**Em's Stars Clubs have clearly defined policies and procedures.**

**Admissions**

Our Club aims to be accessible to children and families from all sections of our local community. Admission to the club is organised by the Manager and we use a waiting list system when the need arises. The waiting list will be operated on a first come-first served basis, with the exception of siblings who will have priority for the same days as a sibling already attending. See our Admission and Fees Policy for more details. We require a completed set of registration forms for your child before they can attend the club. This information will be treated as confidential and will be stored appropriately.

**Payment of fees**

The current fees for Primary School age are £6.00 per child per breakfast session, £11.00 for an After school session. **For Preschool children the** current fees are £7.00 per child per breakfast session, £15.00 for an After school session. In the event that these change, parents will be given a minimum of four weeks notice. Fees are payable in advance by card, bank transfer, Tax-Free Childcare or childcare vouchers (please see our website for a full list). The price per session per child applies to all children. This is payable for all booked sessions including when your child is sick, or on holiday (regardless of the amount of notice given). We do not charge for bank holidays and professional training days. Please ensure that fees are paid promptly. Non-payment may result in your place being terminated. If you are having difficulty paying fees, please speak in confidence to the Manager. If the club is closed due to measures beyond our control for example closure due to snow, infection outbreak or health and safety risks then refunds will not be issued.

**Ad Hoc and Contract Bookings**

Contracts can be booked for each year if you want to guarantee set sessions. Four weeks notice must be given to cancel a contract. Payments for contracts will be invoiced monthly and must be paid by the start of the month.

Ad Hoc sessions can be booked as a more flexible service for parents. They can be booked up to the start of the session, if spaces are available. Ad Hoc sessions must be paid for at the time of booking. Refunds will be given with four weeks notice.

**Changes to days and cancelling your place**

You must give us one month’s notice of termination, or of changes in attendance. If you need to change the days that your child attends, please contact the Manager. We try to accommodate such changes wherever possible.

**Temporary changes**

Please remember that we need to know if your child will not be attending the Club for any reason. Even if you have informed your child's school, you still need to notify us as the school does not automatically pass this information on to us. If your child doesn’t attend a booked session, we will have to treat them as a ‘missing child’ unless you have notified us of their absence. If you know in advance of any days when your child will not be attending during the following week, please try to let the Manager know by THURSDAY at the latest. In cases of illness or emergency when notice cannot be given, please call as soon as you can.

**Arrivals and departures**

Our staff collect children from Our Lady of Pity RC Primary School and escort them to the Club. A register is taken when children arrive in our care, and you must sign out your child each day when you collect them. We expect that your child will normally be collected by the people you have named on the registration form. If you need a different person to collect your child on a particular day, you must notify us in advance. We will not release your child into the care of a person unknown to us without your authorisation. See our Arrivals and Departures Policy for more details. The club finishes at 6.00pm, if you are delayed for any reason please telephone the Club to let us know. A late payment fee of £15.00 per 15 minutes will be charged if you collect your child after the Club has closed. You may also be asked to make a contribution towards any extra staff wages and transport costs incurred. If your child remains uncollected after 6.30pm and you have not warned us that you will be delayed, and we have been unable to reach you or any of your emergency contacts, we will follow our Uncollected Children Policy and contact the Social Care team.

**Child protection**

We are committed to building a ‘culture of safety’ in which the children in our care are protected from abuse and harm. Any suspicion of abuse is promptly and appropriately responded to. We comply with local and national child protection procedures and ensure that all staff are appropriately trained. For more details see our Safeguarding Policy.

**Equal opportunities**

Our Club provides a safe and caring environment, free from discrimination, for everyone in our community including children with additional needs. • We respect the different racial origins, religions, cultures and languages in a multi-ethnic society so that each child is valued as an individual without racial or gender stereotyping. • We will challenge inappropriate attitudes and practices. • We will not tolerate any form of racial harassment.

**Special needs**

We make every effort to accommodate and welcome any child with special needs. We will work in liaison with parents or carers and relevant professionals to fully understand your child’s specific requirements. We will endeavour to accommodate all children of all abilities, whilst working within the Club’s limitations. Each case will be considered individually and risk-assessed to ensure everyone’s safety. Our staff training programme includes specific elements relating to children with special needs. For more details on equal opportunities and special needs, see our Equalities Policy.