

SAFE TOUCH

In the course of playing in a Therapeutic Play session, the child may initiate touch as part of the play.

What is SAFE TOUCHING?

SAFE TOUCHING is touching which normally occurs in respectful, correct adult-child relationships. It also occurs when a child has a fall/injures themselves.

SAFE TOUCHING generally means that THE CHILD INITIATES THE TOUCHING INTERACTION.

SAFE TOUCHING happens only on the following parts of the body:

- HANDS;
- FEET;
- ABOVE THE WAIST ON THE BACK;
- SIDES OF THE ARMS;
- SHOULDERS;
- FACE AND HEAD;
- HOLDING HANDS;
- LIFTING A SMALL CHILD.

SAFE TOUCHING happens when the child wishes to play games like:

- Round and Round the Garden.
- Games involving hand-clapping movements.
- Or wishes to be held for a few moments during a period of strong feelings.

SAFE TOUCHING also may happen when the child requests to be held in a blanket.

SAFE TOUCHING may also happen on the back when the therapist is assisting the child to relax through massage games (generally above the waist only) like:

- Weather Massage.
- Bake-a-cake Massage.
- Incy-wincy Spider Massage.

Based on Sue Jennings training session content