

WORLINGHAM PRE-SCHOOL
Early Years Education Policy

This policy was originally devised at the request of the Early Education Committee of Suffolk's Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership in 2000. It was approved in October 2004 and reviewed in Autumn 2005.

It was the outcome of a series of discussions and workshops, which took place with head teachers, teachers, officers, representatives of voluntary organisations, and providers of early education in the maintained, private, and voluntary sectors.

Commitment to Early Years

Suffolk County Council:

- has a long standing commitment to early years
- is committed to raise the attainment and aspiration of Suffolk children and their families

- is committed to education and social inclusion

- is committed to the principle that all children are entitled to high quality education and care irrespective of the type of provision

- believes that this commitment can only be achieved if all those involved in the provision of the childcare and early years education subscribe to the pursuit of excellence. It therefore endeavours to ensure that all providers have a shared understanding of the objectives that underpin the best practice, and apply them at every opportunity

- supports the maintained and non-maintained sectors to:
 - * work with all children, parents, carers and staff to achieve shared goals
 - * build on children's successes and their previous experiences to develop the whole child
 - * promote and develop inclusive practice
 - * promote the achievement of all children, regardless of their background, gender, abilities, and personal circumstances
 - * systematically monitor the quality of their provision
 - * acknowledge the role of parents and carers as participants in the whole learning process

- strives to provide accurate, up-to-date, and accessible information on the range of early years services provided across the County.

EARLY YEARS POLICY STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

“Care and education are inseparable - quality care is educational and quality education is caring”

Quality in Diversity in Early Learning (1998), Early Childhood Forum and National Children’s Bureau

“Children are the people they grow into tomorrow, only as they live today”

Democracy and education (1916) by John Dewey

Statement of Principles

Suffolk Children First is committed to:

- the principle that all children are entitled to the highest quality of education and care in whatever early years setting they are placed
- working in partnership with children, parents, carers, practitioners, head teachers, governors, employers, external agencies, and communities to achieve shared goals for the highest possible standards of education and childcare and the best preparation for future learning
- encouraging choice and diversity of provision to meet the needs of all children and their families
- promoting the provision of caring environments in which children feel safe and secure to explore, learn, and develop
- promoting an educational philosophy which emphasises that parent/carers, as first educators of their children, are full partners in learning
- encouraging the development of high quality affordable and accessible childcare in the community working with the community to provide accurate, up-to-date and accessible information about the range and quality of early years services provided
- bringing together the maintained, private, and voluntary sectors and representatives of parent/carers, children, and employers in a spirit of co-operation and genuine partnership to build on existing good practice.

This Early Years Statement of principles represents a shared view of high quality early years provision, which provides the rationale for Suffolk’s policy.

The Partnership believes that all children should have access to learning experiences which are inspiring, fulfilling, and motivating to their development. Such experiences should support children’s self esteem, encourage the quest for knowledge and understanding, a pursuit of excellence and a love of discovery, sustainable throughout their lives. Central to early years’ education is the use of children’s natural curiosity to develop a joy in learning. This approach will offer a foundation of attitudes, skills and competencies essential to their future and the future of the country in which they live.

This commitment will be achieved if all those involved with the provision of childcare and early education have the skills and willingness to pursue excellence. All providers need a shared understanding of the objectives that underpin the best practice.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Worlingham Pre-school

Held on 6th November 2019

Signed _____

On behalf of the Management Committee/Proprietor

Role of Signatory _____

Review Date November 2020