



**All Saints C of E Infant and Nursery School
&
Selston C of E Infant and Nursery School**

Biting Policy

*"Opening Hearts and Minds through the Grace
and Love of God"*

Policy:	Biting
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Versions:			
VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR	CHANGES
1	Oct 25	JR – Executive Head	Initial version.

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) INFANT AND
NURSERY SCHOOL**

**SELSTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VC) INFANT AND NURSERY
SCHOOL**

MISSION STATEMENT

Opening hearts and minds through the grace and love of God

At All Saints Infant and Nursery School and Selston Infant and Nursery School children always come first and we try to nourish, challenge, prepare and inspire them within a Christian ethos.

We believe in valuing all who contribute towards the successful running of our schools including children, parents, carers, governors, teaching and non-teaching staff.

This Mission Statement lies at the heart of our schools' aims. It is the philosophical basis for all of the schools' policies and through these, for everything that happens in and round our schools. Our aspiration is for everyone at All Saints and Selston to:

- feel happy, secure, safe and valued at school
- develop a growing awareness of their own inner self and spirituality, and of the power of the Christian faith to transform lives
- develop healthy relationships based on care, trust, compassion and forgiveness
- show acceptance for and understanding of others who may have different beliefs or needs
- strive for the highest standards of achievement, developing the confidence and skills to be independent, motivated and self-disciplined learners
- have a positive approach to life, contributing to the well-being of the community and building hope for the future

We hope that children will leave our schools with open hearts and minds, ready to respond to the opportunities that lie before them and to experience the joy of life in all its fullness.

Introduction

At All Saints C of E Infant and Nursery School and Selston C of E Infant and Nursery School, we recognise that biting is a common developmental behaviour among young children, particularly in early years settings. Our Christian ethos of opening hearts and minds through grace and love guides us to respond with compassion, understanding, and consistency. This policy outlines our approach to managing biting incidents to ensure the safety, dignity, and well-being of all children in our care, within the framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory guidance.

Aims

- To maintain a safe, secure, and nurturing environment for all children.
- To manage biting incidents promptly, calmly, and consistently.
- To support children in developing communication and social skills to express their needs and emotions appropriately.
- To work collaboratively with parents, carers, and external professionals if needed, to address biting behaviour effectively.

Principles

- Every child is valued as a unique child of God and treated with respect and dignity.
- The safety and welfare of all children is paramount, in line with EYFS safeguarding and welfare requirements.
- Biting is usually a phase linked to developmental stages such as teething, language acquisition, social interaction challenges or sensory needs.
- Staff respond to biting incidents with care, patience, and professionalism.
- Confidentiality is maintained for all children and families involved.

Procedures

Prevention

- Staff observe children closely to identify triggers or situations that may lead to biting, such as teething, frustration, tiredness, or lack of resources.
- The learning environment is organised to reduce stressors and promote positive interactions.

- Staff ensure children have access to appropriate resources, including teething aids, to meet their developmental needs.

Responding to a Biting Incident

- Staff intervene immediately and calmly to separate the children/adult involved.
- The bitten child/adult is supported, and first aid is administered promptly following EYFS health and safety guidance (including cleaning wounds and applying appropriate dressings).
- The child who bit is communicated with calmly, with clear explanations that biting is unacceptable, aligned with our values of care, trust, and forgiveness. This may be verbally or using Makaton signs or symbols.
- A factual record is made detailing the incident, including context, actions taken, and communication with parents/carers.
- Parents/carers of both children are informed on the same day, sensitively and confidentially.
- Staff review the incident to identify causes and plan support or changes to prevent recurrence.

Supporting the Child Who Bites

- Staff seek to understand the underlying reasons for biting, such as teething, language acquisition, social interaction challenges or sensory needs.
- Individual support plans may be developed, including:
 - Increased supervision and support.
 - Teaching alternative ways to express feelings and needs.
 - Providing appropriate teething aids or sensory resources such as chewelry, crunchy snacks.
 - Working closely with parents/carers and, where necessary, external professionals such as speech and language therapists or health visitors.

Supporting a Child Who Has Been Bitten

- First aid care is provided, including cleaning and monitoring for signs of infection. If further medical assistance is required, this will be advised to parents/carers immediately.

- Parents/carers are informed of the incident and any treatment given.
- Staff monitor the child's well-being following the incident.

Supporting a Staff Member Who Has Been Bitten

- The member of staff is supported by another member of staff so they can assess the impact of the bite.
- First aid care is provided, including cleaning and monitoring for signs of infection. If further medical assistance is required, the staff member will seek it immediately.
- Senior Leadership monitor the staff members well-being following the incident.

Record Keeping

- All biting incidents are recorded on CPOMS, including details of the children/adults involved, context, actions taken, and parental communication.
- Records are reviewed regularly by senior leaders including SENCO to identify patterns and inform practice improvements.

Confidentiality

- Information about biting incidents is shared only with relevant staff and parents/carers involved.
- The school maintains confidentiality to protect all children's dignity and privacy.

Staff Training and Support

- Staff receive regular training on managing biting behaviour, child development, communication strategies, sensory profiles, and safeguarding.
- Staff are supported in responding to incidents with empathy and professionalism, reflecting the school's Christian values.

Working with Parents and Carers

- Parents/carers are kept informed and involved in addressing biting behaviour.
- The school provides guidance and support to families to ensure consistent approaches between home and school.
- Open, respectful communication is encouraged to build trust and partnership.

Links to Statutory Guidance

This policy is implemented in line with the following statutory frameworks and guidance:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework, particularly safeguarding and welfare requirements relating to health, safety, and behaviour management.
- All Saints C of E Infant and Nursery School and Selston C of E Infant and Nursery School's safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The school's Christian vision and values, promoting care, forgiveness, and inclusion for all children.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every four years or as necessary to reflect best practice, statutory guidance, and the needs of our school community.