

SECTION 4

General Welfare Requirement: Organisation

Providers must plan and organise their systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs.

Organisation

4.3 Parental involvement

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. We also aim to support parents in their own continuing education and personal development by providing a flexible provision.

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 have contact with them and play a part in their lives. 'Parental responsibility' is *all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property.*

EYFS key themes and commitments

1.2 Inclusive practice	2.1 Respecting each other	3.2 Supporting every child	
1.4 Health and well-being	2.2 Parents as partners		
	2.3 Supporting learning		
	2.4 Key person		

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 consult with all parents to find out what works best for them.
- 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 check to ensure parents understand the information that is given to them.
- 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 parents have access to their children's Learning Journey.
- We provide opportunities for parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the setting.
- We inform parents about relevant workshops and training through our information board.
- We provide information about opportunities to be involved in the setting in ways that are accessible to parents with basic skills needs, or those for whom English is an additional language.
- We welcome the contributions of parents, in whatever form these may take.
- We inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions and check to ensure these are understood. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure on the parent's information board.
- We provide opportunities for parents to learn about the curriculum offered in the setting and about young children's learning.

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

- Admissions policy.
- Complaints procedure.
- Record of complaints.
- Developmental records of children.

This policy was adopted by

Young Discoverers

On

10th July 2012 (date)

Signed

Name of signatory

Mrs Karen Keene

Role of signatory

Manager

