

Children's Rights and Entitlements Policy

Safeguarding Children

Policy statement

The Lloyd Park Children's Charity promotes children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by:

- Creating an environment in our settings that encourages children to develop a positive self-image.
- Encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
- Enabling children to have the self-confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
- Helping children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults including those separated from their home.
- Building parents understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding.
- Defining harm and abuse as any action that could be considered to negatively impact on children's rights and entitlements
- Recognising that a child who is separated from their home and family signifies a disruption in their lives that has impact on their emotional well-being, attachment and resilience

The basis of this is to promote secure attachments in children's lives as the basis for resilience. These aspects of well-being underpin the child's responsiveness to learning and are the basis in developing positive dispositions for learning. For young children to get the most out of educational opportunities they need to be settled enough with their carer to be able to cope with further separation, a new environment and new expectations made upon them.

1. What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements to be 'strong, resilient and listened to'.

To be **strong** means to be:

- secure in their foremost attachment relationships where they are loved and cared for, by at least one person who is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on.
- safe and valued as individuals in their home life and in relationships beyond the family, such as day care or school;
- self-assured and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage;
- included equally and belong in early years' settings and in community life;
- confident in abilities and proud of their achievements;
- progressing optimally in all aspects of their development and learning;
- part of a peer group in which to learn to negotiate, develop social skills and identity as global citizens, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world; and
- able to represent themselves and participate in aspects of service delivery that affects them as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be **resilient** means to:

- be sure of their self-worth and dignity;
- be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively;
- be able to overcome difficulties and problems;
- be positive in their outlook on life;
- be able to cope with challenge and change;
- have a sense of justice towards self and others;
- to develop a sense of responsibility towards self and others; and
- to be able to represent themselves and others in key decision making processes.

To be **listened to** means:

- adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas;
- adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated;

- adults who are close to children are able to respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding of what children express and communicate; and
- adults respect children's rights and facilitate children's participation and representation in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.

Policy Name	Children's rights and entitlements policy
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This policy was developed by	Governance and Accountability Sub Group
These people were consulted/involved in developing the policy	Safeguarding Team
This Policy was adopted by	Trustee Board
Date	March 2018
Signed	
Name	James Wragg
Role	Chairperson
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