

## Partnership with Parents and Carers

**Nursery recognises that parents/carers play the fundamental role in a child's development. Our nursery team will work in partnership with parents to provide high quality, safe and stimulating care, learning and play opportunities for their children**

- All parents are welcome to telephone or visit the nursery any time during opening hours.
- Parents have access to their child's individual online learning journal and informed about the care given from the child's key person.
- Parents are able to inspect the policies and procedures at any time (kept in office).
- Information about nursery activities and events are regularly distributed via newsletters, notices and verbally.
- A 'Welcome pack' is given to parents before their child starts our nursery, this gives 'housekeeping' details and copies of relevant policies and procedures.
- A suggestion system is in operation and parent questionnaires are distributed at least annually, suggestions are always given due consideration.
- Parents evenings/ days are held. Parents are invited to visit the nursery to meet the key member of staff and the rest of the team. Demonstrations will be held of the variety of activities your child participates in during a typical day at Nursery.
- Parents are encouraged to share any relevant information about their child and keep staff up to date with their child's progress at home or any changes which may effect their child's care.
- Parents concerns are always listened to whenever they are raised. The Manager will ensure that parents/carers receive a prompt response. Any complaints from parents/carers are dealt with swiftly and effectively in accordance with the provisions of the Complaints Procedure policy

When parents separate it is a difficult situation for all concerned. The nursery understands that emotions run high and this policy lays out how the nursery will support the child and their family within the nursery. We feel this policy will support all parties in this difficult time including our team.

### Parental responsibility

While the law does not define in detail what parental responsibility is, the following list sets out the key roles:

- Providing a home for the child
- Having contact with and living with the child
- Protecting and maintaining the child
- Disciplining the child
- Choosing and providing for the child's education
- Determining the religion of the child
- Agreeing to the child's medical treatment
- Naming the child and agreeing to any change of the child's name
- Accompanying the child outside the UK and agreeing to the child's emigration, should the issue arise
- Being responsible for the child's property
- Appointing a guardian for the child, if necessary
- Allowing confidential information about the child to be disclosed.

If the parents of a child are married to each other at the time of the birth, or if they have jointly adopted a child, then they both have parental responsibility. Parents do not lose parental responsibility if they divorce, and this applies to both the resident and the non-resident parent.

This is not automatically the case for unmarried parents. According to current law, a mother always has parental responsibility for her child. A father, however, has this responsibility only if he is married to the mother when the child is born or has acquired legal responsibility for his child through one of these three routes:

- By jointly registering the birth of the child with the mother (From 1 December 2003)
- By a parental responsibility agreement with the mother
- By a parental responsibility order, made by a court.