



## **Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre**

### **Parental Involvement Policy**

#### **The aim of this policy**

The aim of this policy is to support, encourage and acknowledge the ways in which parents contribute to our rich learning environment that allows every child to fully develop their skills, knowledge and abilities.

'The Children's Act' (1989) defines 'parental responsibility' as: 'all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property'.

This policy has regard to the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage' 2020.

Where 'parents' are referred to, it is meant both mothers and fathers; these include both natural or birth parents as well as step-parents, adoptive parents, same sex parents, primary carers, foster parents and parents who do not live with their children, but have contact with them and play a part in their lives.

#### **Our principles for working in partnership with parents and carers**

- Parents are valued as the child's first educators and we work in partnership to provide positive outcomes for their children
- We strive to include all parents, ensuring that we involve both parents where possible or parents who work or live apart from their children.
- Parent involvement in the life of the Children's Centre and is invaluable to us as this is often provides the first contact for new parents.

#### **Our approach**

- Both our Nursery School and Children's Centre work together in an integrated way to promote parental involvement and to support families.
- Parents are always made to feel welcome and all staff build on positive relationships every day.
- Home visits and nursery visits are an integral part of our settling in process. During this time parents are welcomed to each session and asked to support their child.
- Parents are encouraged to take Special Books home, adding their voice to their child's learning journey and sharing the learning which happens at home.
- Staff are welcoming and informal chats with parents are encouraged at drop-off and pick-up times.
- The key person and parents meet more formally on a termly basis at a 'Parent Consultation'. During this meeting, a more in-depth discussion about progress takes place, next steps are set and any concerns are noted. At this point, a conversation about home learning takes place and support offered where necessary.
- Our Nursery Information Booklet for parents and our website explain our approach to learning and how parents and the school can work together.

- As part of our home learning programme we provide weekly book borrowing, curriculum information in our newsletter, home learning videos on our website and guidance during parent consultations.
- Throughout the year, we offer curriculum sessions, workshops and coffee mornings plus a wide range of support through our Children’s Centre programme.
- Notices and information are shared in the reception area. There is a dedicated Parent Information board where families can access printed copies of the newsletter, updates from the press and other information. Lunch menus are displayed in reception.
- In addition, our presence online also provides useful information to our families. We have an up to date website where parents can find more information about the school including organisational information such as term dates and more in depth information about the curriculum we offer. Children’s Centre timetables and information can also be accessed via this site.
- We have a Facebook page and Instagram which offers information, updates and notifications and our website has a broader range of information.

We inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions and check to ensure these are understood. All parents have access to our complaints procedure on our website.

We welcome the contributions of parents and provide an annual google doc parent questionnaire.

### **Monitoring**

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to monitor the effective deployment of this policy. This responsibility has been delegated to the Learning and Development Committee. This policy will be reviewed on a three year basis.

### **Chair of Governors**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Headteacher**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date for Review** \_\_\_\_\_