



Safeguarding Children

Children's Rights and Entitlements

Policy Statement

In line with the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, we believe in a children's rights-focused policy, where recognition of children as separate valued individuals is at the forefront.

The UNCRC is an international agreement which protects the rights of *children*, recognising that children are separate from, and can have contrasting interests to other parties, such as parents. The setting commits to the philosophy that children are their own person, and should be encouraged to form, and express their own views, opinions and beliefs.

We believe in a rights-focused vision of children and their development. We believe that we have a responsibility to ensure that children can enjoy all their rights and take seriously our role in supporting this outcome.

The Rights of Children and How we Protect Them

The setting recognises and supports all articles of the UNCRC. Here are listed some particularly relevant articles, with appropriate measures that the setting takes in order to protect that right.

- Art 2 - protection from discrimination. We are a setting which welcomes and cherishes diversity. Children will not be individualised or punished for particular features such as race or religion, as well as the features of their parents, such as political beliefs.
- Art 3 - best interests of the child. We recognise that the best interest of the child is always the primary consideration, and paramount when considering issues that arise, such as those relating to safeguarding.
- Art 12 - respecting the views of the child. We encourage children to express their views, feelings and wishes, and ensure that they are considered when making decisions involving them. Their views are considered and taken seriously.
- Art 13 - freedom of expression. Children are given the freedom to express their thoughts, and also have access to information in order to form their own opinions.
- Art 14 - freedom of thought, belief and religion. The setting promotes an environment of tolerance and celebration of other cultures and diversity. Every child may think and believe as they choose, so long as this does not interfere with other people's rights.
- Art 17 - access to information. Children have a right to access information from a variety of sources. As a result, the setting promotes a safe space in which any questions can be asked.

- Art 29 - goals of education. The setting recognises that education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment. These values are integrated into our educational programme.
- Art 31 - leisure, play and culture. The setting acknowledges that children have a right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of activities. The setting ensures that days remain stimulating, with a mix of education and play, as well as providing variable activities which engage both sciences and arts.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of		
Held on		(date)
Date to be reviewed		(date)
Signed on behalf of the management committee		
Name of signatory		
Role of signatory		

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