

WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEDGEHOGS NURSERY & SUNBEAMS CLUB



Partnership with Parents



**Updated: September 2026
Review Date: September 2028**

At Woodlands Primary School, Hedgehogs Nursery and Sunbeams Club, we value parents and carers as partners in their child's care, learning and development. We recognise that parents and carers know their child best and that strong, two-way communication between home and nursery helps children to feel secure, supported and able to thrive.

In our Early Years Department, we use a **key person approach** to build positive relationships with children and their families. The key person works closely with parents and carers to understand each child's individual needs, interests, experiences and development, and to ensure that information is shared effectively between home and nursery.

We are committed to:

- Welcoming parents and carers as valued partners in their child's learning, development and wellbeing.
- Building respectful, trusting and open relationships with families and providing opportunities for two-way communication.
- Using the **key person system** to ensure that each child and family has a named practitioner with whom they can develop a strong relationship.
- Gathering information about children's interests, experiences, development and starting points when they join the setting, including through our 'All About Me' information.
- Encouraging parents and carers to share observations, interests and experiences from home, verbally, in writing or through photographs and Tapestry.
- Keeping parents and carers informed about their child's progress and development and working together to identify ways to support their learning at home and in the setting.
- Providing regular opportunities for parents and carers to speak with their child's key person, including during daily handovers.
- Offering **regular Stay and Play sessions** throughout the year, giving families opportunities to spend time in the setting, see their child's learning environment and talk informally with their child's key person and familiar staff.
- Providing opportunities for **parent/carers meetings throughout the year** to discuss children's learning, development and wellbeing.
- Providing development updates in line with children's age and stage:
 - **Hedgehogs:** parents and carers will receive milestone updates at **12 months and 18 months**.
 - **Squirrels:** parents and carers will be invited to contribute to and receive information relating to the **statutory two-year progress check**.
 - **Foxes:** parents and carers will receive regular updates on their child's progress, with a written report provided at the end of the school year.
- Respecting and valuing every family's cultural, religious, linguistic and individual circumstances and making reasonable adjustments to meet their needs.
- Providing information in accessible formats where required, including electronic or multilingual information where appropriate.
- Keeping parents and carers informed about the EYFS, nursery routines, activities, events, food and drink, policies and procedures through appropriate communication channels, including Tapestry and newsletters.
- Providing a private and appropriate space for confidential discussions with parents and carers.
- Supporting families to understand how they can support their child's learning and development at home and signposting them to relevant resources, services, courses and workshops where appropriate.
- Working collaboratively with parents and carers to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and ensuring families understand the support available.
- Listening to and considering parents' and carers' suggestions, compliments, concerns and complaints and using feedback to improve our provision.

- Providing clear information about nursery policies, procedures, contracts, fees and the processes for raising queries, concerns or complaints.
- Respecting parents' and carers' views and ensuring that their contributions are considered when making decisions about their child's care, learning and development.
- Maintaining confidentiality and sharing information appropriately in accordance with our safeguarding, data protection and information-sharing procedures.

We believe that effective parent partnership is built on **open communication, mutual respect and a shared commitment to each child's wellbeing, learning and development**. By working together with families, we can provide children with the consistency, support and positive relationships they need to flourish.