



## BITING POLICY, ESTABLISHED 2016.

"Due to repeat incidents in a Pre-nursery class-room".

Dear parents,

Biting is an unfortunate but not unexpected occurrence at kindergarten, which happens due to a lack of social, territorial, behavioral and/or muscle/strength control skills.

At Newton kindergarten we believe in positive reinforcement and focus on helping children change disruptive behavior, such as with those who bite, by giving alternatives to biting.

In case of a child being bitten we follow the incident procedure and supplement with behavioral awareness

- 1. Bring the child who was bitten to the nurse and show immediate care.*
- 2. Explain to the child who bit, that it is wrong and teach control or other ways to react given the situation.*
- 3. Inform the family of the child who was bitten by writing in the communication book or in case of a severe bite by calling.*
- 4. Inform the family of the child who bit, by writing, calling or in case of repeat incidents arrange a meeting in person.*
- 5. Hui Xin campus nurse keeps record of all nurse visits and issue an incident report in case of "severe" cases of biting.*

It is important for teachers, school and parents to work together in order to stop negative trends in the class-room environment. However, it is also important to remember that biting is a normal occurrence in kindergartens and part of our job to deal with.

As a parent of the child who was bitten please try to understand the other family as well; "what would you do if it was your child who bite others?", "would it be fair to expel a child from childcare services, now when they need it more than others?".

Newton teachers and management disapprove of biting. But will work to keep children safe by helping the child who bites use a more appropriate behavior.

In case of a repeat pattern, teachers will develop an action plan, record the frequency of occurrences, create a time-line and note if it happens at certain times of day, during certain activities or if it is simple random misbehavior in order to cooperate with parents for a successful outcome.

School supervisors and management is always available to help parents or teachers who need guidance.

Sincerely,

Anders S Christensen

Newton Kindergarten, September 7th, 2016