

6. Care, learning and play policy

Statement of intent:

The activities, experiences and atmosphere of our pre-school aims to encourage confidence, Independence and enjoyment. Enabling all children to develop their emotional, social, cognitive and physical skills. Building on their desire to explore, discover and be creative.

Aims

We aim to provide a well-planned and organised play environment that offers all children rich and stimulating experiences, alongside opportunities to explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves. The curriculum will recognise and take into account the differing ages, interests, backgrounds and abilities of all children.

Methods

Activities are carefully planned to allow children to build on their natural curiosity, advance their thinking, use their imagination and develop positive social relationships with both adults and children. At all times staff will recognise, support, promote and acknowledge all children's individuality, efforts and achievements.

Wherever appropriate, all children will be involved in the process of planning activities so that the programme reflects their interests and opinions. Parents and carers, are also encouraged to share in this process by parent link activities, Schema booklet, home link book, All About Me, Favourite Things, Bounce leaflet etc. Staff and children use Wow! stars to celebrate any exciting achievement. Helping children feel a strong sense of self as a member of different communities where they are relaxed and happy to explore, experiment, learn and share these experiences themselves, with other members of the group and their families/carers. With written parental permission we contact other providers or settings where the child has regular contact to gain an insight on what they are experiencing there.

Staff acknowledge the importance of:

- Reflection and evaluation on practice, sometimes recognising that working with children is a complex, challenging and demanding task and that often there are no easy answers.
- Understanding that learning is a shared process and that children learn most effectively when, with the support of a knowledgeable and trusted adult, regular involvement and sharing of information from parents, carers and other settings, they are actively involved and interested.

Staff will respond appropriately to children according to their age, understanding and needs. We will provide all children with an accessible range of equipment and resources appropriate to their age and interests. All children will be offered access to outdoor play every day subject to suitable weather conditions. No child will be left unsupervised during play activities. The planning of activities will be displayed on the main notice board alongside the daily provision being offered. Details on how the session is organised will be displayed on a poster in the quiet room and on a visual timetable which is accessible to all children and their parents/carers. The staff will ensure that the time is managed effectively and is also flexible allowing for the interests of the children.

Links to other policies, legislation and forms:-

- Planning activities displayed on main notice board.
- Organisation of daily routine displayed in quiet room.
- Visual timetable accessible to all children / parents.

This policy was reviewed at a meeting of Walton Under Fives Pre-School held in June 2018.

Signed (Pre School Leader) Date

Signed (Committee Chair) Date