**ALLOWAY EARLY YEARS CENTRE**

**POLICY ON PARENTS AS PARTNERS**

RATIONALE

*“We want to improve and increase the ways in which parents, carers and families can engage (with teachers and partners) to support their children and increase the voice or parents and carers in leading improvements within schools”*

(National Improvement Framework, 2017)

“Parents and families are fully supported to engage in their child’s education throughout their learning journey”

(“Learning together” Scotland’s national action plan on parental involvement, parental engagement, and family learning at home 2018-2021, 2018)

*“Parents and carers know and understand their child best. As the child’s first educators, parents and carers are key partners in supporting their child’s learning.”* (Realising the Ambition, 2020)

AIM

* To promote and maintain positive partnerships with parents/carers and staff.

OBJECTIVES

* To consult parents/carers on centre policies and procedures and the daily life of the centre.
* To provide parents/carers with relevant information on the curriculum, events in the centre and local community and all other services available to children.
* To actively encourage parents/carers to take part in all aspects of the Early Years Centre life.
* To promote parental participation in Stay and Play sessions, PEEP and all other parent groups.

IMPLEMENTATION

* Parents/carers will be issued with a Handbook.
* Parents/carers visiting the centre for the first time will be welcomed by a member of the Management Team. Assistance to fill in forms will be given, if required, by the child’s keyworker (where possible).
* Staff will explain to parents/carers that they are welcome to discuss their child’s wellbeing and/or progress with the key worker any time. They will also be invited to attend formal and informal meetings throughout the year with their child’s key worker to discuss progress and next steps.
* Parents/carers will be supported during their child’s settling in period. The “settling in period” is specific to each individual’s needs.
* Parents/carers and their children will be invited to take part in Stay and Play, PEEP, Bookbug and all other parents groups.
* Parents/carers will receive termly newsletters from the Depute Manager providing information regarding events etc in the centre and local community.
* Information concerning playroom news will be available on notice boards and in letter form.
* Information re groups, parenting skills, health/development issues, curricular information is displayed on the noticeboard and in the newsletters.
* Parents/carers will be invited to contribute to children’s learning and achieving profiles and review their child’s care plan termly.
* Workshops and information sessions will be planned to support areas of the curriculum.
* Parents/carers will be given the opportunity to participate in early years sessions/fundraising events.
* Displays within the EYC will be used to inform parents about the curriculum.
* Any parents/carers volunteering in the EYC will have appropriate PVG checks carried out.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually or in light of any new National/Local initiatives or experience.

Updated Sept 25 – L. Miller