

Student Placement Policy

Statement of Intent

We recognise that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education provided by early years settings. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early years' qualifications and training.

We aim to provide for students on placement with us, experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies and which provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Method

- We require students to meet the 'suitable person' requirements of Ofsted and to have DBS check carried out.
- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities
- We will liaise with the student's college / tutor to ensure that the student is fit for work within our setting and to make sure our setting is appropriate for his/her training needs.
- We will co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- We require schools placing students under the age of 17 years with the pre-school to vouch for their good character.
- We supervise students under the age of 17 years at all times and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students who are placed in our pre-school on a short term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- Students who are placed for longer periods - for example, a year - may be counted in our staffing ratios provided we consider them to be competent. These students will be expected to follow our policies and procedures and understand the implications of them. We will test the students understanding of the information provided and observe their dealings with the children during the session. When we are satisfied that the student is competent and responsible he/she will be included in the staff ratios.
- We provide students, at the first session of their placement, with a short induction on how our pre-school is managed, how our sessions are organised and our policies and procedures
- We require students to keep to our confidentiality policy.

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- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance which covers both trainees and voluntary helpers.
- We communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers which hinder the essential work of the pre-school.

In addition, the following procedures and documentation in relation to health and safety are in place:

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Section 3: The Safeguard and Welfare Requirements 2017

- Child Protection
- Suitable People

Legal Framework

The Children Act 1989 - s 47

The Protection of Children Act 1999

Data Protection Act 1998

The Children Act 2004, 2006 (Every Child Matters)

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

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