

LISTENING TO CHILDREN POLICY

Issue Number	Reason for Issue	Issued by	Date
1	New policy	V Dawe A Wolke	2-3-09

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework emphasises the importance of listening to children under the theme of Positive Relationships / commitment of Supporting Learning. It states that:

“Warm trusting relationships with knowledgeable adults support children’s learning more effectively than any amount of resources.”

The framework places great emphasis on communicating both with children and their parents/ carers in order to fully support their learning and development.

We aim to:

- Build respectful and caring relationships with all children and families while focussing on learning and achievement.
- Observe and listen to children to discover what they like to do and respond appropriately to encourage and extend curiosity and learning.
- Identify and respond to any particular difficulties in children’s language development at an early age.

In focussing on listening to children we aim to:

- Support all children to communicate, including those who are non-verbal, use alternative communication systems or are learning English as an additional language.
- Help children to communicate thoughts, ideas and feeling and build up positive relationships with adults and their peers at nursery.
- Model active listening when listening to children and show respect for what they have to say.
- Support children to take turns and listen to each other when speaking in groups.

Children’s opinions are valued and respected:

Our children like coming to nursery because:

The grown ups-

“Play and listen to stories with the children”

“they get our lunch and we eat it all up”

“they play”

At nursery they like to-

“Cos’ I want to play with the games”

“I like to do drawing” “writing”

“Playing in the art room” “play with drums”

“I love to draw, I like drawing something”

“Play at the garden” “I like to do playdough”

“I like to play in the water”