

## **Types of Approaches to Behaviour**

We can have a positive or negative approach to dealing with behaviour.

### **Positive**

Show the positive ways of dealing with unwanted behaviour so our children learn what behaviour is OK and what is NOT, and that they will make mistakes. It pays attention to what they are doing well, rather than noticing only what they are doing wrong. It keeps adults in charge, while respecting children's rights and feelings and helps them to think and act for themselves. Its aim is to help children learn self-discipline, to take responsibility for their own actions, and to treat both others and themselves with care and respect.

Positive approach to dealing with behaviour has a positive effect on children and the way they behave.

### **Positive Approach**

Fair, Firm, Consistent, Kind

Clear and reasonable rules with open, flexible attitude giving fair choices (with consequences). Listening to all sides of the story.

### **Negative**

This focuses on what children are doing wrong. It teaches what is wrong, but seldom explains what is right or acknowledges good behaviour. Negative approach has a negative effect on children. It makes them believe not just that they have done wrong, but that they themselves are not a good person.

### **Negative Approach**

Unfair, Critical, Inconsistent, Harsh

Unclear or unreasonable rules. Not being consistent and giving in sometimes leads to children believing they are in control and can "get away with it" Being angry at the child and ignoring the behaviour can lead to focusing on the person not the issue.