



Lyndhurst Pre-School

Physical Contact policy

Policy Statement

Our Pre-School wants to work with children, parents and the Community to ensure the safety of children and to give them the very best start in life. To do this we feel close physical contact is vital for young children in order to help them develop into well-balanced, secure and happy little individuals ready to meet the new challenges of school and beyond. However we are very aware of the need for clear boundaries for physical contact in order to protect everyone involved.

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning & Development
1.3 Keeping Safe	2.1 respecting each other 2.2 parents as partners	3.4 The wider context	4.4 Personal, social and emotional development

Instances which would involve physical contact include:

Reasons for contact	Acceptable contact
Consoling and reassuring a child when upset possibly due to an accident or disagreement or maybe a child struggling to separate from a parent or carer.	Cuddling the child or maybe sitting them on your knee. Occasionally when separating a child from parent/carer its necessary for the parent/carer to physically transfer the child to a member of staff with parent/carer consent.
Toileting children who still require adult support	Lifting/supporting children on the toilet, wiping bottoms - older children will be encouraged to do this for themselves. Colleagues will be made aware that a staff member is in the toilet area.
Changing the clothing of a child who may have wet/soiled themselves	Quickly undressing and redressing the child - which may involve removing underwear and replacing with clean clothes. Cleaning soiled parts with wet wipes. Colleagues will be made aware a staff member is in the toilet area.
Restraining a child for their own protection or the protection of others.	Holding a child across their bodies from behind using gentle to firm pressure as necessary until the child has calmed down sufficiently. Staff member would not be alone.
Holding hands eg. for reassurance, in circle games, in role play or for safety reasons	Gently holding hands
Reading stories in book corner	Cuddle/on knee/arm around child
Helping to apply sun cream	Applying sun cream to arms, face and legs if necessary, member of staff would not be alone.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Lyndhurst Pre-school

Held on (date)

Signed on behalf of the pre-school