

PARTICIPATION POLICY

At Fusion we believe that actively promoting the participation of children in the decision-making process creates a sense of partnership and benefits everyone, children, staff and parents/carers. We therefore involve the children whenever decisions are made that affect them.

We follow the principles set out in Articles 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which 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.

Involving and consulting children helps them to develop new skills such as negotiation, sharing, and understanding the perspectives of others. It helps them to understand how decisions are made, and shows them that their opinions are important. At Fusion we actively consult the children and encourage them to participate in making decisions about the running of Fusion through:

- Asking questions and paying full attention to the child's response
- Listening to what they are saying verbally (or through use of visual aids) and also observing their body language
- Designing newsletters
- Conferencing and Group discussions
- Regular questionnaires and gathering other feedback on activities
- The suggestion box
- Committee meetings in the Juniors
- Noticeboards
- House Captains
- Involved in planning

The age and maturity of each child, together with the type of the decision being made, determine the extent and nature of their involvement, however, the basic assumption is always that children will be involved. We make sure that we act on any consultation with the children so that they can see that their input has had visible outcomes. If children suspect that the consultation is just window-dressing they will disengage from the process.

At Fusion, the children have the opportunity to participate and make decisions on a day to day basis, including, but not limited to:

- Choosing freely what type of play to engage in
- Suggestions of games
- Choosing how much food they would like and how to serve it.
- Laying the tables
- Helping tidy up
- Selecting new equipment



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- Drawing up rules/ expectations
- Using our toy catalogue to select toys or activities that are not already set out
- Using our suggestion box to request new resources, activities or other changes
- Activity planning
- Conducting daily risk assessments
- Conducting play/risk benefits

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Signed.....

FUSION CHILDCARE SERVICES

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017): The Learning and Development Requirements: The Areas of Learning and Development [1.8].