

10 Working in partnership with parents and other agencies policy

Alongside associated procedures in 10.1-10.2 Working in partnership with parents and other agencies, this policy was adopted by Little Thetford Acorns on 19th March 2024.

Aim

We actively promote partnership with parents and recognise the importance of working in partnership with other agencies to promote the well-being of children and their families. This includes signposting parents to support as appropriate.

Objectives

- We believe that parents are children's first and most enduring educators and our practice aims to involve and consult parents on all aspects of their child's well-being.
- We also recognise the important role parents must play in the day-to-day organisation of the provision.
- We believe that children and their parents are entitled to expect courtesy and prompt, careful attention to their needs and wishes.
- We consider parents views and expectations and will give the opportunity to be involved in the following ways:
 - sharing information about their child's needs, likes, achievements and interests
 - settling in their child to the agreed plan according our settling in procedures
 - taking part in children's activities and outings
 - contributing with ideas or resources as appropriate to enhance the curriculum of the setting
 - sharing ideas and suggestions on how to improve our setting
 - taking part in early learning projects, sharing with educators knowledge and insights about their child's learning
 - contributing to assessment with information, photos and stories that illustrate how their child is learning within the home environment, taking part in day-to-day family activities
 - taking part in discussion groups
 - taking part in planning, preparing, or simply participating in social activities organised within the setting
 - joining our committee to support the democratic participation of parents in discussions about the day-to-day organisation of the setting, consulting about new developments and other matters as they arise
 - taking part in our online feedback/discussion channels ie Facebook page, online surveys

- involvement in the review of policies and procedures
- Ofsted and setting contact details are displayed on the parent notice board for parents who have a complaint that cannot be resolved with the setting manager in the first instance, or where a parent is concerned that the EYFS standards are not being maintained
- We aim to resolve any concerns quickly and informally with an appropriate member of staff. If that does not achieve the desired result, we have clear procedures for dealing with concerns, in order to come to a satisfactory conclusion for all parties involved.

Partnership and signposting to other agencies

- We are committed to ensuring effective partnership with other agencies including:
 - local authority early years services about the EYFS, training and staff development
 - local programmes regarding delivering children's centres or the childcare and early education element of children's centres
 - social welfare departments regarding children in need and children who need safeguarding or for whom a child protection plan is in place
 - child development networks and health professionals to support children with disabilities and special needs
 - local community organisations and other childcare and early education providers
 - Ofsted and setting contact details are made available to other agencies who have a complaint that cannot be resolved with the Setting Manager in the first instance, or where a parent is concerned that the EYFS welfare standards are not being maintained.

Legal references

Childcare Act 2006

Education Act 2011