



Home-Grown in Malvern Working with Parents Policy

Parental involvement

We aim to work in partnership with parents and carers to meet the needs of the children we care for.

In line with the EYFS principles, we respect that parents are children's first and most enduring educators. When parents and practitioners work together in early years settings, the results have a positive impact on children's development and learning.

We treat all children and adults equally and create a welcoming, inclusive environment at the setting.

Procedure (how we put the statement into practice)

We keep up to date about working in partnership with parents and carers and with relevant legislation by taking regular training and by reading relevant publications such as Who Minds? All parents have access to a copy of our policies and procedures.

Contracts and records

We draw up and sign a written contract with parents before the placement starts. The contract is signed by the parent/s and the setting manager and dated. Copies are given to the parent/s and any other party involved in the contractual arrangements.

We review the contract with parents every 12 months or when circumstances change.

We aim, within reason, to meet parents' requests for the care of their children according to their values and practices, preferences and attitudes.

We keep records of these requests with the child record forms which also contain emergency contact numbers, dietary requirements/preferences, food allergies, health requirements, and information about who has legal contact with the child and who has parental responsibility for the child. These records are revisited and updated during regular reviews with parents.

Communication with parents

We work together with parents to make sure that the care of their child is consistent.

We make time for discussion about a child's needs by sharing information with parents about daily routines and activities in the setting and in the child's home.

Ways of sharing this information can include inviting parents to add to children's profile books, email, telephone, face-to-face meetings, and informal day to day feed back.



We will discuss any changes in our or the child's home circumstances which may impact on the child's development or our ability to care for a child.

We offer regular, termly, review meetings with parents to discuss their child's care.

We welcome parents' feedback on our service. Please refer to our Complaints Policy on our procedures for managing negative feedback.

We display our Ofsted registration certificate and the Ofsted poster for parents which introduces Ofsted's childcare responsibilities and gives Ofsted contact details.

Ofsted inspections

We will notify all parents in advance when we are to be inspected by Ofsted in England or the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) in Wales so that parents can contribute their views to the inspector.

We will supply parents with a copy of the Ofsted or CSSIW report within five working days of receiving the report.

All significant incidents are recorded in an incident book and will be shared and discussed with parents so that we can work together to resolve any issues.



Childminder's name	
Childminder's signature	
Date	
Parent(s)' name	
Parent(s)' signature	
Date	

Date policy was written	
This policy is due for review on the following date	

This policy supports the following requirements and standards:

England

Meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements

Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare

The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
(EYFS principles- 2.2 Parents as partners)

Wales

National Minimum Standards for Childminders

PLEASE NOTE – new National Minimum Standards for childminders in Wales came into force on 1st April 2011. Childminders will need to ensure they are meeting the 2010 Childminding and Day Care Regulations and the 2011 National Minimum Standards.

2011 National Minimum Standards

Working in partnership with parents – Standard 6

Parents are kept fully involved in and informed about their child's activities, achievements and progress.

(Previously 'Working in Partnership with Parents' – Standard 5 in 2002 Standards)

The National Minimum Standards for Childminders state that "parents are kept fully involved as partners in, and informed about, their child's activities and development".