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# Staff Behaviour Policy

Dainty Little Hands Ltd. expects all members of staff to follow our **Staff Behaviour Policy,** which sets clear guidance on the standards of behaviour required from our staff and volunteers. The guidance aims to encourage staff to meet the highest possible standards of conduct. Setting staff are in a position of trust and influence as role models for the children in their care, and as such must demonstrate behaviour that sets a good example to all users of the setting.

Setting staff also have a responsibility to maintain their reputation and the reputation of the Setting, both during and outside of working hours.

Behaviour

Our staff team are ambassadors for all Dainty Little Hands Ltd Settings, and we expect them to conduct themselves professionally at all times for the avoidance of doubt, this includes all Social Media conduct. Staff should treat anyone attending the Setting (children, parents/carers, and visitors) courteously and with respect.

We expect staff to value all the children as individuals and to comply with the Setting’s **Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy** at all times.

Swearing and abusive behaviour are not tolerated from anyone at the Setting. If any member of staff exhibits such behaviour they will be subject to the Setting’s disciplinary procedures.

Dress code

Whilst working at Dainty Little Hands Ltd Settings staff will need to help set up and pack away the setting, prepare food, facilitate craft activities and engage in physical activities with the children. The clothing and footwear worn should be chosen accordingly, taking into account comfort, health and safety, and practicality. Revealing or excessively tight clothing is not acceptable.

Whilst on duty all staff should wear the approved Setting sweatshirt / T shirt / colours / name badge at all times.

Clothes should be freshly washed daily (for further information, see **Infection Control Policy**).

Confidentiality and social media

Staff must not pass on any information about children attending the Setting, or their parents and families, to third parties without their permission. The only exception to this rule is information sharing with specific external agencies if there is a safeguarding issue. (‘Third parties’ includes other parents, friends, other children at the Setting, the press, etc.)

Posting any material relating to the Setting, the Host School, or any Stakeholder, for the avoidance of doubt, including Staff members, parents and children, or its users on social media sites (unless *expressly* permitted by the Setting Manager/Support Managers) is forbidden. Any staff who breach this rule will face disciplinary action.

See our **Privacy Notice, Social Media policy**, **Child Protection and Safeguarding policy** and **Staff Disciplinary policy** for more details.

Use of mobile phones and cameras

Staff personal mobile phones must be locked away during working hours.

If a member of staff needs to make an urgent personal call, they can use the Setting phone only or make a personal call from their mobile outside of the Setting room.

If a member of staff has a family emergency or similar and needs to keep their mobile phone to hand, they must obtain prior permission from Jayne Dainty.

Staff may only use the Setting camera to take photographs of children at the Setting, except with the express permission of Jayne Dainty.

Staff must **never** use their personal mobile phones or cameras to take photographs at the Setting during working hours. Doing so will be considered gross misconduct and may result in instant dismissal.

See our **Mobile Phone policy**, **Child Protection and** **Safeguarding policy** and **Staff Disciplinary policy** for more details.

Smoking, Vaping, alcohol and drugs

Staff are not permitted to smoke or vape anywhere on the Setting premises, including the outside play areas.

Staff are not permitted to bring alcohol or illegal drugs onto the Setting premises. If a member of staff arrives at work under the influence of alcohol or drugs they will be asked to leave immediately and disciplinary action will be taken.

If a member of staff is taking prescription drugs which might affect their ability to function effectively, they must inform the Setting Manager immediately. If the Setting Manager is taking prescription drugs which might affect their ability to function effectively, they must inform the Support Managers immediately.

Any prescribed medication needed by a staff member whilst at the Setting, must be stored safely in the locked cabinet out of reach and sight of the children attending the Setting. The staff member will be supported at an appropriate time and place to administer their medication. A risk assessment will be completed.

See our **Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs policy** for more details.

Gross misconduct

Staff will be dismissed without notice if they are found to have committed an act of gross misconduct. Examples of gross misconduct include, but are not restricted to:

1. Child abuse
2. Failing to comply with health and safety requirements
3. Physical violence
4. Ignoring a reasonable, direct instruction given by the Setting Manager, Support Managers or Managing Director.
5. Persistent bullying, sexual or racial harassment
6. Being unfit for work through alcohol or illegal drug use
7. Theft, fraud or falsification of documents
8. Being disqualified under the terms of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Section 75 of the Childcare Act 2006) or the Children’s Act 1989.

The Support Managers will investigate the alleged incident thoroughly before any decision to dismiss is made. For full details see our **Staff Disciplinary policy**.

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| This policy was adopted by: Dainty Little Hands Ltd | Date: 25/08/2022 |
| Reviewed :  01/08/2023  01/08/2024 |  |
| To be reviewed: 01/08/2025 | Signed: Jayne Dainty |

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Child Protection [3.4-3.8], Suitable people [3.11, 3.13, 3.19] and Disqualification [3.14-3.16], Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment [3.56], Information and records [3.70]*