



## Biting Policy

Reviewed by:	Chris Hancock – Deputy Head Pastoral	September 2024
Approved by:	Trish Watt -Headmistress	September 2023
Next Review Date:	September 2025	

### Introduction

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This policy covers all injuries deliberately inflicted on one child by another.

Incidents of biting, scratching and pinching between one child and another occur very rarely. Injuries like this are usually inflicted by the younger members of our community who do not understand how much they can hurt another child and have not acquired the skills to express themselves vocally.

Eaton Square School endeavours to prevent biting and scratching in the following ways:

- Keeping ratios absolutely correct
- Helping the children to learn social skills
- Observing the children at all times
- Exchanging information between parents and staff e.g. useful information on teething or biting at home

If an incident of biting or scratching occurs:

- The child who has been bitten will be comforted and appropriate first aid will be carried out.
- The parents of the child who has been bitten or scratched will naturally be concerned and the Head of EYFS will explain our policy and seek to reassure the parent.
- The parents of the child who has carried out the bite will be informed.
- Following an incident of biting or scratching, the children involved will all be shadowed carefully.
- If the biting or scratching does not stop, the school may need to take further action, which could include seeking extra information or advice from other professionals.
- If the bite breaks the skin, medical advice will be sought and parents informed.
- The child who bites or scratches will be removed from the situation and, if the child is old enough to understand, it will be explained that this behaviour is unacceptable; staff will then act in accordance with the EYFS behaviour policy.
- Strategies are designed to deal with the biter through observation of patterns of behaviour.
- In EYFS, all incidents of biting or scratching are recorded in an Accident/Incident Report form and parents receive a copy of this.
- In the Prep School, all incidents of biting or scratching are recorded on CPOMS under the Accident Log and the incident is reported to parents by the Form Teacher.

If the problem persists, then it may be necessary for the Head to intervene.