

WINTON PRE-SCHOOL

CHILDRENS RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS

Statement of intent

Our Pre-school wants to work with children, parents and the community to ensure the safety of children and to give them the very best start in life.

Aims

Our aims are to:

- create an environment in our Pre-school which encourages children to develop a positive self image, regardless of race, language, religion, culture or home background;
- help children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults;
- we promote children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence;
- enable children to have the self confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches; and
- work with parents to build their understanding of and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding and the welfare of all our children.
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What it means to promote children's rights to be '*strong, resilient and listened to*'.

To be strong means to be:

- Secure in their foremost attachment relationships, where they are loved and cared for by at least one person who is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on;
- Safe and valued as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family, such as pre-school or school;
- Self assured and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage;
- Included equally and belong in early years settings and in community life;
- confident in abilities and proud of their achievements;
- progressing optimally in all aspects of their development and learning;
- part of a peer group in which to learn to negotiate, develop social skills and identity as global citizens respecting the rights of others in a diverse world; and
- able to represent themselves and participate in aspects of service delivery that affects them, as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be resilient means to:

- be sure of their self worth and dignity;
- be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively;
- be able to overcome difficult problems;
- be positive in their outlook on life;
- be able to cope with challenge and change;
- have a sense of justice towards themselves and others;
- develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others and;
- be able to represent themselves and others in key decision making processes.

To be listened to means;

- adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas;
- adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated;

- adults who are close to children are able to respond appropriately and, when required, and upon their understanding of what children express and communicate; and
- adults respect children’s rights and facilitate children’s participation and representation in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.

Good Practice in supporting the voice of the child:

- Effective safeguarding systems must be child centred. Problems can arise in safeguarding systems when practitioners in agencies lose sight of the needs and views of the children within them, or place the interests of adults ahead of the needs of children. Everyone working with children and families must seek the voice of the child and reflect and respond to it in all aspects of work. This is rooted in legislation and good practice.

Signed on behalf of Winton Pre-School.....

Name of signatory.....

Role of signatory.....

Date.....

This policy will be reviewed in September 2019