



# Swallowcliffe P-7

We value **Honesty, Respect, Achievement**

## SWALLOWCLIFFE PRESCHOOL

### Physical Handling

At Swallowcliffe Preschool we aim to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all children. Appropriate physical contact aligned with Protective Practices will be paramount at all times to contribute to staff and child wellbeing. Physical contact will occur when first aid needs to be administered, toileting is required, physical care is required, emotional care and comfort is required, special rights are being met and if a child is in an unsafe situation.

- Children with special rights may need to engage in more physical contact as a means of staff meeting their duty of care to the child. Communication concerning their needs will occur consistently between staff, parents/carers and child/ren.
- Toileting and changing procedures will be followed as required.
- If a child pulls away and doesn't want to be touched they will be respected, (unless they are in an unsafe situation) the child's safety and wellbeing will be monitored from a distance.
- If a child continues to be distressed for a long period of time parents/carers will be contacted.
- Comfort and care will continue to be provided in a public setting (e.g. excursions).

#### In unsafe situations:

- If child/ren are involved in/or causing an unsafe situation they will be directed to stop and other children will be moved away to a safe place (lockdown).
- If a child is involved in an unsafe incident, non physical restraint (proximity control) will occur and intervention will stop when the child is safe.
- If a child is in extreme immediate danger they will be removed from the situation by 2 staff members.
- If a child has to be restrained they will be restrained by clothing whenever possible and safe for all concerned.
- Parent/Carers will be informed of any incident that involves physical restraint to discuss the matter and each case will be considered as an individual case.
- An incident/injury form may need to be completed and forwarded to WHS representative if a staff member or student/s are injured. Documentation and Critical Incident forms will be recorded where necessary.
- Staff must record any physical restraint on behaviour data sheets or incident/injury forms.
- Counselling support/debriefing will be offered to staff/child/parent when necessary.

*Policy based on "Protective for Staff in their Interactions with Students" April 2009*

*Updated on: 9/5/19*

*Endorsed by Governing Council: August 2019*

*Reviewed:*

**Our Mission:** To empower students to recognise and optimise their full learning potential.



Government of South Australia  
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Child Development

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