

# **HIGH DOWN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

## **EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM/PLAY POLICY**

We believe that every child should be valued, respected and deserves the very best possible start in life to support and fulfil their potential. We offer a secure, safe, stimulating and happy environment indoors and outdoors on a daily basis, which enables supports children to thrive and develop.

We follow the EYFS principled approach to guide the work we do with children. The principled approach is built on four guiding themes;

### **A Unique Child**

Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

### **Positive Relationships**

Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and play workers.

### **Enabling Environments**

The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

### **Learning and Development**

Children develop and learn in different, and at different rates.

When applying these four principles, we look carefully at children, consider their needs, their interests and their stages of development, and take a flexible approach. Thus enabling us to respond to children's changing interests and needs which will support planning and provide challenging and enjoyable experiences across all areas of learning and development through play.

Prime areas of learning are;

- Communication and language

- Physical development

- Personal, social and emotional development

Specific areas are;

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the world

Expressive arts and design

None of these areas of learning and development can be delivered in isolation from the others. They are equally important and depend on each other to support a rounded approach to child's development. This can be achieved through purposeful play, with a balance of adult led and child initiated activities.

Practitioners support children to enhance their ability to think critically and ask questions by providing opportunities and a wide variety of resources to enable them to discover and make connections.

The club has awareness to the importance of giving the children the opportunity to experiment with a variety of equipment, toys, resources and materials to encourage creativity. The children benefit from making their own choices, which enables individuals to achieve their personal goals.

Whenever appropriate we encourage children to partake in a full range of outdoor activities, suitable to their ages, abilities and interests.

We undertake to provide all the necessary equipment to do this.

We endeavour to ensure that we work in close partnership with parent/carers, as this also has a positive impact on children's development and learning.

*Reviewed June 2016*