

Safe Care and Practice

EYFS: 3.1, 3.6

At Wirral Montessori, we believe that all children need to feel safe, secure and happy. This involves nursery staff being responsive to children's needs, whilst maintaining professionalism. This includes giving children reassurance and if the need arises changing children's clothes.

To promote good practice and to minimise the risk of allegations we have the following guidelines:

- Although we recognise it is appropriate to comfort children, we give this only when sought by children needing comfort/reassurance, to support their emotional development. Staff are advised to do this in view of other children and practitioners, whenever possible. We recognise that there may be occasions where it is appropriate for this to happen away from others, such as when a child is ill. In these circumstances, staff are advised to leave the door open. It is the duty of all staff and the manager to ensure that children are appropriately comforted and to monitor practice
- When changing children's soiled/wet clothing, we leave the doors open, where appropriate
- We discourage inappropriate behaviour such as over boisterous play or inappropriate questions
- Staff are respectful of each other and the children and families in the nursery and do not use inappropriate language or behaviour, including during breaks
- All staff are aware of the whistleblowing procedures and the manager carries out random checks throughout the day to ensure safe practices.

If a parent or member of staff has concerns or questions about safe care and practice procedures or behaviour they consider as inappropriate, including between staff members, they are urged to see the manager at the earliest opportunity. Management will challenge inappropriate behaviour in line with the supervision/ disciplinary or whistleblowing procedures. If the concern relates to the manager and/or nursery owner then parents should contact Ofsted 0300 123 1231 or the local authority children's social care team 0151 606 2008

This policy is reviewed on an annual basis in consultation with staff.