

## **CHILD PARTICIPATION POLICY**

At Kidsize Club Ltd. our aim is to ensure all children participate in the planning, undertaking and leadership of activities.

Child involvement in the day-to-day running of the club is beneficial for many reasons:

- Involving children helps fulfil their rights under Article 12 of the UNCRC.
- Children having control over elements of their lives can increase confidence and instil a feeling of empowerment.
- They gain improved understanding of decision making processes and awareness of rights and responsibilities.
- Through the use of discussion and group work relationships with peers and adults will strengthen.
- The children will gain practical skills and knowledge.
- Meeting statutory requirements: SSSC and The Health and Social Care Standards (2.1 – 2.27)
- Meeting 'Getting It Right For Every Child' - SHANARRI indicators: Achieving, Included

Children are involved in planning and evaluating what we do at Kidsize by:

- Mind Maps
- Suggestion Boxes
- Group Discussion
- Feedback Forms
- Floor Book
- 1-on-1 Staff and Child Discussions
- Self-risk assessing

Children are made to feel included in our setting in the following ways:

- Topic Board – Photos and feedback from children on display
- Floor Book - Photos and feedback from children on display, children help fill this in
- Kidsize Rules written by the children
- Artwork Displays
- Kind Behaviours photos

- Blog on our website featuring the children

Children are including in the undertaking of activities through:

- Group Work
- Child Leadership
- Individual Play
- Activities in which they can learn/play without adult help
- On-going questions e.g. “are you enjoying this?” “Is there anything we could change to make it better?”

Children are actively listened to:

- Daily Check ins before and after school
- 1-on-1 communication time
- Feedback forms
- Suggestion Box

Staff effectively communicate with children by:

- Fully listening to what they have to say
- Making eye contact and getting on their level
- Using visual aids
- Asking questions
- Asking for their opinions / views
- Using vocabulary that is easy to understand
- Using kind words and a kind tone of voice

At Kidsize we understand the importance of communication in building confidence and forming relationships. We understand that not all children communicate in the same way and take time to learn how children communicate through their use of body language. We work with children on helping them to expand their mean of communication: teaching new words, developing writing and reading skills, communicating through body language such as sharing and not hurting others.

We ensure that children know we are listening to them and meeting their requests. It is important for the children to understand their views are valued by the staff at Kidsize.

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