



## ABERDEEN PARK NURSERY

Childhood  
Not just childcare

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### **Partnership with Parents/carers' Policy**

Our aim is to support and engage parents/carers in children's learning and education by recognizing that parents/carers are children's first and most important educators. We encourage parents/carers to be actively involved in their children's education, learning and welcoming them to become active participants in our setting.

APN recognizes that working in partnership with parents/carers is of major value and importance to the setting in enabling it to provide a happy, loving, caring and stable environment for the children and their families. We aim to establish positive relationships with parents/carers so that information regarding their children (developmental, social or health related) can be exchanged easily and comfortably by parents/carers and staff.

**As a community nursery, parents/carers are expected to play an active role in the running of the nursery. Parents are members of the charity, elect the trustees, ratify decisions and review and approve the accounts of the nursery.**

Both Ofsted and Islington Council (who fund us) need to see evidence of positive partnerships with parents/carers from all early years' providers, showing that parents/carers and providers are working together to collaborate in the child's learning and development.

The list below shows in which way we aim to achieve parental involvement and establish positive partnerships with parents/carers:

#### **APN commits to:**

- Ensure that all children and parents/carers feel welcome and valued, ensuring that they and their children have a positive role to play in the setting.
- Respect the different ways in which parents/carers bring up their children according to families' own cultural backgrounds and religious beliefs.
- Inform parents/carers about how the nursery is run and ensure that policies and procedures are available on our website for parents/carers to read. A hard copy can be requested from the office.
- Let parents/carers know that they can always make their feelings, views and opinions known to the staff, and that these will be dealt with respectfully and taken seriously.
- Pursue an ongoing dialogue with parents/carers to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and plan accordingly.
- Send weekly plans via email to parents/carers and display these in all the rooms for parents/carers to view/read.
- Make sure the staff are available to exchange information with parents/carers within reason, to offer support and advice enabling parents/carers to leave their child secure in the knowledge that

s/he is being well looked after. Arrangements can be made for more private discussions at agreed times.

- Ensure that information provided by parents/carers about their children will be kept confidential and treated on a strict “need to know” basis.
- Make every effort to contact the parents/carers or their nominated emergency contact if there is any concern about your child’s well-being during the day.
- Issue regular newsletters to keep parents/carers up to date with information about the setting. E.g. new developments or staff changes.

### Parents/carers commit to:

- Contribute to the nursery setting a minimum of 2 hours a month. This can be done by running an activity in person at the setting or by supporting the nursery remotely. See below a list of activities you could run - please tick which one you believe you would be most likely to do. Any new idea is welcome which you can suggest in the “Other” section.
  - Read a story
  - Run a cooking session
  - Organize a cultural celebration
  - Join the parents gardening club
  - Become a trustee
  - Discuss a specific subject of interest (art, science...)
  - Run craft activities
  - Personal skills support (IT, Design, ...)
  - Fundraising
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Refer to the parents/carers’ participation section of the weekly plan to be actively involved in delivering the curriculum and in their child’s learning (ex: send a photo of child doing a certain activity, bringing craft material, etc ...)
- Fill out the questionnaire “About your child” and return to the nursery within a week from receiving
- Attend regular planned meetings with their child’s key-person to be formally informed of their child’s learning and development progress. Your child’s Key-person is your first point of contact if you have any concerns about your child. Please ask your key person or the management team if you wish to talk to your child’s key-person and they will endeavour to arrange a meeting ASAP.
- Take home their child’s profile book every month to record learning experiences that occur at home. Parents/carers can have access to their child’s written developmental records at any time
- Keep APN informed of any changes to personal circumstance or child’s routine which may have effect upon your child, e.g. change of address, emergency contact, telephone number, doctor.
- Keep APN informed of any circumstances which could have an effect on a child’s emotional well-being e.g. separation, new arrival, moving home, sleepless nights, change in routines at home etc
- Attend the nursery parents/carers meetings (2 to 3 times a year, including the AGM)

**Date**

**Parents/carers’ name**

**SIGNATURE**

**APN strives to build and maintain strong and positive relationships with parents/carers which will flourish if both parties value and support each other’s input in helping to nurture their children’s learning and development.**