



Supportive Interactions Strategy



Why do we have a strategy?

- To help children develop good relationships with each other
- To help children share, take turns, listen to each other and understand feelings
- To help children experience clear, consistent boundaries
- So that all adults at Hartcliffe Nursery School & Children's Centre use the same consistent strategies
- To ensure a calm and positive environment for everyone
- To share the strategy with parents and families so they can use the same ideas at home



What we do: a step by step approach

STEP 1

- Go to where the child is
- Get down to their level
- Ask child clearly to 'Please stop'
- Use the hand signal 'to stop'



If there is an argument or disagreement then help the children say what the problem is...

"Oh, I can see you both want to use the same train..."

STEP 2 (if no solution found)

- Offer a clear choice in simple language
- Repeat choice up to 3 times to ensure understanding



"I am worried that you will fall and hurt yourself. Please come down or I will help you down."

"I am worried that the sand may go in Joe's eye. You can choose. Stay here and don't throw the sand or go to another area. What are you going to choose?"

"Remember, we agreed you were going to share the dollies. You can choose. Please let Lucy have her turn or choose to play with something else. What are you going to choose?"

STEP 3 (if the child cannot make a choice)

- The adult will make a decision

"You have chosen to leave the sand and play somewhere else."

- The choice may be offered again later once a child has had time to think

"What are you going to choose to do?"

STEP 4

If children reach Step 3 regularly or need further support we will meet with the parents to make an individual plan.

