

## 1 Children's rights and entitlements

### Policy statement

We promote children's right to be *strong, resilient and listened to* by creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop a positive self-image and independence. This includes:-

- Awareness of their heritage - colour, ethnicity, languages spoken at home, religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.
- Encouraging the development of a sense of autonomy and independence.
- Encouraging self-confidence and providing vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
- Assisting and guiding the children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults.
- Working with parents to build their understanding of and commitment to the principles of safeguarding all our children.

**What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements to be '*strong, resilient and listened to*'.**

To be **strong** means to be:

- **secure** in their foremost attachment relationships where they are loved and cared for, by at least one person who can be relied on and is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard;
- **safe and valued** as individuals both in their families and in relationships beyond the family (such as day care or school) ;
- **self assured** with a positive sense of themselves, including all aspects of identity and heritage;
- **included** with a sense of equality and belonging both in the early years settings and in community life;
- **confident** in their abilities and proud of their achievements;
- **progressing optimally** in all aspects of their development and learning;
- **part of a peer group** in which they can learn to negotiate, develop social skills and identity as global citizens, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world; and

- **able to participate and represent themselves** in aspects of service delivery that affects them as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be **resilient** means to:

- have **self worth** and **dignity**;
- be **assertive** and state their needs effectively;
- **overcome** difficulties and problems;
- be **positive** in their outlook on life;
- be able to **cope** with challenge and change;
- have a sense of **justice** towards self and others;
- develop a sense of **responsibility** towards self and others; and
- be able to **represent** themselves and others in key decision making processes.

To be **listened to** means adults who are close to children:

- recognise their need and **right to express and communicate** their thoughts, feelings and ideas;
- are able to **tune in** to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated;
- are able to **respond appropriately** and, when required, **act upon their understanding** of what children express and communicate ; and
- **respect children's rights** and **facilitate children's participation and representation** in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	Peter Pan Pre-school	
Held on	<u>28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012</u>	(date)
Date to be reviewed	<u></u>	(date)
Signed on behalf of the management committee	<u></u>	
Name of signatory	<u>Lucy Thompson</u>	
Role of signatory	<u>Chair</u>	