**Social, Emotional and Difficulty Policy**

At Little Acorns Pre-school physical punishment will not be used in the session. It is important that all staff, students and volunteers understand what constitutes physical punishment, as set out in the “1998 Children Act”.

***Shaking can cause damage to the brain***

***and will not be used under any circumstances***

Little Acorns Pre-school will only use physical intervention by:

* Withdrawing other children or adult’s from the situation
* Distraction and redirecting the child’s attention
* Making the environment as safe as possible to avoid causing injury to themselves, or another child

If physical intervention is seen as appropriate, the staff will ensure the intervention is achieved with minimum time.

Circumstances in which physical intervention might be used:

* Preventing a child running into the road
* Preventing injury or damage, i.e. if a child is having a temper tantrum

All incidents will be recorded, staff will think about;

* Who is to record the incident
* What should be recorded, (child’s name, time, date, location of the incident, others involved, what triggered the incident, how was it handled. What sort of restraint used and any consequences)
* How the information is to be shared with others
* If the parent should sign the accident/incident log, to make them aware of the incident, and how and why

Staff holding or comforting a distressed child is ***not*** a physical restraint

**Social and Emotional and Difficulty Policy Written Statement**

Children benefit most when adults adapt a consistent and positive approach to the management of their behaviour. By establishing clear boundaries according to the child’s level of understanding, children become aware of the Pre-school’s routines and procedures and know what is expected of them.

Little Acorns Pre-school will aim to:-

* Help children understand the effects of their behaviour on others
* Help children challenge bullying, harassment and name calling
* Encourage sharing and negotiation
* Praising and reinforcing good behavior
* Consulting children about “Rules”
* Encourage responsibility i.e. preparing snacks, putting them out
* Reassure children that they are always valued, even if their behaviour maybe unacceptable
* Parents are informed and consulted

Adult Role

When challenging behaviour does occur in the Pre-school we as a team will:-

* Recognise the children are learning to deal with a range of emotions and try to work with the child to find a constructive solution
* Explain why their behaviour is unacceptable
* Avoid damaging the child’s self-esteem i.e. humiliation, segregation, withholding food or using a naughty chair
* Staff will use “time out” and sit the child down on a chair
* Avoid discussing the child’s behaviour in front of the child with other staff or other parents
* Be consistent in applying an agreed procedure
* Meet with parents in the conference/staff room and take their views into account

The named Behaviour Coordinator is ------------------------------------