

St Gabriel's Catholic Pre-School - The role of the key person

'Each child must be assigned a key person' (EYFS 2024)

Babies and young children need to form a secure attachment to key person when they join the setting to feel safe, happy, and eager to participate and learn.

1. The key person role

- A key person builds an on-going relationship with the child and their parents/carers and is committed to that child's well-being while in the setting.
- Every child that attends is allocated a key person during the first half term once they have settled in - it is not the responsibility of the child to choose their own key person.
- The number of children for each key person considers the individual needs of children and the capacity of the key person to manage their cohort; it is also influenced by part-time places and part time staff. The setting manager should aim for consistency i.e. matching part-time staff to part-time children; full-time children should not be divided between key persons during the week.
- A list of key persons and their key groups are displayed clearly.

2. Parents/carers

- Key persons are the first point of contact for parents regarding matters concerning their child and any concerns parents/carers may have been addressed with the key person in the first instance.
- Key persons support parents/carers in their role as the child's first and most enduring educators.
- The key person is responsible for the child's developmental records and for sharing information about progress with the child's parents/carers.

3. Learning and development

- The key person helps to ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs. This is achieved through regular observation and assessment of children, using information gathered about their achievements, interests and learning styles to plan for each individual child's learning and development.
- If a child's progress in any of the prime areas gives cause for concern, the key person must discuss this with the setting manager or SENCO and the child's parents/carers.

Please note even though your child has a key person, all staff will work closely with your child and will be involved in their learning and wellbeing.

Policies & Procedures for the EYFS 2024/25 (Early Years Alliance 2024)

4. Safeguarding children

- The key person has a responsibility towards their key children to report any concern about their development, welfare, or child protection matter to the setting manager and to follow the procedures in this respect.
- Regular supervision with the setting manager provides further opportunities to discuss the progress and welfare of key children.

5. Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually or in response to significant changes in legislation or operational needs.

6. Contact

For any questions about this policy, invoices, or support, please contact:

Jenny Cookson – Pre-School Manager

preschool@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk

01270875770 (option 3)