



1.14.1 Biting Policy

Policy statement

Biting can be common practice with young children especially two year olds and as practitioners we understand that there are a number of factors that can cause biting from teething pain to frustration. Staff at Cullompton Pre-School take a uniformed approach when dealing with biting.

This policy operates in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework (current version) and the setting's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Procedure

A record of all biting incidents will be recorded in our Incident Book, signed by a member of staff who witnessed the incident and another staff witness if appropriate, as well as the parent/carer.

A record of the biting incident will also be recorded in our Accident Book for the child who has been bitten. This will be signed by the staff member who witnessed the incident and another witness if appropriate, as well as the parent/carer. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times. Parents of the child who has been bitten will be informed sensitively and supported in partnership with the setting.

All records are stored securely and managed in line with GDPR and the setting's Data Protection Policy.

We will intervene as soon as possible to stop any child harming another child. We will explain to the child that they must not bite. We will explain to the child, using calm and developmentally appropriate language, that biting hurts and support them to express their feelings in a more appropriate way.

We give attention and comfort to the child who has been bitten before helping the child who has bitten, to show they can acknowledge his/her actions, as appropriate.

If a child shows an on-going pattern of biting we develop specific strategies, techniques and timelines to address this and discuss these strategies with the parent/carer. Where appropriate, the setting will consider whether biting behaviour may be linked to developmental stage or additional needs and will seek support from external professionals with parental consent

We do not label children who have bitten but we address the behaviour that they have used.

When children have been bitten, we share what has happened with their parents, explaining that the incident has been dealt with appropriately, with the child and his/her parents. Confidentiality is maintained.

All first aid will be administered by a qualified paediatric first aider and carried out in accordance with the setting's Health and Safety and Infection Control policies. A cold compress is applied to the area that has been bitten. An antiseptic wipe will be used on the area on the child that has been bitten, should the skin be broken we will use gloves.

We will contact the parent of the child that has been bitten and will email over our Biting Policy and our letter detailing how we deal with biting in our pre-school.

This policy has an annual review period and, as such, will be reviewed and signed off at a management committee meeting of Cullompton Pre-School each year, as shown below.

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| Reviewed by Staff on: | 19 th Jan 2026 |
| Date of next review: | Jan 2028 |
| Signed on behalf of the Management Committee: | Jess Powell |
| Name of Signatory (printed): | Jess Powell |
| Role of Signatory (e.g. Chairperson) | Treasurer |

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| Adopted on:- | 16 th February 2018 | by | Owen Jones Chairperson |
| Previously reviewed on:- | 24 th February 2020 | by | Alex Fox Chairperson |
| Previously reviewed on:- | 24 th January 2022 | by | Jack Madge Chairperson |
| Previously reviewed on:- | 20 th May 2024 | By | Naomi Cook Secretary |
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