

Behavioural Management of Children in Care

Policy



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| Document title | Behavioural Management of Children in Care |
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| Version | Date | Author | Changes made |
|---------|------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1.0 | 16/03/2015 | Service Development and Policy | To ensure case managers are aware of the positive behavioural management techniques to be used by carers when caring for children in care |
| 1.01 | 06/02/2017 | Director, Policy | Rebranded and changed Caseworkers to Case Managers |
| 1.02 | 21/07/2017 | Director Policy | Minor amendments |
| 1.03 | 13/01/2026 | Operational Policy | Rebranded and removed Viewpoint section. Changed case managers to practitioner. Made small edits regarding formatting and grammar. |

| Acronyms | Full form |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| Practitioner | Child Protection Practitioner |

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1. Policy Purpose

To ensure that practitioners are aware of positive behavioural management techniques that must be used by carers of children in the care of the CEO to ensure they are protected from any further harm.

2. Policy Statement

Practitioners must support carers to manage the behaviour of children in their care in a positive way, assisting the child to learn self-control, self-discipline, and to develop respect and consideration for other people.

Discipline and behavioural management strategies must be employed with consideration to the effect on other household members. When a carer or other person believes a particular behavioural management strategy should be considered for a child in care, the child's practitioner must be informed and consulted.

The use of discipline is part of the behavioural management process and falls into three categories; positive techniques, restricted interventions and prohibited disciplinary action.

Positive techniques are to be the first approach and are actions that encourage the development of appropriate behaviour, building upon skills the child already has, and assisting them to acquire new behaviours. Positive reinforcement both social and tangible is the basis of this approach.

Restrictive techniques involve some intrusion on the child's freedom in an attempt to stop or decrease a particular way of behaving. Withdrawal of privileges and time out are two techniques that need to be used carefully and appropriately. Prohibited techniques interfere with a child's basic human rights and are considered unethical. Prohibited techniques usually result in a serious restriction of personal freedom and unpleasant or aversive consequences for engaging in a particular behaviour.

3. Legislative Basis and Related Documents

[Care and Protection of Children Act 2007](#)

[Behaviour Management of Children in Care Guidelines](#)