**Physical Contact**

At Tunstall Two’s there are certain circumstances when we feel that children require close physical contact.

These circumstances are as follows:

* When a child is distressed and requires comfort.
* When a child requires calming to ensure continued self-control.
* When a child has been injured and requires first-aid.
* When a child requires encouragement in either educational or social solutions, physical prompting may be used.
* When a child has a disability and requires help.
* As a positive reinforcement for effort or achievement.
* In response to a show of affection from a child.

**Close Physical Contact**

* Changing children’s nappies, supporting toileting and personal care routines.
* Changing children’s soiled or wet clothes.
* Holding the hand of a child.
* A gentle touch to the hand, arm or shoulder of the child.
* An arm around the shoulder of the child.
* A hug or cuddle, like any responsible, caring parent/carer might give their child.

We are aware that some children may be uncomfortable with close physical contact and this should be respected. Therefore this level of contact would only happen with full agreement of the child.

I agree that staff can use appropriate physical contact in the above circumstances.

**Signed …………………………………………………………….**