

## **Care, Learning and Play – POL004**

**The programme of activities and the atmosphere of our Children and Family Services aim to encourage confidence, independence and enjoyment. Our work has, as its core, the aim of enabling children to develop their emotional, social, cognitive, interpersonal and physical skills, and their desire to explore, discover and be creative.**

Happy Bananas will provide a well organised play environment that offers children an enjoyable and stimulating experience, alongside opportunities to explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves. The programme of activities will recognise and take into account the differing ages, interests, backgrounds and abilities of the children.

Activities are carefully planned to allow children to build on their natural curiosity, advance their thinking, use their imagination and develop positive social relationships. At all times, the Children and Family Service will recognise a child's individuality, effort and achievement. Early Years Foundation Stage principles will be embedded in all sessions that provide care, learning and play opportunities.

Wherever appropriate, teachers will be involved in the process of planning activities so that the programme reflects their opinions, so that the activities are successful and enjoyed.

Care, Learning and Play will be shared with Parents/Carers at the end of each day through our daily diary sent home, detailing what their child did and what they enjoyed. They will also be sent home a fortnight timetable at the start of the Holiday Club so Parents/ Carers can organise for specific activities such as Swimming or Picnic lunch.

Staff will display flexible styles and respond appropriately to children according to their age, understanding and needs. Staff will support, recognise and promote achievements by all children. Happy Bananas will provide children with a range of equipment and resources appropriate to their age and interests, according to the provisions of the Equipment policy. These will be discussed and organised between Managers and Group Leaders. Children will be offered access to outdoor play where possible and subject to weather conditions.

No child will ever be left unsupervised during activities at any Children and Family Service. Children are the responsibility of the Group Leader at all times unless in the toilet/ quiet room where they will be supervised by staff at all times. The programme of activities will be displayed in a place that is accessible to all children, in a suitable format (photos/ symbols).

Parents / Carers and children are actively encouraged to provide comments and suggestions in order to allow for activity sessions to be evaluated. These will be recorded in our Comments book.

**This policy has been adapted to suit the needs of Happy Bananas by Mrs Catherine Sayer (Manager), it has been witnessed and agreed by Mrs Jordan Garratt (Manager) 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016. This policy will be reviewed and updated each year.**

**Legislation / guidance that informs this policy:**

The Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Guidance

**Linked policies:**

Behaviour management – POL003

Equipment and Resources – POL009

Involving and Consulting Children – POL018

Partnership with Parents and Carers – POL022

Physical Environment – POL023

Special Needs –POL026