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## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

### **Policy Statement**

At Bopeeps Pre – School we believe that children benefit most from early years education and care when parents and Pre-Schools work together in partnership.

Our aim is to support parents as their children’s first and most important educators by involving them in their own continuing education and personal development. We also aim to support parents in their own continuing education and personal development.

Some parents are less well represented in early year’s settings; these include fathers, parents who live apart from their children but who still play a part in their lives as well as working parents. In carrying out the following procedures, we will ensure all parents are included.

When we refer to ‘parents’ we mean both mothers and fathers; these include both natural or birth parents as well as step parents and parents who do not live with their children but have contact with them and play a part in their lives. ‘Parents’ also includes same sex parents as well as foster parents.

‘Parental Responsibility’ is *all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property.* (For a full explanation of who has parental responsibility, refer to the Pre- School Learning Alliances Child Protection Record publication)

### **Procedures**

- We have a means to ensure all parents are included – that may mean we have different strategies for involving fathers or parents who work or live apart from their children.
- Involve parents in shared record keeping about their child, both formally and informally, ensuring that all parents have access to all written records on their own child.
- Ensure that parents are given information on a regular basis about their child’s progress and have an opportunity to discuss it with staff.
- Ensure that all parents have opportunities to contribute from their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the Pre - School.
- Ensure that all new parents are aware of and can contribute to the Pre - Schools system and policies

- Ensure that all parents are fully informed about meetings.
- Consult with families about the times of the meetings to avoid excluding anyone.
- Hold meetings in venues which are accessible and appropriate for all.
- Welcome the contributions of parents in whatever form it may take.
- Make known to all parents the system for registering queries, complaints or suggestions.
- Provide opportunities for parents to learn about the Pre-School curriculum and about young children's learning, in Pre-School and at home.

Policy Implemented Date: January 2017

Policy Review Date: January 2019