



Early Years Foundation Stage Policy

Smiles is committed to delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) as set out in the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021*. EYFS applies to all children from birth through to the end of their reception year. More information about EYFS is available from the Department for Education's website.

The designated EYFS coordinator at the Club is the club Manager who is responsible for:

- Identifying EYFS children when they join the Club, and informing the other staff
- Determining the primary EYFS provider (typically, the school) for each child
- Assigning a key person for each EYFS child
- Ensuring that staff receive relevant EYFS training
- Implementing a communication book, so that the parents, Club and the primary EYFS provider can easily exchange information
- Agreeing information sharing policies with the primary EYFS provider and gaining parental consent for this where necessary
- Meeting regularly with the primary EYFS provider to agree next steps for the development of each EYFS child.

For each EYFS child, the Club will deliver those areas of EYFS learning and development as are agreed with the parents and the primary provider. In delivering these areas of learning and development staff will:

- Undertake observations and assessments in order to plan for each child's individual needs
- Plan and provide opportunities which are appropriate to each child's stage of development.

The Club provides a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities. The Club always follows play principles, allowing children to choose how they occupy their time, and never forces them to participate in a given activity.

We recognise the four overarching principles of EYFS:

- **A Unique Child:** Every child is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self assured. We use positive encouragement and praise to motivate the children in our care.
- **Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. We aim to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with the children and their families.
- **Enabling Environments:** Children learn and develop well in environments in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and where there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents/carers. We observe children in order to understand their current interests and development before planning appropriate play-based activities for them.
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.** The EYFS framework covers the education and care of all children in Early Years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities. We tailor the experiences we offer the children in our care according to their individual needs and abilities.

This policy was adopted by: Smiles Childrens Clubs	Date: 10/2021
To be reviewed: 10/2022	Signed: <i>Kelly Palfreyman</i>

