




South Lee Prep School  
Bury St Edmunds

## Biting Policy September 2024

<b>ISI Reference</b>	
<b>Key Author</b>	Deputy Head
<b>Reviewed by</b>	Head Chair of Governors
<b>Approval Body</b>	Board of Governors
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Signed: 	Steve Honeywood, Chair of Governors 3/9/24
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## **Biting Policy**

Biting is usually a temporary condition that is most common between thirteen and twenty four months of age. The safety of the children at the nursery is our primary concern.

The South Lee Prep School's biting policy addresses the actions the staff will take if a biting incident occurs.

Toddlers bite other toddlers for many different reasons. A child might be teething or overly tired and frustrated. He or she might be experimenting or trying to get the attention of the carer or their peers.

Toddlers have poor verbal skills and are impulsive without a lot of self-control. Sometimes biting occurs for no apparent reason. The staff members will maintain close and constant supervision of the children at all times.

The Following Steps will be taken if a Biting Incident Occurs at our School:

- The biting will be interrupted with a firm "No...we do not bite our friends!"
- Staff will stay calm and will not overreact.
- The bitten child will be comforted. Staff will remove the biter from the situation. The biter will be given 'Time Out' and an explanation on why their behaviour is not acceptable.
- The biter will be asked to say 'sorry' to the child they have bitten.
- The wound of the bitten child shall be assessed and cold compress applied if needed and recorded on our accident form. The parents of both children will be notified in writing of the biting incident. Appropriate forms will be filled out and filed (Incident Report/ CPOMS).
- Confidentiality of all children involved will be maintained.
- The bitten area should continue to be observed by parents and staff for signs of infection.
- The biter will be given appropriate activities and support from all staff to help monitor and ensure the continuation of positive behaviour.

Action to be taken:

- After the first biting incident, the parents of both children will be notified in writing of the biting incident. Appropriate forms will be filled out and filed (Incident Report).
- If biting occurs a second time then parents will be invited in to discuss and draw up a positive personal behaviour plan, using ABC behavioural charts and individualised pupil support plans.
- If biting occurs a third time then an action plan will be drawn up with the help of the parents to best decide on how the child is to be gradually re introduced to school.
- During this process the child will be extremely closely monitored by the staff.
- If biting continues the parents will be asked to seek help from a medical practitioner to make sure that there are no health implications that are causing their child to bite.