



Children with English as an additional language (EAL)

Our provision takes great care to treat each individual as a person in their own right, with equal rights and responsibilities to any other individual, whether they are an adult or child. At Alexandra Park Children's Learning Community we pride ourselves on a multicultural environment. All efforts are made to support children and families with English as an additional language. "For children whose home language is not English, providers must take reasonable steps to provide opportunities for children to develop and use their home language in play and learning, supporting their language development at home". "When assessing communication, language and literacy skills, practitioners must assess children's skills in English. If a child does not have a strong grasp of English language, practitioners must explore the child's skills in the home language with parents and/or carers, to establish whether there is cause for concern about language delay"- Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage 2021, page 16.

Procedure

- Our settling in policy allows for a gradual admission into our setting. This allows us to gather a greater amount of information from families, helping us to understand more about the culture and language of the child and their family.
- Throughout our practice, we use clear, simple and consistent language. We talk to the children with respect, getting down to their level and helping them to express themselves by taking time to converse.
- We use picture cards, actions, books and songs to bring to life the language we use.
- We use a 'visual timeline' to give the child a visual aid for the routine of the day
- We use 'now and next cards' to show the child what is coming next. This allows for a smoother transition between play and lunch for example. Reinforcing with pictures/images can help the child feel more secure and comfortable.
- We differentiate our planning, providing opportunities for all children to access our lines of enquiry and projects.
- We embrace cultures by asking families to bring resources, food, books, CDs from home, so that children get the opportunity to learn about the lives of other people.
- We know that working in partnership with parents is key. We will ask for key words which the child may be familiar with and also ask for parent's assistance if there has been an issue with communication.

Date - August 2021

Signed Manager –

Review - August 2022

Signed Director –