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**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE**

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

Parents are the first educators of their young children. The aim of the Playschool is to support their essential work and not to replace or take over their role

We believe that children benefit most from early years education and care when parents and settings work together in partnership

Some parents are less well represented in early years settings – these 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.

Playschool also aims to support parents in their own continuing education and personal development

We will:

- Ensure that all parents are included – that may mean we have different strategies for involving fathers or parents who work or live apart from their children
- Make all new parents aware of the playschools systems and policies.
- Encourage parents on an individual basis to play an active part in the management of the playschool by joining the committee, or providing general support to their management and fund-raising activities.
- Ensure ongoing communications with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families
- Ensure, where necessary, the Progress Check at 2, is completed
- Ensure that all parents are informed on a regular basis about their child's progress.
- Ensure that all parents can be directly involved by asking them to undertake duties on their child's sessions, and encourage them to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the playschool.
- Involve parents in shared record keeping about their child, either formally or informally.
- Ensure that all parents are informed about meetings, conferences, workshops and training.
- Consult with families about the times of meetings to avoid excluding anyone.
- Hold meetings in venues which are accessible and appropriate for all.
- Welcome the contributions of parents, whatever form these take.
- Make known to all parents the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions.
- Provide opportunities for parents to learn about the playschool curriculum and about young children's learning in the playschool and at home.

Parental Involvement during sessions

- The playleader will put up a 'helper list' by the inner front door for completion by parents/carers
- Duties may be done by a representative of the parent, i.e. grandparent or childminder

- Parents with more than one child in a session may have to do additional sessions, to be negotiated with the relevant playleaders
- Those exempt from duties are mothers over 6 months pregnant, or those with babies under six months, at the playleaders discretion
- Younger siblings are welcome, at the playleaders discretion, to accompany the parent to Playschool sessions
- All the above are to be handled at the discretion of the Playleader, with any serious difficulties being referred to the Committee for discussion.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	<b>Martlesham &amp; Kesgrave Playschools</b>	
Held on (date)		
Signed on behalf of the Management Committee		
Role of signatory (e.g. chairperson etc.)		
This policy was reviewed on		(date)