

Working with Parents Policy



The settings is supervised by highly trained and qualified staff, nevertheless we welcome the parent/carer to stay during sessions that their child attends.

Research shows that children learn better when parents take an active interest and feel involved. This will help you to understand what takes place during the sessions and you will be able to talk with your child about their day. We hope that you will also value the opportunity to meet other adults involved with the pre-school.

In our practices we aim to make clear that pre-school welcomes both fathers and mothers, other relations and carers, including child-minders, and people from all cultural, ethnic, religious and social groups, without discrimination regarding abilities. Whenever the word parent is used this understanding should be acknowledged.

Children cannot play or learn successfully if they are anxious or unhappy. Our settling in procedures aim to help parents and their children feel comfortable in the pre-school, to benefit from what it has to offer and to be confident that their parents will return at the end of the session. We want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents, to recognise other adults as a source of authority, help and friendship and to be able to share with their parents afterwards the new learning experiences at pre-school. In order to encourage this we will -

- We have an open door policy but formal visits are available by appointment
- Make clear to families from the outset that they will be supported in the pre-school for as long as it takes to settle their child there and reassure parents whose children seem to be taking a long time settling in the pre-school.
- Encourage parents, where appropriate, to separate from their children for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences.

Parents/Carers are the main educators of their young children. Parents/Carers have the most knowledge and understanding of their child. Having Parents/Carers share this knowledge helps us to build experience in planning for the children's future development. The aim of the pre-school is to work in partnership with the Parents/Carers to provide good early years education. To achieve this we will

- Welcome the contributions of parents, whatever form these may take.
- Exchanging information between us and Parents/Carers and vice versa will combine learning wherever it takes place.
- Parents/Carers will be fully encouraged to take part in their children's learning.
- Parents/Carers will be made aware of all Policies and procedures when first starting with us.
- Ensure there are opportunities for parents to discuss progress of their child with staff.
- Ensure that all parents have opportunities to contribute from their own skills, knowledge and interest to the activities of the settings.
- Provide newsletters of activities of the settings.
- Make Parents/Carers aware of the procedure in place for registering queries, complaints or suggestions.
- Make opportunities for Parents/Carers to learn about the EYFS Curriculum and Young children's learning in pre-school and at home.