



Parents as partners

At Safe Haven we aim to effectively involve all our parents/carers in the learning and development of their children both in the setting and at home. Parents/carers are the child's main educator and it is essential to form a good partnership between home and nursery to inspire children that are well motivated, eager to join in and that consistently demonstrate characteristics of effective learning.

1. Key person.

This system supports engagement with all parents/carers including those reluctant to contribute. Every child will be allocated a key person who will be responsible for the child's care and learning while in the settling. They will firstly partake in settling in sessions with the child and their parents/carers, building important bonds with both. They will also gain information from the parents/carers for initial assessment, and will continue to keep them well informed about their child's progress. This will be done via Tapestry. It is the responsibility of the key person to introduce 'Tapestry' and its importance in 'parents as partners'. Parents/carers will continue to be supported by their child's keyperson and can be contacted throughout the nursery day. Parents/carers will also receive a gift on their child's first day as they begin the new chapter in their lives.

The key person will share information with parents/carers about the child's day, and also be invited to regular meetings about their child's development usually in Parent's Evenings.

2. Tapestry.

This is an online learning journey of each child, to be shared between nursery and home. This tool enables parents/carers to share their child's learning at home with the setting, and vice versa. Whenever photographs are uploaded by a parent/carer, the child's key person will always respond, but then expand and develop upon the area of learning within nursery. Parents/carers are contacted whenever anything is uploaded to Tapestry, enabling parents/carers to be involved in their child's day and continue learning at home. The learning journey remains online and will be placed on

a disc for parents/carers when the child leaves. All work, pictures or paintings done while at nursery will be sent home for children to show their parents/carers

3. Parents/Carers Stay and Play.

These are free, fun and informative sessions that are available in every room, at least once every half term. The sessions are an allotted time when parents/carers come in, using facilities provided, to engage directly with their child's learning. Staff are on hand to offer help and advice and even educate parents/carers in child development. Parents/carers are also able to meet other parents/carers who very often empower one another with helpful information.

4. Going home Bags/Borrow a book

Take home bags/Borrow a book schemes are available in each room which encourage, equip and educate parents with learning at home. The bags contain various activities, toys and stories for children to enjoy with their parents. They also contain notebooks for parents to share comments or tips about their experience for other parents and nursery to read. Books are available to borrow for valuable reading time for parents/carers and their children.

5. Special Events Bears.

Each room has different special bears for children to take home. These are great ways of building a connection with nursery and home. They are used by parents/carers to share special experiences e.g. holidays, day trips, birthdays etc., or even for settling new children in.

6. Special Events!

Safe Haven delights in sharing special times with our children and their families, and because of this we provide special events such as, Preschool Leaving Graduation Evening, Fireworks Evening, Christmas Concerts, and Open Days Etc.

Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
	<i>May 2017</i>