

## **Elephant and Castle Childcare Centre** **Parental involvement policy**

We believe that children benefit most from being in a day care setting, where parents and staff work together in partnership.

### **Our aim is:**

- To support parents as their children's first and most important educators.
- To involve parents in the life of the nursery and their children's education.
- To support parents in their own continuing education and personal development.

### **Method**

In order to fulfil these aims:

- we are committed to ongoing dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families;
- through access to written information and through regular informal communication, we inform all parents about how the nursery is run and our policies. We check to ensure parents understand the information which is given to them;
- we encourage and support parents to play an active part in the nursery;
- we have regular parent/key worker meetings to inform all parents about their children's progress;
- we try to involve parents in the shared record keeping about their children - either formally or informally - and ensure parents have access to their children's written records;
- we provide opportunities for parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the group;
- we inform parents about relevant conferences, workshops and training;
- we vary the times of meetings with parents to try and avoid excluding anyone;
- we try to provide information about opportunities for being involved in the nursery in ways which are accessible to parents with basic skills needs, or those for whom English is an additional language;
- we aim to hold meetings in venues which are accessible and appropriate for all;
- we welcome the contributions of parents, in whatever form these may take;
- we inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions and check to ensure these are understood. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure; and
- we provide opportunities for parents to learn about the nursery curriculum and about young children's learning, in the setting and at home.

In compliance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, the following documentation is in place:

- admissions policy;
- complaints procedure;
- record of complaints; and
- activities provided for children.

This policy was adopted in March 2006 and will be reviewed annually and amended as necessary. Reviewed Mar 12

Signed on behalf of the setting