



8. Parent – Carer Partnership

Applies to: Pre-School Manager, Lead Practitioners, Practitioners

We value the relationships that we form with Carers'. We recognize the importance of working closely to assure the safety, happiness and development of their child whilst he is in our care.

A Key Person is appointed for each child. Their responsibility is to assure the well-being and progress of each child, and to be the Carers' first point of contact with pre-school.

All Key Persons are encouraged to seek opportunities to spend time with the Carers of their children, irrespective of the children's ages in order to:

- Share daily report of well-being and particular interests
- Communicate his successes and his progress
- Review the child's work through 'All About Me' file and 'Unique Progress' sheets
- As part of the review to identify and agree individual next steps for children to achieve
- Share concerns
- Exchange advice

The Key Person will probably be the first to know if the child is struggling and needs additional support at the pre-school and at home, and will discuss this with the carer.

An individual Folder will be maintained for each child allowing the carers to see his progress over time. These folders should be made available to their carer at any time upon request to his Key Person. There are specially agreed Parent weeks in which carers are encouraged to meet with their Key Person to look through their child's work and discuss their child in more depth.

Some carers have professional experiences, personal interests or cultural knowledge that can benefit and enrich our programme and staff should encourage them to share these gifts for the benefit of the children and include them in our planned activities wherever possible.

Parental / Carer Involvement

St John's Pre School recognizes that parents/carers are the first educators of their children. Our aim is to support their essential work, not to take their place.

In order to do this we will:

- Invite children to attend a stay and play with their carer before starting with us
- Make all new carers aware of our systems and policies
- Ensure that carers are informed of their child's progress on a regular basis through parental consultations (one per term) and through day to day conversations with their child's Key Person
- Ensure that all carers have opportunities to contribute from their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the Pre-School
- Involve carers in the shared record keeping (Learning journals, observation sheets

and transition records) about their child, wither formally during parent consultations or informally at any time

- Ensure that all carers are fully informed about meetings e.g. New Parents Meeting, Parent Consultations, Coffee and Chats
- Hold meetings in venues which are accessible and appropriate for all
- Welcome the contributions of carers
- Make known to all carers the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions
- Provide opportunities for carers to learn about the EYFS curriculum and about children's learning in pre-school and at home.
- Send out regular newsletters
- Encourage parents to help out at special events

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 42: The Government should make the Convention known to parents and children

Article 18: Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their children. And should always consider what is best for each child. Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work.