



## THE STAFF & PARENT PARTNERSHIP

No one is more qualified to look after your child than its parents. Our teams at both Southlands Kindergarten and Crèche are an extension of this role, providing the same affection, dedication and stimulation that your family home offers.

Close cooperation between Southlands Nurseries and the parents are of the upmost importance to us and parental involvement is welcomed and encouraged.

The partnership which has developed between home and nursery must therefore, be effective and based on mutual trust and respect.

### Our policy is:

- ★ To create a welcoming environment for children and parents/carers
- ★ To encourage a strong and open and understanding relationship
- ★ To recognise the role of the parent/carer as the child's first educator
- ★ To work together to help each child work towards his/her full potential
- ★ To encourage parents/carers through open evenings and events to become involved in our nursery activities
- ★ To constantly monitor our systems of communication through feedback forms
- ★ To ensure that parents/carers have the opportunity to review their child's progress on a regular basis with nursery staff
- ★ To ensure that parents/carers have access to their child's records
- ★ To welcome parents/carers to visit the nursery at any time
- ★ To offer home visits from their child's key worker prior/following admission

Our development of strong links between staff and parents is a major strength of ours and will be evident from your very first visit to the nursery.

Staff are committed to developing both your child's and their own development through continuous professional development, something that is actively encouraged at Southlands.

At both the beginning and end of each day staff are available to discuss the specific needs of your child and will report on the activities enjoyed throughout his/her time with us. This often takes place as a simple, informal chat with one or more members of the team, enabling you to fully understand the progress your child is making.

A slightly more formal report comes in form of a 'Tattler' at The Crèche. This is a daily written report that illustrates in more detail specific issues of importance such as eating and sleeping patterns.

Our open door policy enables parents to drop in at any time, whether it's to discuss the welfare of your child face to face or simply to witness first-hand how he/she is responding to our stimulated family environment.

Children's personal interests, current enthusiasms and worries, if they have any are always of both interest and concern to us. We want you to be confident that your child is kept securely in our mind at all times.

Children at both The Crèche and Kindergarten are assigned to a key worker. For further information on The Key Worker please see section 7.

During your time with us we will keep you up to date of activities and developments via regular reports, newsletters and open evenings where you will be able to discuss at length the progress of your child with team members.

Questionnaires are sent on a regular basis to gain feedback and to ensure that both parents and children are happy and to help us both maintain and improve our service.

We are a joint enterprise with families and our practice reflects this by its strong links between the two settings.

A vast array of other activities which include a Christmas Nativity, Sports Day, Charity Auctions and BBQ's and evening social events ensures staff, parents and children alike play a full and active part in Southlands life.