



## Seagull Childcare Shaldon, South Devon

### **PHYSICAL CONTACT POLICY**

As a registered Ofsted child minder of young children there will be times when it is necessary to have physical contact with those children.

Each child has differing needs. Some children like to be affectionate and show it through hugs, kisses etc others are not so tactile. I am happy to hug, kiss (head or cheek) hold hands, cuddle and/or tickle etc your child providing both you and your child are happy with this. I would never force a child to do any of the above if it makes them feel uncomfortable.

I will restrain a child only if they are at risk of inflicting harm on themselves or others. I will separate children if they are fighting. I will restrain a child if they try and run into the road etc. If I do need to restrain your child I will document it in my incident book. This is to protect all parties.

I will also need to have some physical contact with your child in order to ensure hygiene routines are carried out - for example the washing of hands, faces and teeth and the wiping of noses.

Parents/Carers of children are expected to start and teach their child about toilet training and I will then support them and their needs. I am happy to assist with toileting according to the age and stage of ability of the child and to change nappies if required. If necessary I will change a child's clothes if they have had an accident.

Older children – eight years or older – will not need as much restraining or physical contact but will be expected to learn to carry out instructions when necessary to protect themselves from harm.