

Little Sponges Montessori

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

It is very important for your child that we work in partnership. This will give your child continuity of care and he or she will not become confused with different standards of behaviour and boundaries.

As parents, you are the central adults in your child's life and the ones making decisions on their behalf. We will endeavour to work closely with you in order to carry out your wishes for your child whenever we can. LITTLE SPONGES MONTESSORI values the importance of communication with parents. We will provide you with a Parent Feedback Form which you can use to note any information that would be useful to us in the care and teaching of your child. Each child is allocated a Key Person who, together with any of the staff, will be available for you to speak to on a daily basis to exchange information and discuss any concerns.

It is vitally important that we are able to contact you at any time so please inform us immediately if there are any changes to your contact numbers, including work and mobile numbers and those of your emergency contacts.

Please feel free to discuss any issues that arise as your child grows and develops in order that we can work together and your wishes can be incorporated into our care routine for your child. For example, if you wish us to incorporate a special activity into our routine – perhaps a festival or religious holiday that you celebrate – please let us know.

If we have any concerns about your child's behaviour, development, eating habits etc. we will share them with you and, if necessary, work with you to seek support from outside agencies.

If your child is already involved with other support agencies, e.g. portage, please let us know. With your permission we may be able to work directly with these organisations to provide a more comprehensive care for your child.

We welcome input into our Nursery from parents. Please discuss with the Head of Little Sponges if you would like to help within the setting e.g. coming along on outings etc.

TRANSITION

As an Ofsted-registered nursery working in the Early Years Foundation Stage, we are very aware of the need to support both children and their families during the transition to another setting. This could be a child leaving the nursery to attend another setting, moving areas or starting school.

We will discuss any transitions with parents in advance and plan how we can support their child to make the change. This may involve reading books about starting school, for example. We can link activities to the transition and offer emotional support when needed. We can also help them to develop personal

care skills so that they can be independent in the new settings e.g. putting on their own clothes/shoes, going to the toilet unaided as these activities are part of the Montessori curriculum.

We are happy to work with other settings, with your permission, to help smooth the transition for your child.

WORKING WITH OTHER SETTINGS

As an Ofsted-registered nursery working in the Early Years Foundation Stage, we will work with other settings that your child attends, e.g. pre-school, childminders, etc., to ensure that your child benefits from the care that is given. Working/liasing with other settings that your child may attend enables the partnership to provide real continuity for your child's development.