Salisbury Heights Preschool
Site Behaviour Code

At Salisbury Heights Preschool we believe children learn through play by exploring, experimenting, developing skills and abilities, working together, making links and building understandings in a safe caring environment where everyone is important and learning is valued.

Children are encouraged to:
- keep themselves and others safe
- respect and care for others
- share, take turns and co-operate
- engage in a rich variety of experiences
- take risks in their learning
- develop problem solving skills
- seek positive ways to resolve grievances
- take responsibility for their own actions
- communicate, create, laugh, listen, give, sing, have fun

To maximise positive behaviours we:
- create an environment which promotes learning and development through play
- provide time and resources to allow for children's well being and engagement
- value and respect each child as an individual and work to develop a positive self concept, confidence, persistence, organisation, social skills and resilience
- focus on the development of the whole child
- recognise each child's right to be safe and support their development of protective strategies to help them be safe
- support children's learning through a range of experiences and programs such as Playing and Learning to Socialize and Keeping Safe, which includes dealing with bullying
- provide opportunities for children to experience success
- support the development of children's language and communication skills
- ensure the environment is culturally and socially inclusive
- foster a sense of fairness
- value a peaceful play environment

Behaviours which are inappropriate / unacceptable include those that:
- cause an individual to feel unsafe
- are likely to result in injury to themselves or others
- cause deliberate damage of other’s work or property
- disrupt an individual or group’s constructive play

Behaviour can include verbal or physical actions.
Some challenging behaviours may require a child to have an individual behaviour plan which would be developed with staff, parents and support services.
Educators will:
- model appropriate behaviour and language
- be calm, positive and respectful
- be consistent and follow through when managing behaviour
- be sensitive to the needs of the individual and their situation

When unacceptable / inappropriate behaviour occurs:
- educators will discuss the situation with both parties to identify the problem and a solution using restorative practices - UNDERSTAND-TEACH-FIX
- this will involve educators assisting children to express themselves so meaning can be made and understood as well as assisting children in gaining the skills to solve problems themselves
- other strategies may include
  - redirecting play
  - offering alternative choices
  - encouraging use of calming strategies eg deep breathing, having a drink

In all situations children will be encouraged to use their 'words' to resolve problems (rather than actions).

For repeated unsafe behaviours educators will:
- Direct the child to another activity or remain with the child until he/she is calm
- This will only be carried out by educators - not students, volunteers, etc.
- Parents will be informed if a child has been playing unsafely.

To minimise challenging behaviours we will:
- establish a positive learning environment as detailed previously
- set realistic goals for children
- respond positively to children and acknowledge positive behaviours
- discuss 'rules' with children and why they are needed (use visual and verbal cues)
- provide opportunities for the children to develop and practise appropriate skills
- use positive language to describe the appropriate behaviours (what they should do, rather than what they should not do)
- observe children’s play and interactions and where possible be pro-active

Parents will be provided with copies of the Site Behaviour Code on enrolment. The code will also be displayed at preschool. Parents are asked to support the Code by encouraging children to develop and use appropriate skills.

All educators will become familiar with the Code through their induction process and will be expected to support and implement it. This code was developed in keeping with the Circle of Courage, Restorative Practices and information from Dr Louise Porter.

The Code will be reviewed annually.