

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

Our pre-school is committed to taking positive and proactive steps to ensure that we provide a safe and caring environment, free from discrimination, for everyone in our community.

The pre-school's equal opportunities procedures aim to help everyone involved in the pre-school to counteract and eliminate both direct and indirect discrimination in decision making, employment practices and service provision and to ensure that our services strive to achieve equality of opportunity for all.

The pre-school aims to provide a welcoming and caring environment that promotes and reflects cultural and social diversity and is equally accessible to all. The pre-school will endeavour to challenge any offensive behaviour, language or attitudes with regards to race, ethnicity, nationality, class, religion, culture, gender, language, sexual orientation and disability.

The pre-school recognises that achieving the objectives of our equal opportunities policy relies on the active involvement of parents/carers. As such, the pre-school will both welcome and encourage parents and carers to get involved in the management of the pre-school, and to comment on the effectiveness of its policies and procedures.

## **Equal Opportunities Procedures**

To realise the pre-school's objective of creating an environment free from discrimination and welcoming to all, the pre-school will:

Ensure that its services are open and available to all parents/carers and children in the local community.

Ensure that issues of race, ethnicity, nationality, class, religion, culture, gender, language, sexual orientation and disability do not inhibit a child from accessing the pre-school's services.

Treat all children and their parents/carers with equal concern and value.

Have regard for promoting understanding, respect and awareness of diversity and equal opportunities issues in planning and implementing the pre-school's programme of activities.

Help all children to celebrate and express their cultural and religious identity by providing a wide range of appropriate resources and activities.

Ensure that the pre-school's recruitment policies and procedures are open, fair and non-discriminatory.

Endeavour to recruit a staff team that reflects the make-up of the pre-school's local community.

Ensure that all members of staff are aware of, and understand, the Equal Opportunities policy as it

relates to all aspects of its work.

Encourage and support staff to act as positive role models to children by displaying and promoting tolerant and respectful behaviour, language and attitudes and challenging any discriminatory incident.

Treat seriously any member of staff found to be acting, or have been acting, in a discriminatory way, according to the provisions of the Staff Disciplinary Procedures policy.

Work to fulfil all the legal requirements of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, the Human Rights Act 1998, and the Age Discrimination Act 2006.

We fully and wholeheartedly adhere to both the spirit and detail of the Equality Act 2010, the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, which outlaw discrimination against anyone on the grounds of race, colour, nationality or ethnicity.

The Manager will be responsible for ensuring that the Equal Opportunities policy is implemented and that its effectiveness is regularly monitored. They will be responsible for ensuring that:

Staff receive appropriate training.

The Equal Opportunities policy is consistent with current legislation and guidance.

Appropriate action is taken wherever discriminatory behaviour, language or attitudes become apparent.

All the pre-school's policies and procedures will be kept under review to ensure they do not operate in a discriminatory manner or in any way against its commitment to equal opportunities.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of the pre-school held on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed on behalf of the pre-school \_\_\_\_\_

Signed on behalf of the pre-school \_\_\_\_\_

To be reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_