

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY



“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 the child’s development and learning”. (Curriculum guidance for the Foundation Stage QCA 2000)

At Tree Tops Day Care, we see ourselves as sharing responsibility with parents for the care and education of their children. The relationship between the nursery and parents begins at our first meeting with a parent, on their first visit to the nursery. At this meeting we try to establish the notion of partnership with parents. We gather information and ask for parental input about the child’s interests and abilities, during the first few weeks of settling in. With babies we will try and keep as close to the home routine as possible.

At Tree Tops Day Care, we have an open-door policy. Parents are welcome to make appointments with their child’s key person to discuss issues concerning child development, the curriculum, teaching, and learning, etc.

Parents are welcome whenever they have free time, to participate in activities in the nursery. We encourage parents to join us on outings, enabling the children to have more adult interaction, maximising their learning and enjoyment on the outing. On special days of celebration parents are invited into nursery to share with us. Parents are involved on a more behind the scenes level, as they perhaps offer their skills to benefit the nursery through helping at fund raising events, sewing, baking, etc.

There is also a ‘Parent’s Notice Board’, where the current learning areas are displayed along with other items of interest.

The aim of the Nursery is to support parents essential work not to supplant them. We will:

- Make all new parents aware of our policies and procedures.
- Encourage parents on an individual basis to play an active part in activities, e.g. parent who is a dentist might be asked to help to teach children about how to look after their teeth.
- Ensure that parents are informed on a regular basis about their child's progress.
- Ensure that all parents have opportunities to contribute from their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities at Tree Tops.
- Involve parents in shared record keeping about their own child by adding photos/observations/comments on TAPESTRY – online learning journal.
- Welcome the contributions of parents, whatever form they may take.
- Make known to all parents the systems for registering queries, complaints, compliments or suggestions.
- Provide opportunities for parents to learn about the Nursery curriculum and about young children's learning.