

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 fulfill their rights under Article 12 of the UNCRC.
- Children having control over elements of their lives can increase confidence and instill 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
- Group Discussion
- Feedback Forms
- 1-on-1 Staff and Child Discussions
- Self-risk assessing
- Key questions

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
- Artwork Displays
- Cheqdin communication with their parents
- Involvement in choosing resourced and planning activities

Children are included 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

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
- Actively listening
- Nonverbal communication

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 means 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.

Making Complaints

Children are encouraged to make complaints if they are unhappy with their care. They can do this by communicating their concerns with staff in the ways previously stated in this policy. Or they can inform their parents/carers who can then follow the Complaints Policy and Procedure. Children's complaints will be passed onto management who will address the complaint and come to a solution. The child's parents/carers will be informed of the complaint also.

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