At Bains Road Preschool we will provide a safe, caring, well-planned environment in which developmentally appropriate expectations of children's behaviour are expressed positively and explicitly.

**Staff members have a duty of care that requires them to:**

- Supervise children so that they can learn the rules and practices designed for their own safety and that of others.
- Design and implement appropriate programs and procedures to ensure the safety of children.
- Warn children about dangerous situations or practices.
- Ensure that premises and equipment are safe.

**Our interactions will be guided by the following beliefs:**

1. A positive environment and approach is the most effective in supporting the development of acceptable behaviour.
2. Consequences for any appropriate behaviour must respect the dignity and rights of the child.

Our goal is to help children develop into considerate and effective learners who will be aware, self-disciplined and contributing members of society.

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**We will achieve this by:**

- Ensuring a physically and psychologically safe environment for all.
- Bully free environment.
- Providing a responsive, developmentally appropriate curriculum to promote healthy self-confidence as well as a sense of belonging and of self worth.
- Encouraging children's efforts to behave positively and appropriately.
- Modeling and acknowledging behaviour that demonstrates consideration and respect for others.
- Working in partnership with parents to provide consistent practices at kindergarten and home.
- Offering choices and explaining the rationale behind limits.
- Using redirection/distraction and early intervention to try to avoid confrontation or escalation of conflict.
- Teaching social, communication and problem solving skills.
- Using the ‘Stop, Think, Do’ approach to teach children to evaluate and monitor behaviour.
- Ensuring that children understand the link between behaviour and consequences.
- Using accompanied ‘thinking time’ for dangerous or seriously unacceptable behaviour.
- Seeking further advice and support for any dangerous or seriously unacceptable behaviour that persists.

We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe all of the time. We accept that we all can feel angry, frustrated and upset at times, and that children in particular need help to express these feeling appropriately. As we are dealing with 3 to 5 year old children in our kindergarten there is bound to be situations of conflict that needs to be resolved.
What the children can do:

Follow the agreed rules

- Children who find themselves in a conflict situation with another child will be encouraged to tell the other child what the problem is. In many cases a simple “Stop, I don’t like ….” diffuses the situation.
- If the children are having difficulty they will be encouraged to seek staff assistance to help them state their needs to the other child & help the other child to listen & respond.

As educators of your children:

- We believe praise, encouragement, modeling and recognition of appropriate behaviours are the foundation for promoting appropriate behaviour.
- Staff will use “teachable moments” plus explicit programming to develop the kindergarten rules with the children and also their social development & protective behaviour skills (“stop I don’t like it”).
- Where a child behaves inappropriately they will be given a warning.
- If the behaviour is repeated the child will be redirected to another activity.
- If the behaviour is repeated again the child will be asked to sit out from the activity and “think about their behaviour”. They will then be able to return to the activity.
- Where an individual child’s behaviour is consistently inappropriate Staff will discuss alternative strategies with Parents and Early Childhood Support Services if necessary.

As Parents you can help by:

- Having a realistic view of what four year olds are capable of.
- Maintaining an open and honest relationship with staff
- Being aware of our behaviour management policy
- Encouraging your child’s conflict resolution skills e.g. self help strategies (stop I don’t like it), talking through their problems and helping them to deal with their emotions.
- Supporting the staff to address other children’s behaviour, as it is not appropriate for a parent to deal with someone else’s child.
- If you have concerns about bullying please speak to a staff member or raise your concern with the Director and Governing Council.