

General welfare requirements: Equal Opportunities

Providers must have and implement a policy and procedures to promote equality of opportunity for children in their care, including support for children with special educational needs or disabilities.

Skilful communicator: St Clements Pre School LTD

Valuing communication: Policy statement

At St Clements Pre School we appreciate and value that the art of communication can take many forms, including information conveyed with words or sounds (spoken or written), communicating using pictures or symbols or using non-verbal communication like gestures (e.g. waving, smiling or nodding) or a signing system. To ensure we are providing a fully inclusive environment and meeting the needs of all children, our setting is committed to anti-discriminatory practice to promote equality of opportunity and valuing diversity for all children and families. We aim to:

- provide a secure and accessible, language rich environment in which all our children can flourish & in which all contributions are considered and valued;
- Include the contribution of all families valuing that communication can take many forms.
- Continue to improve our knowledge & understanding of how children communicate and the role of the adult.
- Model and promote good listening skills
- Adapt our language to meet the needs of individual children
- Value non-verbal communication
- To recognise and support when a child is experiencing difficulty
- Provide Language rich activities, both child initiated and adult led.
- Have a range of visual aids that will support what we are saying
- Provide a learning journey for each child recording and valuing achievements and planning next steps that will be shared with parents/careers.
- Evaluate and review practice.

“We need to specifically plan for the development of communication, speaking and listening skills, utilising the multi-sensory activities that we know children enjoy participating in.” Letters and Sounds (DfES 00281-2007FLR-EN)

EYFS themes and principles underpinning policy and practice. (= Learning and Development)

• A Unique Child (UC)	• Positive Relationships (PR)	• Enabling Environments (EE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning & can be resilient ,capable ,confidant & self assured	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children learn & develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs & there is a strong partnership between practitioners & parents & carers.

Strategies to support good communication

- Make sure you have the child's attention each time you talk to them.
- Position yourself to the child's level and talk and play with them extending their talk and enriching vocabulary
- Adapt and use language appropriate for the age and stage of the child's development.
- Talk with a clear, natural pace (too slowly or too quickly can distort sounds and lip patterns)
- Be aware of background noises and distractions.
- Use gestures alongside your speech to help the child understand important words.
- Ask open ended questions.
- To give children time and space to think, respond and consolidate learning
- To model and promote good listening skills.
- Respond to and value all types of communication, including non-verbal.
- Use visual aids to support what you are saying and to communicate needs.
- To sensitively repeat and correct sentences making them grammatically correct with accurate pronunciation
- To extend, recall and build on more complex sentences as appropriate.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other Preschool policies. Further reading and information on this subject can be found in:

Primary National Strategy; Letters and sounds (2007)

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017)

I can, helps children communicate (2006)

The National strategies inclusion Development Programme; supporting children with speech, language and communication. (2008)

Communication Friendly spaces; improving speaking and listening skills in the early Years Foundation stage.

This policy was adopted by the staff at

ST Clements

on

Spring 2021

Date to be reviewed

Spring 2022

Signed on behalf of the Pre School

Elaine King and Rachael Hills

Name of signatory

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)

Owners and managers
