

Safeguarding children

1.1 Children's Rights and Entitlements

Policy Statement

- We promote children's right to be *strong, resilient and listened to* by creating an environment in our pre-school that encourages children to develop a positive self image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.
- We promote children's right to be *strong, resilient and listened to* by encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
- We promote children's right to be *strong, resilient and listened to* by enabling children to have the self-confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
- We help children to establish and sustain nurturing relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults.
- We work with parents to build their understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding all our children.

What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements 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 day care 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;

- **to be 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
- **to participate and be able to represent their ideas and opinions** about things that effect them at pre-school and in 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** difficulties and problems;
- **be positive** in their outlook on life;
- be able to **cope** with challenge and change;
- have a **sense of justice** towards self and others;
- to develop a **sense of responsibility** towards self and others; and
- to 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, act upon their understanding** of what children express and communicate ; and
- adults **respect children's rights** and **facilitate children's participation and representation** in child centred ways in all aspects of core services.

This policy was adopted at a meeting at Cullompton Pre-School on 23rd June 2010.

This policy has an annual review period and, as such, will be reviewed and signed off at a management committee meeting of Cullompton Pre-School each year, as shown below.

Previously reviewed on:-	13th November 2017	by	O Jones Chairperson
Previously reviewed on:-	11th March 2019	By	A Fox Chairperson
Previously reviewed on:-	25th November 2019	By	A Fox Chairperson
Previously reviewed on:-	24th January 2022	By	J Madge Chairperson
Previously reviewed on:-	22nd February 2023	By	Hannah Tilley
Previously reviewed on:-	20 th April 2024	By	Jess Titcombe

Reviewed by Staff on:	March 2025
Reviewed by Committee on:	20.04.2025
Date of next review:	April 2026
Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:	Wendy Gillings
Name of Signatory (printed):	Wendy Gillings
Role of Signatory (e.g. Chairperson)	Committee Member