

HARPOLE PRE-SCHOOL

"Kind Hands, Kind Hearts, Fun Learning"



1.1 Children's rights and entitlements Policy & Procedure

Harpole Pre-school has adopted the Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA) policy Children's rights and entitlements. The PLA ensure that their policies adhere to statutory guidance and legislative procedure and they provide the pre-school with any updates. All policies and procedures are ratified by the Pre-school Trustees on a rolling programme. The pre-school staff, led by Sharon Matthews, ensure that their practice is in line with the policies and procedures outlined in the PLA guidance.

Policy statement

Harpole Pre-school supports the 54 Articles contained within the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). Harpole Pre-school recognises that these articles apply to children globally and draw attention to the disparity between and within countries and across regions of the world in the way that children receive and enjoy basic rights. Harpole Pre-school supports organisations and statutory agencies to promote recognition and achievement of children's rights to ensure a better experience for all children.

As an early years provider and a member of the Early Years Alliance, Harpole Pre-school follows the Alliance's 'four key commitments' that are broad statements against which policies and procedures are drawn to provide a consistent and coherent strategy for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

1. Harpole Pre-school is committed to empowering children, young people and vulnerable adults, promoting their right to be 'strong, resilient, actively listened to, and heard' by creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop a positive self-image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.
2. Harpole Pre-school upholds a culture of safety in which children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected from abuse and harm in all areas of its curriculum and service delivery.
3. Harpole Pre-school is committed to preventing harm and responding promptly and appropriately to all incidents or concerns of abuse that may occur, working with statutory agencies to achieve the best possible outcomes for every child.
4. Harpole Pre-school is dedicated to increasing safeguarding confidence, knowledge and good practice throughout its training and learning programmes for adults, advocating support and representation for those in greatest need.

We also include the following statements to underpin our practice:

1. Harpole Pre-school promotes children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
2. Harpole Pre-school promotes children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by enabling children to have the self-confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
3. Harpole Pre-school helps children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults.

What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements:

To be **strong** means to be:

- Secure in their foremost attachment relationships, where they are loved and cared for by at least one person who can offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on.
- Safe and valued as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family.
- Self-assured and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage.
- Included equally and belong in our setting and in community life.
- Confident in their own abilities and proud of their achievements.
- Progressing optimally in all aspects of their development and learning.
- Part of a peer group in which they learn to negotiate, develop social skills and an identity as global citizens, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world.
- Able to represent themselves and participate in aspects of service delivery that affects them, as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be **resilient** means to:

- Be sure of their self-worth and dignity.
- Be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively.
- Be able to overcome difficulties and problems.
- Be positive in their outlook on life.
- Be able to cope with challenge and change.
- Have a sense of justice towards themselves and others.
- Develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others.
- Be able to represent themselves and others in key decision-making processes.

To be **listened to and heard** means:

- Adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- Adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated.
- Adults who are close to children are able to respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding of what children express and communicate.
- Adults respect children's rights and facilitate children's participation and representation in imaginative and child-centred ways in all aspects of core services.

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| This policy was adopted by | Harpole Pre-school | <i>(Name of provider)</i> |
| On | | <i>(date)</i> |
| Date to be reviewed | | <i>(date)</i> |
| Signed on behalf of the provider | | |
| Name of signatory | | |
| Role of signatory | | |