

21 Open Door Policy

At Summertime, we believe that parents, carers and practitioners should work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, supporting children to feel safe, secure and confident.

We promote positive relationships through an open door policy, which allows parents and carers to be involved in their child's time at the setting.

Parents and carers may visit the setting at any time during their child's booked session. This does not change the child's usual session times.

Parents may stay to join activities, return early to spend time with their child, or stay and play for the remainder of the session.

All parents and carers staying in the setting must sign in and out using the visitors' book.

Parents and carers must not be left alone with children and are not included in staff ratios.

Parents and carers must respect the privacy and confidentiality of all children and will not have access to information about other children.

Confidential discussions with parents will take place away from other parents and children where appropriate.

Mobile phones must not be used in the setting for calls, photographs, social media.

Parents and carers may only access areas designated by staff and must not enter restricted areas such as changing, sleeping, office or kitchen areas.

Parents and carers are expected to behave appropriately and respectfully at all times, including in their language and behaviour.

Benefits of the Open Door Policy

The policy helps to:

Give parents a better understanding of their child's learning, development, routines and relationships.

Help practitioners explain how children learn through play and share the curriculum with parents.

Give parents ideas and confidence to support their child's learning at home.

Help practitioners understand children's experiences, interests and achievements at home.

Support positive parent-child interactions and allow practitioners and parents to share appropriate strategies.

Encourage parents and practitioners to work together to address any concerns or challenges.

Our open door policy is designed to strengthen the partnership between families and Summertime while ensuring that children's safety, privacy and wellbeing remain our priority.

Cathy White
Manager
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