

WOOLENWICK BLAST CLUB **INVOLVING AND CONSULTING CHILDREN/** **PLAY AND EYFS POLICY**

Our Club is committed to involving and consulting children whenever decisions are made within the Club that affect them.

The Club believes that actively promoting the participation of children in decision-making helps them to develop new skills such as negotiating, sharing and understanding and gives them a sense of ownership. All children are given a voice taking into account age and ability.

The Club's commitment to involving and consulting children stems from the 'listening to children' provisions set out in Article 12 and 13 of the UN Convention of the Rights of a Child. These state that:

- A child's opinion should be taken into account in anything that affects them;
- Children should have information disseminated in a way that enables them to make choices and decisions.

All children will be listened to and consulted actively through our Club Council. This will take a number of forms, including:

- Listening to and writing down their ideas;
- Regular group discussions and Q and A sessions;
- Questionnaires and other regular feedback on activities;
- Feedback to the children if their ideas can/cannot be implemented due to unsuitability.

PLAY

The Clubs aim is to give children the opportunity to take part in stimulating play experiences in a safe, relaxed and friendly environment.

The Club will provide a wide range of activities for all children, taking into account age/ability and are adapted as necessary.

These will include:

- Inside and outside play, planned and unplanned (scooters, football, space hoppers)
- Risky play (fire pit, climbing trees)
- Construction (lego, duplo)
- Table top games
- Jigsaw puzzles
- X-Box/Wii with age appropriate games
- Craft activities– planned and free play (painting, model making, sewing)
- Home corner (dressing up, dolls, prams, kitchen)
- Small world play (garage, dolls house)
- Cooking

- Homework table
- Outings (holiday time)

Planning of activities for Breakfast and After School is done weekly and will incorporate suggestions from the children. Activities may be subject to change. Activities for Holiday Club will be done 2 weeks before. Resources are rotated on a half termly basis keeping the children interested and seeking new play experiences.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Blast is committed to delivering the EYFS which became a legal requirement in September 2008 and was revised in September 2012. EYFS covers children from birth to the end of their reception year. A questionnaire is given to each parent of an EYFS child to complete in order for the keyperson to become more familiar with their likes/dislikes enabling secure relations to be developed.

EYFS is based upon four principles:

A Unique child – we recognise that every child is a competent learner who can be resilient, capable, confident and self assured. Children develop in individual ways, at varying rates. Children’s attitudes and dispositions to learning are influenced by feedback from others; we use praise and encouragement to motivate children.

Positive Relationships – we recognise that children learn to be strong and independent from secure relationships. We aim to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with the children and their families.

Enabling Environment – We recognise that the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending the children’s development. We observe the children and assess their interests and development, before planning challenging but achievable activities and experiences to extend their learning.

Learning and Development – we recognise that children learn and develop in different ways and at different rates. We value all areas of learning and development equally and understand that they are inter-connected.

Each EYFS child that attends the setting will be assigned a keyperson who will:

- Undertake observations and assessments in order to plan for each child’s individual needs;
- Plan and provide opportunities which are appropriate to each child’s stage of development;
- Discussions held with Nursery/Reception teachers in regard to a child’s development.

The club will provide a balance of adult led and child initiated activities. The club always follows play principles which allows children to choose how they occupy their time, and never forces them to participate in a given activity.

Signed by:.....
CLUB MANAGER