



Preschool and Daycare

<http://www.buildingblockspreschool.co.uk>

*'Where Play is a learning experience'*



## **Statement**

### **BITING POLICY PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

Biting is a common behavior among children and can be a concern for parents and staff. Biting can often be painful and frightening for the child who has been bitten and also frightening for the child who bites. Biting happens for different reasons with different children and under different circumstances. This is part of some children's development and can be triggered when they do not yet have the words to communicate their anger, frustration or need. At Building Blocks, we promote positive behavior at all times.

#### **Aim- We aim to act quickly and efficiently when dealing with any case of biting.**

The nursery uses the following strategies to prevent biting: sensory activities, biting rings, adequate resources and staff who are trained to recognize when children need more stimulation or quiet times. We will treat each incident with care and patience, offering comfort to intense emotions, helping children to manage their feelings and talk about them to help resolve issues and promote understanding.

#### **Procedure- In the event of a biting incident: -**

1. The child who has been bitten will be the priority and should be comforted and given reassurance.
2. Once the child is calm staff should check for any visual injury. If there is a bite mark, this should then be washed with warm soapy water and wiped with an antiseptic wipe. Staff will explain to the child what is happening and support the child as this process may be painful.
3. If the skin is broken:
  - A bleeding wound will not be covered as this can increase the risk of infection.
  - Staff should wear PPE when dealing with bodily fluids (refer to the PPE Policy).

- In cases where the bite has broken the child's skin, a senior member of staff must contact the parent/carer of the child immediately. This phone call should be sensitive and give reassurance to the parent/carer and offer an explanation of the procedure which has been followed. You will need to advise the parents/carers to contact the child's GP. If the skin has been severely broken the child should be taken to Accident and Emergency immediately by staff.