

Parents as Partners Policy

Tir na nOg preschool service affirms the crucial role of parents as primary educators of their children. We are committed to working together with parents to ensure quality care and learning for their child. It is the policy of the service to be open, inclusive, welcoming, accepting, and respectful of all parents/guardians using the service and to involving them in the planning and development of the service.

- Copies of our written policies and procedures are available to all our parents/guardians and in as many alternative ways as possible.
- We provide parents/guardians with information of the type of care or programme provided by the service in our information booklet.
- We hold open days including evenings and weekends.
- We hold meetings with parents at mutually agreed times.
- We arrange several social outings throughout the year where we encourage all parents/guardians to come along.
- We have a brief daily exchange of information with each parent/guardian.
- We have a notice board for current information, leaflets, HSE information, and local activities and events.
- We regularly put up photographic displays of the children at play.
- We value parents/guardians individually and we ensure there are opportunities for them to contribute to the service's activities, whatever form this may take, ie. Special skills and special activities (providing materials for junk art, outings, shopping trips, cookery sessions, etc..)
- We facilitate opportunities for observation of play that will increase parents/guardians understanding of child behaviour and development
- We provide opportunities and time for parent/guardians to talk individually with staff on;
 - Child's progress and observation records.
 - A joint strategy for behaviour management.
 - Setting realistic goals for their child.
 - Changes in the family home.
 - Difficulties or concerns

Suggestions for the service

Joint evaluation of the childcare service.

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- Providing parent/guardians with information about relevant conferences, workshops and training.
- We make parents/guardians aware of our comments/complaints procedure.
- Where English is not the first language of the parent/guardian;
 - Staff will make every effort to communicate with parents/guardians using verbal/non verbal methods.
 - Staff will undertake to learn key phrases in the parent/guardians language from the parent/guardians.
 - Parent/guardians will be invited to become involved in the service and share with staff and children the culture/history of their country of origin.