



# Physical Contact Policy

## *Bumble & Bloom Childcare*

Warm, appropriate physical contact is an essential part of caring for young children. This policy sets out how we give affection and physical care safely.

### Age-appropriate affection

- We offer cuddles, comfort, laps and hand-holding where the child seeks or clearly welcomes it.
- We follow the child's cues — they lead when it comes to touch.
- We never withhold appropriate affection as a punishment or reward.

### Physical care

- Nappy changing, toileting, dressing and applying sun cream are carried out sensitively (see Privacy & Dignity Policy).
- We explain what we are doing and give the child choices where possible.

### Managing challenging situations

- We use positive strategies to redirect behaviour before physical intervention is considered.
- Physical intervention is only used to prevent immediate harm to the child, others or property and is always the least restrictive option.
- Any intervention is recorded and shared with parents on the day.

### Safeguarding

- Adults model safe and respectful touch at all times.
- Any concerns about touch are raised through our Whistle-Blowing and Safeguarding policies.

### Review

- This policy is reviewed at least annually.