessment may be needed (if necessary) and other services notified (e.g., your child's Health Visitor).

UNCRC Links

Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 17: You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.

Article 24: You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.

Article 31: You have the right to play and rest.

Article 39: You have the right to help if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.