



PUDDLEDUCKS Nursery and Pre-School

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS POLICY

Introduction

Early years providers must meet all the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well, including by maintaining records, policies and procedures.

As working documents policies and procedures govern all aspects of the setting's operations and are vital for consistency and quality assurance across the provision. They are required to be in writing, except for childminders who must be able to explain their policies and procedures to parents, carers, and others and ensure that any assistants follow them; therefore, it may be beneficial to have them in written form.

Policies describe the approach of operating as an organisation and incorporate current legislation and registration requirements. Procedures detail the methods by which the policies are implemented. Some may need adjustment following risk assessment carried out in the setting.

Staff, volunteers and students need to fully understand and know how to implement the policies and procedures, which must also be accessible to parents, so that everyone knows what actions they need to take in practice to achieve them.

Each of the policies and procedures that providers are required to have in place are provided in this publication, as well as some recommended by the Alliance as good practice.

Adopting, implementing and reviewing policies

- Copies of the policies and procedures to be adopted should be made available to all parents and staff; giving everyone the opportunity to discuss and fully understand each policy and procedure.

- It should be explained to parents, employees and volunteers that the policies contain the rules required for running the setting in a way which complies with the requirements of the EYFS and Ofsted registration and must be adhered to.
- All staff and volunteers should be aware of the content of the policies and procedures, and their role and responsibility in implementing them.
- Each policy and procedure should be continually monitored by collecting evidence about the results of their implementation. The evidence should be used to make any necessary changes to the policies and procedures and/or the way they are implemented.
- All staff and parents should contribute to the evidence collected and share in decisions about any necessary changes.
- Named/designated persons in each setting have a delegated responsibility to make sure that relevant procedures are known by all members of staff and are adhered to, bringing any cause for concern to the setting manager's attention.

If any adaptations are needed to any policy or procedure, it must be ensured that it still meets the requirements of the relevant regulations. Some providers may decide to develop further policies, which are not required by regulations, but which would enable a clear direction for any specific issue pertaining to the setting. For example, some providers may require a policy on sharing premises with another facility. Or in some cases a local authority or a funding body may require a policy or procedure that is not included in this publication.

Risk assessment is vital to implementation of many procedures. The setting manager ensures that risk assessments as detailed are carried out at least once a year - more if the need arises and will amend or add to the procedures as required. Risk assessment procedures are detailed in procedures 01.1 Risk assessment and 02.1 Fire safety.

Children's rights and entitlements statement

- We promote children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop a positive self-image, includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.

- We promote children's right to be strong, resilient, and listened to by encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
- We promote children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by enabling children to have the self-confidence and vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
- We help children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within families, with peers, and with other adults.
- We work with parents to build their understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding all our children.

What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements:

To be **strong** means to be

- *secure* in their foremost attachment relationships where they are loved and cared for, by at least one person who is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on
- *safe and valued* as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family, such as day care or school
- *self-assured* and form a positive sense of themselves - including all aspects of their identity and heritage
- *included equally and belong* in early years settings and in community life
- *confident in abilities* and *proud* of their achievements
- *progressing optimally* in all aspects of their development and learning
- *to be part of a peer group* in which to learn to negotiate, develop social skills and identity as global citizen, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world
- *to participate and be able to represent themselves* in aspects of service delivery that affects them as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be **resilient** means to

- *be sure of their self worth and dignity*
- *be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively*
- *be able to overcome difficulties and problems*
- *be positive in their outlook on life*
- *be able to cope with challenge and change*
- *have a sense of justice towards self and others*
- *to develop a sense of responsibility towards self and others*
- *to be able to represent themselves and others in key decision making processes*

To be **listened to** means:

- *adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas*
- *adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated*
- *adults who are close to children are able to respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding of what children express and communicate*
- *adults respect children's rights and facilitate children's participation and representation in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.*

This policy was reviewed September 2021. Date of next review February 2022