

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Policy

FSN actively encourages parental involvement in the care of their child, will listen to parents' comments and opinions about their child's progress, and aims to work with parents/carers supporting, or sign posting where appropriate. FSN believes that children benefit most from early years education and care when parents/carers and settings work together in partnership.

FSN views parents/carers as their children's first and most important educators by involving them in their child's education and in the full life of the setting. We believe that our first encounter with parents/carers and children is crucial in helping to form a positive partnership between home and nursery. Parents/carers have valuable knowledge about their child that will help practitioners to plan and provide appropriate experiences and learning opportunities for them.

Procedure

- 1.0 Nursery practitioners will aim to undertake a home visit for each new child joining the nursery with the prior agreement of parents/carers. The purpose of the home visit is:
 - To establish relationships
 - For the children to observe the practitioners as welcomed adults in their home environment
 - To promote an understanding of the value of early years education
 - To enable parents/carers to view their role in the child's education as a partnership
 - To gather relevant information about the child that will ease their transition from home to nursery
 - For the nursery staff to find out about family practices and cultures gaining an understanding of the 'Unique Child'
- 2.0 On entering the nursery, a keyperson will be allocated to the child and parent/carers will be able to talk about the progress of children by appointment at FSN's nursery settings. Recording documents on the child's day will be shared with parents/carers, with space for comments. FSN Nurseries will aim to ensure we are sharing information of children's learning in a way that best suits the parent/carer
- 3.0 The Nursery will provide access to an on-line 'Learning Journey' for parents/carers, recording children's development and ideas for continuing with learning at home. Parents will be able to add any observations of their child's learning from home as well as family news

- 4.0 Parents/carers are informed of interests, experiences, activities, FSN courses and ideas for home learning via Facebook page posts and parent/carer noticeboard. Home learning ideas are shared and home learning activities will be available for parent's carers to borrow for use in the home
- 5.0 Significant conversations with parents/carers are recorded on the Parent/Carer Conversation/Meeting record (FSN.006M.a)
- 6.0 FSN nurseries value the support of parents/carers especially for outings and events
- 7.0 Donations from parents/carers of items for activities are appreciated
- 8.0 It is the parent/carers responsibility to inform practitioners of any changes to information given relating to home address, emergency contacts, telephone numbers, allergies, medical conditions etc.
- 9.0 A suggestion box is available at each venue and Comments and Complaints Slips are available. All comments, suggestions and complaints are valued and acted upon