

**ADULT INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN (LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION) POLICY**

**Statement:**

Branston Pre-school recognises the importance of communication in the overall development of children.

**Aim:**

Branston Pre-school strives to give each child the opportunity and support to feel confident and capable communicators with adults and fellow peers.

Staff will be aware of the benefits of an open and two-way interaction with children. Should any additional training be necessary to support staff, this will be identified in the induction and annual appraisal processes. Appropriate training will be sought.

- Staff will aim to provide eye to eye contact in order to hold the child's attention and reinforce the message that they are communicating with them.
- Staff will ensure they are positioned at an appropriate level to ensure they are able to try and establish and maintain eye to eye contact.
- Should additional sign language be necessary then training will be sought for staff.
- Staff will ensure they use open communication when engaging with children.
- All children will be communicated with during a session and staff will ensure they permit appropriate time for the child to speak, listen and respond.
- Time will be given to allow children to understand what staff are doing and why.
- Children will be encouraged to speak freely and have open conversations during their everyday tasks and experiences.
- Staff will encourage appropriate and correct language techniques. Additional support to staff members will be given as necessary through training and mentoring.
- Appropriate displays and activities to support Letters and Sounds will be evident in provision.
- Rhyming and prediction opportunities are encouraged through carpet time, stories, singing and movement activities.

- Open ended questions will be used to encourage and develop sentence replies, rather than one word replies.
- Staff will recognise that extra time is necessary for any child with speech and language difficulties- and ensure they afford them this time.
- Both indoor and outdoor role play activities will be made available and encouraged.
- Children are encouraged to use writing implements to engage in creative work.
- Children are encouraged to recognise their individual names with the use of registration cards, coat pegs etc.
- Children are encouraged to "write" their own messages.
- Staff will ensure that any volunteer or staff member working directly with the children, encourage free communication throughout the session.
- Staff will monitor children's activities to ensure they do not disturb child initiated and appropriate play when being undertaken.
- Staff will recognise that children should be allowed un-interrupted play to encourage their own thoughts, experiences and communication.
- Any children or families identified as having communication and language difficulties will be supported by our SENCO and ECAT co-ordinators.
- Appropriate support services will be encouraged in the Pre-School setting if deemed appropriate to the needs of the child and family.
- Should any family or child attend Pre-School with English as an additional language (EAL) advice will be sought and obtained from relevant agencies and we will strive for full and open communication with the parents/carers/families.