Anlaby Park Methodist Pre-school

Parents and Carers as Partners Policy

We believe that in order for children to receive quality care and early learning that suits their individual needs, parents and staff need to work together in a close partnership. The two-way sharing of information is key to this. The Pre-School team welcomes parents as partners and this relationship needs to be built on trust and understanding. It is important that we, as practitioners, are able to support parents in an open and sensitive manner.

The Pre-School wishes to ensure parents are an integral part of the care and early learning team within the setting.

Our policy is to:

* Recognise and support parents as their child’s first and most important educators, and to welcome them into the life of the Pre-School
* Generate confidence and encourage parents to trust their own instincts and judgement regarding their own child
* Welcome all parents into the Pre-School at any time
* Ensure documentation and communications are in a format to suit individual parent’s needs, e.g. Braille, multi-lingual, electronic communications
* Ensure that all parents are aware of the Pre-School’s policies and procedures. A detailed parent prospectus will be provided and our full policy documents will be available to parents at all times available in the parent’s waiting room.
* Maintain regular contact with parents to help us to build a secure and beneficial working relationship for their children
* Inform parents about the range and type of activities and experiences provided for children, the daily routines of the setting, the types of food and drinks provided for children and events through regularly distributed newsletters and the Pre-school website
* Operate a key person system to enable a close working relationship with all parents. Parents are given the name of the key person of their child and their role when the child starts.
* Support two-way information sharing regarding each child’s individual needs both in Pre-School and at home
* Inform parents on a regular basis about their child’s progress and involve them in the shared record keeping.
* Consider and discuss all suggestions from parents concerning the care and early learning of their child and Pre-School operation
* Provide opportunities and support for all parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the Pre-School
* Inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, compliments, complaints or suggestions. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure
* Provide opportunities for parents to learn about the Early Years Foundation Stage and about young children's learning in the pre-school and how parents can share learning at home and where they can access further information
* Respect the family’s religious and cultural backgrounds and beliefs and to accommodate any special requirements wherever possible and practical to do so
* Inform parents how the Pre-School supports children with special educational needs and disabilities
* Find out the needs and expectations of parents. These will be obtained through regular feedback via informal conversations and questionnaires. These are then evaluated by the Pre-School to promote good practice, policy and staff development.

**This policy was adopted on: 11th March 2022**

**Signed on behalf of the Pre-School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date for review: March 2023**