



Parents and Carers as Partners

At Growing stars Pre-school, we believe that parents and staff need to work together in a close partnership in order for children to receive the quality of care and early learning to meet their individual needs. We welcome parents as partners and support a two-way sharing of information that helps establish trust and understanding. We are committed to supporting parents in an open and sensitive manner to include them as an integral part of the care and early learning team within the Pre-school.

The key person system supports engagement with all parents and will use strategies to ensure that all parents can contribute to their child's learning and development. Parents contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points on entry and they are kept well informed about their children's progress. Parents are encouraged to support and share information about their children's learning and development at home. The key person system ensures all practitioners use effective, targeted strategies and interventions to support learning that match most children's individual needs.

Our policy aims to:

- 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 and provide an area where parents can speak confidentially with us as required.
- Ensure Pre-school documentation and communications are provided in different formats to suit each parent's needs, e.g. multi-lingual, electronic communications.
- Ensure that all parents are aware of the Pre-school's policies and procedures. Our full policy documents will be available to parents at all times during Pre-school opening hours.
- Maintain regular contact with parents to help us to build a secure and beneficial working relationship for their children.
- Support parents in their own continuing education and personal development.
- Create opportunities for parents to talk to other adults in a secure and supportive environment through such activities as open days and a parents' forum.
- Operate a key person system to enable parents to establish a close, working relationship with a named practitioner and to support two-way information sharing about each child's individual needs both in Pre-School and at home. Parents are given the name of the key person of their child and their role when the child starts.

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Policy Reviewed: Yearly

Written on behalf of Growing Stars Pre-School : S Haywood



- Inform parents on a regular basis about their child's progress and involve them in shared record keeping. Parents' consultations will be held at least twice a year. The Pre-school will consult with parents about the times of meetings to avoid excluding anyone.
- Actively encourage parents to contribute to children's learning through sharing observations, interests and experiences from home. This may be verbally, sharing photographs or in written form.
- Agree the best communication method with parents e.g. email, face-to-face, telephone and share information about the child's day, e.g. activities.
- 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 including signposting to relevant services, agencies, and training opportunities.
- Inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, compliments, complaints, or suggestions, and to check that these systems are understood by parents.
- Make sure all parents have access to our written complaint's procedure.
- Share information about the Early Years Foundation Stage, how parents can further support learning at home and where they can access further information.
- Provide a written contract between the parent(s) and the Pre-school regarding conditions of acceptance and arrangements for payment.
- Respect the family's religious and cultural backgrounds and beliefs and accommodate any special requirements wherever possible and practical to do so.
- Inform parents how Growing Stars Pre-school supports children with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Find out the needs and expectations of parents. We will do this through regular feedback via questionnaires, suggestion systems and encouraging parents to review working practices.

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