



Parent Partnership Policy

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Date Written: | August 2025

Next Review Due: August 2026

Our Values

At Young Friends, we view parents and families as **the child's first and foremost educator**. Our approach to parent partnerships is rooted in **mutual respect, honest communication**, and a shared desire to support every child's wellbeing, learning and identity.

- **Sustainability** – Our partnerships are long-term and values-driven
 - **Respect** – Families are listened to, included and treated as equals
 - **Authenticity** – We don't create false smiles — we build real relationships
 - **Supportive Leadership** – Staff are trained to communicate with warmth, clarity and sensitivity
 - **Community** – We celebrate real lives and shared goals, not one-size-fits-all parenting
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Policy Statement

We believe that children thrive best when their families and educators **work together** with transparency and shared understanding. This policy outlines how we foster strong, respectful and collaborative relationships with all families.

Working in Partnership with Families

At Young Friends, we recognise that parents and families are children's first and foremost educators. Building strong, respectful, and genuine partnerships is at the heart of everything we do.

How We Welcome and Communicate

- **Warm welcomes** – greeting families personally each day and making introductions so they feel part of our community from the start.
- **Thorough induction** – covering our values, curriculum, settling-in process, and communication systems so families feel confident and informed.
- **Ongoing updates via Family** – sharing children's learning, wellbeing, care notes, and curriculum experiences in real time.
- **Conversations, not just notifications** – engaging in meaningful chats at pick-up, through messages, and during termly contact.
- **Being available and approachable** – encouraging families to share concerns or questions, and welcoming open dialogue.
- **Monthly newsletters** – with all key kindergarten updates, celebrations, and upcoming events.
- **Daily summaries on our noticeboards** – written for each group so families can talk with their children about their day.
- **Sharing notices on Family's newsfeed** – to keep everyone updated with events and reminders.
- **A Kindergarten Community Facebook Page** – where families can connect, share or sell items, post about events, and support each other's businesses.

Family Voice and Involvement

- Families are invited to share knowledge, feedback, and ideas at any time.
 - We respect and adapt to family values, routines, and preferences where possible.
 - We maintain open, professional dialogue where concerns arise — always listening and responding with care.
 - Parents can contact management and their child's key person via Family at any time.
 - Parents can request meetings in person or via phone at any time.
 - Parents are welcome to arrange a stay-and-play session by calling the Office Manager.
 - Parents are invited to two dedicated Parents' Afternoons/Evenings each year.
 - Parents are encouraged to suggest ways we can improve our provision in line with our sustainable ethos.
 - We have a **community book swap shed** for families to share and reuse books, promoting sustainability and community connection.
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Seasonal Celebrations and Belonging

At Young Friends, celebrations are about **connection, meaning, and belonging** — not tokenism or commercialism. We celebrate in ways that truly reflect our children, families, and community.

We:

- **Respect and value** each family's cultural background, beliefs, and preferences.
- **Celebrate the seasons** — Winter, Spring, Summer, and Autumn — through nature, creativity, and togetherness.
- Host **two major community celebrations** each year — our **Winter Celebration** and **Summer Celebration** — for families and the whole team to come together.
- May hold smaller celebrations in between, based on the children's interests, projects, or seasonal milestones.
- Mark themes such as **light, growth, kindness, community, and connection** in ways that all children can join in.
- Acknowledge cultural or religious occasions **only if they are actively celebrated by our current children and families**, approaching them with respect and genuine curiosity.
- Avoid reinforcing exclusion through assumptions — for example, not assuming all families observe Halloween, Christmas, or Easter.
- Exclude consumerist aspects of any celebration, focusing instead on sustainable, meaningful experiences.
- Involve families in creating authentic moments of joy — inviting their ideas, traditions, and contributions to ensure celebrations feel relevant and inclusive.

This approach ensures every child feels **seen, safe, and equally valued**, and that our celebrations reflect the diversity, creativity, and sustainability that define our ethos.

Linked Policies

- Key Person Policy
 - Complaints and Concerns
 - Equalities and Diversity
 - Listening to Children
 - Learning and Development
 - Settling In and Transitions
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Authorisation

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