



Communication and Language Policy

At The Cabin we recognise that competence in communication skills is crucial for children's future success in life. Effective communication skills enable children to grow into citizens able to participate fully in society. We believe children learn to communicate with confidence and effectively through developing close and trusting relationships with others. Each child has a key person throughout their time at the Cabin. This practitioner is responsible for preparing the child's learning diary, reports and transition forms. They are also responsible for liaison with parents/carers and sharing information with them as necessary.

At The Cabin we view parents as co-educators of their children.

Good relationships between children and adults are valued and we believe children learn best when they are happy and learning is fun. We nurture children's friendships and believe through their friendships they learn to share and have empathy for others. Meaningful sustained conversation is promoted.

The importance of emotional literacy is valued at The Cabin. Children are encouraged to recognise their own feelings and adults model appropriate language to label them. Puppets and other props are used as a strategy to encourage children to understand the feelings of others.

Practitioners at the Cabin are very conscious of the importance of modelling

appropriate verbal and non-verbal interactions. For example being polite and taking turns in conversations. All forms of communication are welcome and encouraged including body language, Makaton, visual timetables and home languages. Practitioners use rhyme and action songs regularly to link the development of children's language to physical activity.

Practitioners observe children's interests, learning styles and relationships and plan for their learning taking these into account. Practitioners document children's learning with photographs and written observations. In this way children's verbal and non-verbal language is valued.

The curriculum at The Cabin is organised so that children's creative thinking is valued. We use a strategy called "provocation" to encourage children to use language for thinking. Provocations take many forms. For example it may be a visit to a new and different environment or a pathway to a box of treasure children find by chance. It can be any experience that provokes the child to think and question.

This policy was written after working through Dimension 5 of the Bristol Standard.

This policy was agreed and adopted at a meeting of the Clutton

Playgroup Management Committee on

Signed (Chair Person)