



Kingsdown Pre-school Touch Policy

At Kingsdown Pre-school we recognise that touch is necessary and desirable as part of the development, emotional well-being, care, education and quality of life for your child.

This policy outlines when physical contact may be needed and gives staff the direction and security for this to occur positively and productively while still protecting your child in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy.

All staff regularly attend Safeguarding training and are aware of what is appropriate and inappropriate physical contact

Touch is a normal interaction for the affirmation of relationships and giving of emotional and physiological support and for young children touch is likely to be the most fundamental form of communication particularly when speech is not available.

The main reasons we may need to touch your child at Pre-school are:

- For the purpose of care - touch is necessary in order to assist in the personal care of your child
- To give medical care
- To give physical support
- To protect children from danger by physically intervening and managing challenging behaviour but only in accordance with our Behaviour Management Policy
- To offer comfort - it is recognised that during their time with us children may occasionally become upset and need comforting.
- During play - it is normal during play and interaction with your child that they may be touched by staff and other children

More intensive physical contact may be required by some children with special/additional needs but this will always be in accordance with an individual child's care plan

It is understood that some children do not like to be touched or have cultural reasons why they should not be touched and staff will be sensitive to this at all times. Staff will, however, attempt to teach children who do not want or like to be touched the benefits and enjoyment of physical contact.

This policy was reviewed by pre-school on 21 April 2022. It will be reviewed annually or sooner if required

Signed on behalf of the pre-school A Bridges
Chairperson Kingsdown Pre-school