



## Heathfield Early Years Centre

### Parents Involvement and Engagement

#### Principles

**H & SCS** 2.18" I am supported to manage my relationships with my family, friends or partner in a way that suits my wellbeing"

**SHANARRI** Wellbeing Indicator – Safe , Nurtured, Included

**UNCRC** Article 3 "Adults must do what is best for me."



#### Statement

We are committed to working in partnership with parents/carers and children. The Early Years team consults all stakeholders in decision making and planning. Views are valued and acted upon when possible. Opinions are collected in a variety of ways.

#### Open Door Policy

- Parents/carers are encouraged to speak informally to members of staff at any time. This can be asking for advice, sharing concerns or providing ideas.
- Leadership Team are available, Senior Early Years Practitioners are available at all times
- Parents/Carers are encouraged to discuss any concerns they have with staff and not to worry at home.
- Messages can be sent Via Learning Journals and are picked up on and responded to within a 48-hour window and between the hours of 8am – 4pm

#### Parents'/Carers' Meetings

- Parents/Carers are given a care plan appointment every term to come and speak to their child's key worker about progress and next steps.
- Parents/Carers are invited into the EYC on other occasions throughout the year to share in their child's learning and chat with staff.
- Parents/Carers are invited into the EYC for stay and play termly.

## **Parent/Carer Workshops**

- There are workshops held throughout the year to discuss various issues and make improvements in our EYC – this has now formed our Parent Focus Groups. These informal workshops include an open forum where ideas and suggestions are encouraged
- Parents/Carers have contributed to the whole school audit process involving them in contributing to the school vision and aims.

## **Parents/Carers as Partners**

- Parents'/Carers' knowledge and skills are utilised throughout the year, and they contribute to developing aspects of the curriculum.
- A parent/carer 'Coffee and Chat' meeting is held on a termly basis to improve home links (Parent Council) These take place during each session, and in the evening to facilitate further partnership.

## **Home Links**

The whole school newsletter is sent home monthly to inform parents/carers and support continued learning at home.

## **Learning Journals**

All children have an online Portfolio on Learning Journals which can be accessed at home. This will be updated weekly to share the child's learning journey, experiences and celebrate wider achievements.

## **Consultation with Parents**

Questionnaires are given out annually asking for feedback on the service provided. Suggestions and feedback are also collected continually. We have a dedicated area in our reception to feedback 'You said..., We did ...' to parents/carers.

Parents are consulted regularly about various matters, e.g. topics, outings, snack, etc. Their opinions and suggestions are valued to allow staff to make improvements.

## **Consultation with Children**

Children's views and opinions are sought throughout a variety of methods, e.g. 3D mind maps, role-play, circle time, discussion, talking/thinking books, transition topics, topic planning and acted upon where appropriate. This helps inform planning to meet their needs.

## **Notice Board**

Our notice board keeps parents informed of 'What's On'

## **Parent Council**

Parents are encouraged to become part of the Parent Council and/or Parent Focus Group.

## **Displays**

Children's drawings and work are situated in all areas around the nursery and children are encouraged through peer assessment to choose what pictures should go on displays.

## **Helping Hands**

Our parents/carers are encouraged to become involved in all aspects of EYC life, e.g. outings, helping in the nursery.

## **Partner Agencies**

- Our school EYC works closely with staff, pupils and parents.
- The Speech & Language Therapist works with staff and individual children to ensure their needs are best met.
- Our Active Schools Coordinator works closely with our PT and EYC team to advise and promote healthy lifestyles
- The EYC is further developing links with Health Visitors.
- The EYC works closely with outside agencies to ensure children's needs are met.
- The EYC involves all agencies in review meetings for individual children.

## **Website**

Our website is accessible to all, and parent/children can view this at home together,

Reviewed June 24

Review June 27

