



## **Parental involvement policy**

### **Policy Statement**

We believe that children benefit most from early years education and care when parents and settings work together in partnership.

Our aim is to support parents as their children's first and most important educators by involving them in their children's education and in the full life of the setting.

Some parents are less well represented in early years settings; these include fathers, parents who live apart from their children but who still play a part in their lives, as well as working parents. In carrying out the following procedures we will ensure all parents are included.

When we refer to "parents" we mean both mothers and fathers; these include both natural or birth parents as well as step-parents and parents who do not live with their children but who have contact with them and play a part in their lives. "Parents" also includes same sex parents as well as foster parents.

### **Procedures**

- We have a means to ensure all parents are included – that may mean we have different strategies for involving fathers or parents who work or live apart from their children.
- We ensure ongoing dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families
- We inform all parents about how the setting is run and its policies through access to written information and through regular informal communication.
- We inform all parents on a regular basis about their children's progress
- We involve parents in the shared record keeping about their children – either formally or informally - and ensure they have access to their children's written developmental records
- We provide opportunities for parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the setting
- We welcome the contributions of parents, in whatever form these may take. In particular we welcome parents into the setting to help out for a session. To facilitate this we put up a "parent rota" each half term so parents can sign up to help out at a session which suits them. Parent volunteers are not allowed unsupervised access to the children and are not allowed to take children to the toilet.
- We inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure
- We provide opportunities for parents/carers to learn about the curriculum offered in the setting and about young children's learning in the setting and at home.

In compliance with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements, the following documentation is in place:

- Admissions policy
- Complaints procedure
- Record of complaints

admissions policy

- Complaints procedure
- Record of complaints
- Developmental records of children

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Child's Play Pre-School name of setting \_\_\_\_\_

Held on (date) 03/09/12

Signed on behalf of the Proprietor \_\_\_\_\_

Role of signatory owners

This policy was reviewed on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

*continue as necessary* \_\_\_\_\_ (date)