



Parental Involvement Policy

Partnership with Parents

Parents will be encouraged to see themselves as the prime educators of their children. All forms of parental involvement will be welcomed and encouraged. Support and friendship will be offered to all families so that they feel welcome.

The group will:

- Encourage parents and carers and their children to visit the group as a family before registering with a particular group.
- Offer a flexible approach to all parents and carers to allow for a settling in period when starting, and for all concerned to become used to the group's routines and policies and with the philosophy of Early Years Scotland.
- Welcome new parents and carers and help them to become familiar with the routine of the group.
- Welcome the contributions of all parents and carers whatever form these might take, and ensure they have opportunities to contribute their skills, knowledge and interests.
- Involve parents and carers in the progress of their child formally or informally and work with them in sharing all records concerning their child.
- Inform parents and carers that the group has adopted a number of policies and practices to provide a quality environment. These policies include Equal Opportunities and Diversity, Curriculum and Staff Development Policy.
- Ensure that feedback on the quality of provision within the group is obtained by getting all parent and carers to complete an annual quality questionnaire.
- Ensure that parents and carers are kept fully informed about meetings and training opportunities, and that these are held at various times and venues to take into account individual family needs.
- Ensure that parents and carers are aware of how any suggestions, queries or complaints can be made.

- Ensure that parents and carers are able to talk and discuss personal matters relating to their child, in confidence, on a daily basis if required.
- Offer parents and carers the opportunity to borrow the group's Early Years Scotland publications and periodicals.
- Encourage parents and carers to play an active part in the running and management of the group and in the group's role in the democratic decision making of Early Years Scotland.
- Provide opportunities for parents and carers to participate in the group's activities, to learn about the pre-school curriculum and the importance of play in the child's development both in the group and at home.
- Make every effort to provide translation services or interpreters as needed for parents and carers whose first language is not that of the group.
- Encourage both parents to become more involved in the group. Both mothers and fathers will be welcomed, supported and encouraged to become parent helpers, to take part in the group's rota system, and be given the opportunity to serve on the committee.
- Invite parents and carers to participate in their children's learning and development through play, and not solely confine their role to clearing up and other domestic duties.
- Be flexible enough to cope with adults who have additional support needs and as far as is practically possible make reasonable adjustments to do so.
- Encourage every parent and carer to participate as much as they are able to do and ensure that no one is made to feel a burden or a nuisance.
- Inform parents/carers that the group has adopted a number of policies to safeguard the children in their care. The relevant policies include Child Protection, Recruitment, Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy and Health and Safety Policies. Only staff members and volunteers who are members of the PVG Scheme will be left in sole charge of a child or take children to the toilet.

This policy will be kept readily available for all to read.

All staff and management group members will have a working knowledge of this policy.