



# LENT RISE SCHOOL

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## NURSERY PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Responsibility: Whole Staff  
Governing Body

Approved by:

Mrs Maggie Young  
Chair of Governors

Mrs Jill Watson, Headteacher

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Reviewed

26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Policy Statement

As a parent, you are your child's most important educator and research shows that parents who are actively involved with their child's learning help their children to achieve more too. Therefore, early year's practitioners will see themselves as partners with you in providing care and education for your child.

Some parents are less well represented in the early year's settings; these can include fathers, parents who live apart from their children but who still play a part in their lives as well as working parents. In carrying out the following procedures, we will ensure all parents are included.

When we refer to "parents" we mean both mothers, fathers; these include natural or birth parents as well as step-parents and parents that do not live with their children, but do have contact with them and play a part in their lives. "Parents" also include same sex parents as well as foster parents.

'Parental responsibility' is all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property.

## Procedures

- We inform all parents about how the setting is run through our welcome pack, home visits (when appropriate) and welcome evenings. Also all of our policies are available in written form and on the School website.
- We make every effort to accommodate parents who have a disability or impairment.
- Daily routines are available and we try hard to give parents regular feedback on children's activities.
- Parent Surveys are sent out for you to give us feedback.
- We ensure an ongoing dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families. We do this by, stay and play sessions, parent meetings and consultations with Key persons and the Nursery Lead. See also key person policy.
- We seek parental permission on the registration form for all necessary procedures including applying sun cream, taking photographs, making observations, outings etc. and review permissions regularly.
- We encourage and support parents to play an active part in our school and nursery through our Parent Teacher Association (PTA).
- We monitor the child's progress through observations logged on to a data system called Tapestry.
- When the child starts nursery, they will be allocated a Key person who will work closely with the family and observe their child's development and record progress throughout their time at Lent Rise nursery. The format used for these recordings is termed a 'Learning Journey'. Upon request, the paper Learning Journey is available for parents to look at to see how their child is progressing. Furthermore, the Key person will meet once per term with the parent during our designated 'Learning Journey Week' to discuss their child's 'Learning Journey'. This also gives parents the opportunity to talk with the Key person and to raise any questions or concerns they may have. When the child leaves the Pre-school the 'Learning Journey' will then be forwarded onto the primary school or alternative childcare provider.

- Through Tapestry we also encourage parents to add certain things like events, child's interests or observations from home.
- We ensure on-going dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families.
- We provide opportunities for parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the setting through regular stay and play sessions, questionnaires, special events and the PTA.
- We inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions in our suggestion box and we check to ensure these are understood. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure.
- The nursery management listens to and review all suggestions received through all the various different channels, including those above, and as appropriate feed them into the Nursery Development Plan.
- Parents are informed through half termly newsletters and displays within the entrance of the systems for registering any queries, views, concerns, suggestions or complaints.
- Refer concerns to the Nursery Lead and follow the school's complaints and resolutions policy should you concerns not be fully resolved.