



## Parents and Carers as Partners

At Little Gillies we welcome all parents as partners and support a two-way sharing of information that helps establish trust and understanding. We are committed to supporting parents in an open and sensitive manner and include them as an integral part of the care and early learning team within the nursery. Working together ensures we can meet the individual needs of the family and child and provide the highest quality of care and education.

The key person system supports engagement with all parents, and we use strategies to ensure that all parents can contribute to their child's learning and development. We ask parents to contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points on entry and they are kept well informed about their children's progress. We encourage parents to support and share information about their children's learning and development at home and the key person seeks to engage them in guiding their child's development at home too.

### **Our policy is to:**

- Recognise and support parents as their child's first and most important educators and to welcome them into the life of the nursery
- Generate confidence and encourage parents to trust their own instincts and judgement regarding their own child
- Welcome nursing mothers
- Ensure nursery documentation and communications are provided in different formats to suit each parent's needs
- Ensure that all parents are aware of the nursery's policies and procedures. Maintain regular contact with parents to help us to build a secure and beneficial working relationship for their children
- Support parents in their own continuing education and personal development including helping them to develop their parenting skills and inform them of relevant conferences, workshops and training where required
- Create opportunities for parents to talk to other adults in a secure and supportive environment through such activities as open days, parents' evenings, and a parents' forum
- Inform parents on a regular basis about their child's progress and involve them in shared record keeping



- Actively encourage parents to contribute to children's learning through sharing observations, interests, and experiences from home. This may be verbally, sharing photographs or in written form
- Consider and discuss all suggestions from parents concerning the care and early learning of their child and nursery operation
- Provide opportunities and support for all parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge, and interests to the activities of the nursery including signposting to relevant services, agencies, and training opportunities
- Inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, compliments, complaints, or suggestions, and to check that parents understand these systems
  - Share information about the Early Years Foundation Stage, young children's learning in the nursery, how parents can further support learning at home and where they can access further information
- Provide a written contract between the parent(s) and the nursery regarding conditions of acceptance and arrangements for payment
- Respect the family's religious and cultural backgrounds and beliefs and accommodate any specific requirements wherever possible and practical to do so
- Inform parents how the nursery supports children with special educational needs and disabilities
- Find out the needs and expectations of parents. We will do this through regular feedback via questionnaires, suggestion system and encouraging parents to review working practices. We will evaluate any responses and publish these for parents with an action plan to inform the future, policy, and staff development

All policies and procedures are implemented, reviewed, and updated on an annual basis or in line with any changes to local and national guidance/legislation in conjunction with the registered person.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Little Gillies

Held on.....



Date to reviewed .....

Signed on behalf of the provider.....

Name of signatory.....

Role of signatory.....

Reviewed by Sarah Beresford

Date August 2024