



St Bede's Childcare Ltd

Biting Policy

EYFS Legal Requirement:

Providers are responsible for supporting, understanding and managing children's behaviour in an appropriate way. (EYFS 2024, 3.58)

Policy Statement

St Bede's Childcare recognises that biting is a common behaviour in early childhood and is often linked to communication, emotional development, or teething. We are committed to managing biting incidents in a calm, consistent, and supportive way that protects all children and promotes positive behaviour.

This policy should be read alongside our **Supporting Positive Behaviour Policy** and **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**.

Aims

We aim to:

- Keep all children safe
- Support children to develop appropriate ways to express feelings
- Understand and address the causes of biting
- Work in partnership with parents/carers
- Promote a consistent and positive approach to behaviour

Preventing Biting

Staff will:

- Closely supervise children, particularly during high-risk times (e.g. transitions)
- Observe and identify possible triggers (e.g. frustration, tiredness, teething)
- Support children's communication and emotional development
- Provide appropriate resources (e.g. teething toys where appropriate)
- Maintain consistent routines and expectations

Procedure: When a Biting Incident Occurs

Immediate Response

- Ensure the safety of all children



- Comfort and support the child who has been bitten
- Administer appropriate first aid (e.g. cleaning the area, applying a cold compress)
- Respond calmly and firmly to the child who has bitten, using age-appropriate language

Supporting Both Children

- Reassure the child who has been bitten
- Support the child who has bitten to understand their feelings and behaviour
- Encourage appropriate alternatives (e.g. using words, asking for help)

Recording and Communication

- Record the incident in line with setting procedures
- Inform **both sets of parents/carers** on the same day
- Maintain confidentiality (names of other children will not be shared)
- Ask parents/carers to sign the incident record

Ongoing Support

If biting persists:

- The key person will carry out **observations** to identify patterns or triggers
- A plan will be developed to support the child
- Parents/carers will be involved in discussions and strategies
- The **SENDCo** may be involved where appropriate
- Advice may be sought from external professionals if needed

Safeguarding

- Any injury will be assessed and treated appropriately
- If a bite breaks the skin or there are concerns about a child's welfare, this will be treated as a **safeguarding concern** and reported to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**
- Parents may be advised to seek medical advice where necessary

Infection Control

- Staff will follow hygiene procedures when treating bites



- Gloves will be worn where appropriate
- Wounds will be cleaned and monitored

Children with SEND

We recognise that biting may be linked to additional needs. We will:

- Adapt strategies to meet individual needs
- Work with the **SENDCo** and external professionals where required
- Provide additional support to develop communication and self-regulation

Confidentiality

- All incidents will be recorded confidentially
- The identity of the child who has bitten will not be disclosed

Monitoring and Review

- Incidents will be monitored to identify patterns
- Strategies will be reviewed regularly
- This policy will be reviewed annually