

30. Parent Partnership

Statement of intent

Parent/guardians and families are always welcome at Polesden Lacey Playschool. We feel strongly that parent/guardians and the Playschool work closely together to provide the best environment for children to thrive and develop.

Polesden Lacey Playschool strives to eliminate barriers that impede family involvement, and to create a rich learning environment, developed in collaboration with families. When we refer to 'parent/guardians' this means the adults who have the lawful rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority in relation to a particular child. We appreciate that these may include natural and birth parents as well as same sex parents, step-parents, foster parents and parents who do not live with their children, but do have contact with them and play a part in their lives.

Aim

Our aim is to support parent/guardians as their child's first and most important educators by involving them in their children's education, care and Playschool life.

Practice

At Polesden Lacey Playschool we will:

- generate confidence and encourage parent/guardians to trust their own instincts and judgement regarding their own child;
- welcome all parent/guardians into the Playschool at any time and be as flexible as possible;
- ensure Playschool documentation and communications can be easily adapted to a format to suit individual parent's needs, e.g. multi-lingual, electronic communications;
- ensure that all parent/guardians are aware of the Playschool's policies and procedures. A detailed prospectus will be provided and our full policy documents will be available upon joining and is also display in a folder in the cloakroom;
- maintain regular contact with parent/guardians to help us to build a secure and beneficial working relationship for their children;
- support parent/guardians in their own continuing education and personal development and inform them of relevant conferences, workshops and training;
- inform parent/guardians about Playschool activities and events through regularly distributed newsletters, liaising through WhatsApp and Facebook;
- operate a key person system to enable a close working relationship with all parents. Support two-way information sharing regarding each child's individual needs both in Playschool and at home;
- inform parent/guardians on a regular basis about their child's progress through Tapestry.
- consider and discuss all suggestions from parent/guardians concerning the care and early learning of their child and Playschool operation;
- provide opportunities and support for all parent/guardians to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the Playschool;
- ensure all parent/guardians are fully informed about meetings, conferences, workshops and training;
- inform all parent/guardians of the systems for registering queries, compliments, complaints or suggestions, and to check that these systems are understood;
- provide opportunities for parent/guardians to learn about the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and about young children's learning in the Playschool and at home;
- provide a written contract between the parent/guardians and the Playschool regarding conditions of acceptance and arrangements for payment and funding;
- respect the family's religious and cultural backgrounds and beliefs to accommodate any special requirements wherever possible and practical to do so; and

- find out the needs and expectations of parent/guardians. These will be obtained through regular feedback via questionnaires, suggestion system and encouraging parent/guardians to review working practices. These are then evaluated to promote Playschool practice, policy and staff development.

We ask the parent/guardian to:

- keep us up to date with all information relating to any changes to parental responsibilities, court orders and injunctions.
- work with Polesden Lacey Playschool to ensure continuity of care and support for the child.

Policy Review

As part of Polesden Lacey Playschool monitoring of parent partnerships this policy will be subject to periodic review.

Policy adopted by: Ellie Pragnell (Chair), Caroline O'Leary (Manager)

Date: September 24

Policy Review Date: September 25