

Contact/Touch Policy

There will be NO physical punishment of any child in my care at any time, discipline is taught through the methods previously described. It is my belief that children need nurturing and this includes some physical contact for their care and healthy development. This contact can be described as follows:

Nurturing

This includes hugs and non-intimate kisses, hand holding, carrying, cuddling, gentle tickling and contact games like “Walking Round the Garden” and piggy backs. This type of contact is never made against the express wishes of the child.

Safety & Guidance

This includes restraining children from harmful situations, separating physically conflicting children, directing children by gently leading or guiding them and administering first aid to injuries, examining rashes or unusual marks and applying sun cream.

Hygiene

This includes face and hand washing, assisting with bathroom duties (as appropriate to the age and development of the child), nappy changing, nose blowing and assisting with or conducting necessary clothing changes, assisting with hair brushing/replacing hair clips or bands. From time to time a more thorough wash/shower may be required, eg, after an “explosive nappy” or a fall in a muddy puddle. Please supply your written permission for your child to take a shower/bath if required.

I believe that it is normal and healthy for children to express affection with their peers. This includes gentle hugs, non-intimate kisses and hand holding. Children are encouraged to respect other people’s right to space and privacy and helped to understand that contact should not be made against the express wishes of the other child.