

RuggerRooz) acknowledges that children's behaviour is influenced by their experiences in and out of the play setting and influences at home and school all contribute. Children will respond to influences in different ways depending on their physical size, confidence, self-esteem, and life experiences.

RuggerRooz believes that building good relationships with children depends upon acknowledging, encouraging and reinforcing positive behaviour and being consistent in discouraging unwanted behaviour.

By compiling behaviour guidelines or 'Ground Rules' with the children and staff consultation and involvement, we aim to have set boundaries which help the children develop a sense of significance for their own behaviour on both the physical environment and those around them.

RuggerRooz understands that dealing with unwanted behaviour is important because it can be unsafe for the child concerned and for those around and that by ignoring unwanted behaviour, children will not get the best out of the club

#### **Ways of challenging and dealing with unwanted behaviour:**

- Be aware of possible trouble and try to resolve before a conflict occurs
- Ground rules – referred to when failure to comply
- Ignoring the behaviour – when behaviour is an attempt to get attention
- Distraction – a change in activities can be an effective way of changing moods
- Intervening – when behaviour is bullying or discriminatory and explain why abusive behaviour is unacceptable
- Talking with Parents/Carers – for behaviour which is persistent and where other methods are not working, to compile a longer-term strategy supported by the parent/carer
- Discussing and negotiating – for older children this may be a more effective way to resolve conflict

### **ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

#### **Policy Statement**

**RuggerRooz** is committed to providing an environment for children that is safe, welcoming and free from bullying. Bullying of any form is unacceptable, whether the offender is a child or an adult. The victim is never responsible for being the target of bullying.

#### **The EYFS Key Themes & Commitments**

- A Unique Child – health and well-being, keeping safe
- Positive Relationships – respecting each other, supporting learning
- Enabling Environments – supporting every child, the learning environment

The Definition of Bullying; All those involved with RuggerRooz- staff, volunteers, children and parents/carers - are made aware of RuggerRooz stance towards bullying. Such behaviour will not be tolerated or excused under any circumstance.

RuggerRooz defines bullying as the repeated harassment of others through emotional, physical, verbal or psychological abuse. Examples of such behaviour are as follows:

- Emotional – being deliberately unkind, shunning or excluding another person from a group or tormenting them. For example, forcing another person to be 'left out' of a game or activity or making fun of another person.
- Physical – pushing, scratching, spitting, kicking, hitting, biting, taking or damaging belongings, tripping up, punching or using any other sort of violence against another person.
- Verbal – name-calling, put-downs, ridiculing or using words to attack, threaten or insult. For example, spreading rumours or making fun of another person's appearance.
- Psychological – behaviour likely to instil a sense of fear or anxiety in another person.

Children should feel welcome, secure and safe at RuggerRooz and will be listened to by staff and adults about their concerns. Bullying of any form will not be tolerated.

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that children play in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is repeated anti-social behaviour directed towards a person. It is unacceptable and will not be tolerated

Dealing with Bullying Behaviour Despite all efforts to prevent it, bullying behaviour may occur on occasions and RuggerRooz recognises this fact. In the event of such incidents, the following principles will govern RuggerRooz response:

- All incidents of bullying will be addressed thoroughly and sensitively..
- If a child or a member of staff tells someone that they are being bullied, they will be given the time to explain what has happened and reassured that they were right to tell.
- The individual who has been the victim of bullying will be listened to, helped and supported by the staff team. They will be kept under close supervision and staff will check on their welfare regularly.
  - In most cases, bullying behaviour can be addressed according to the strategies set out in our Behaviour Management Policy. Depending on the individual child and his/her level of understanding, the bullying will be addressed by the Lead Coach about how his/her actions affect others to try and help his/her understanding about right and wrong. The conversation will be kept in an age appropriate language and if necessary, supported with relevant visual aids/props.
- A member of staff will inform the parents/carers of all the children involved in a bullying incident at the earliest possible opportunity.

All children attending the RuggerRooz rugby club will behave appropriately; we do not accept any bullying, fighting, offensive language or any behaviour that affects the enjoyment of the club for others. In the event of such behaviour, RuggerRooz has the right to exclude any child from the club, without refund.

### **Useful Contacts**

- Childline, [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)
- Bullying Online, [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)
- Direct Gov, for information relating to legislation, [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

- Kidscape, [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)
- UNICEF, [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)