

St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School



Nursery Biting Policy

November 2023

Review: November 2026

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on an annual basis.

The policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body November 2023

It is due for review in November 2026

Hayley Francis

Date: November 2023

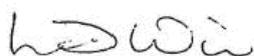
Head Teacher



Lindsay Wise

Date: November 2023

Chair of Governors



Many young children go through a 'biting' phase and it is part of their development. It can be triggered when they do not yet have the right words to communicate their anger, frustration or needs.

Strategies to prevent or minimise biting include, sensory activities, adequate resources and a stimulating environment. A child may also need a 'biting' ring or ball; this would need to be kept in the child's own drawer and must not be used by another child. It should be cleaned after use and this is especially important in times of pandemic illness.

In the event of a child being bitten the following procedure will be followed: -

- Remove the child who has bitten and tell them firmly 'no biting; biting hurts' give opportunity for them to calm down, then turn immediate attention to the child who has been bitten.

Dealing with the child who has been bitten

- The child who has been bitten will be comforted and checked for any visual injury, the area cleaned and first aid administered if required.
- An accident form is completed and parents informed by telephone if injury warrants this.
- If there is a wound or broken skin, the area bitten, will monitored throughout the day for signs of infection. Severely broken skin may require urgent medical attention after the initial first aid has been carried out.
- On collection, an explanation of the procedures being put in place to stop/discourage biting will be given to parents. For confidentiality purposes the name of the child who has bitten will not be disclosed.

Dealing with the child who has bitten.

- Rinse their lips and around mouth with warm water and pat dry with a paper towel. Encourage them to rinse mouth with cold water 2-3 times, if possible. Take the child away from other children to give time to calm down.
- Talk to child when they are calm. Reaffirm in words they understand, that biting hurts and is unkind e.g. 'no biting, biting hurts, it made (child's name) cry and you have

hurt them. What could we do to make (child's name) feel better?

- If you are angry/need help you talk to a teacher, but no biting.
- Fill in an incident form on Nursery in a box, to maintain confidentiality do not mention the name of the child who was bitten.
- On collection, an explanation of the procedures being put in place to stop/discourage biting will be given to parents. Encourage parents to follow the same strategies at home to ensure consistency.

If a biting is repeated, complete observations and an 'Event Sample' to monitor any factors associated with biting. Are there factors which pre-empted it? Discuss with parent/s and develop behaviour plan in accordance with the child's needs.