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Sacred Heart Pre-school

Heys Street  
Thornton-Cleveleys  
FY54HL

Tel: 07835711921  
EY 318019

1. **Learning and Development (EYFS: 1.1 – 1.5)**

**Policy statement:**

We follow the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

**Procedures:**

At Sacred Heart Pre-School, our goal is to provide a nurturing and stimulating environment where children can develop. We strive to create a caring atmosphere, akin to a second home, where children can engage in play, take risks, and have fun while making progress across all of the seven areas of learning in the EYFS.

We prioritise the promotion of healthy living and well-being through activities such as nutritious eating, and physical and emotional play. Our aim is to support children in becoming happy and healthy individuals.

We strongly believe in allowing children to determine their own pace of growth and development. Instead of pushing them, we challenge and encourage them to reach their full potential. Our structured daily routines seamlessly blend with free-flow play, creating a nurturing environment that feels like an extension of home.

We support children’s learning and development needs in many ways:

1. Roles and Responsibilities
   1. We define the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, including practitioners, parents, and caregivers, in implementing the EYFS and fostering children's learning and development.
2. Assessment and Planning
   1. Initial Assessment: Conduct an initial assessment of each child's starting point to understand their skills, abilities, and needs. This assessment could include observations, parent input, and previous records.
   2. Progress Tracking: Regularly observe and assess children's progress in key areas of learning and development, as outlined in the EYFS framework.
   3. Individual Learning Plans: Develop individualized learning plans for children with specific needs or developmental challenges, setting clear goals and strategies for improvement.
3. Curriculum Implementation:
   1. We design and implement a curriculum that aligns with the EYFS framework and includes a balance of child-initiated and adult-guided activities. Ensure that the seven areas of learning and development are addressed.
4. Learning Environment:
   1. We have created a safe, stimulating, and inclusive learning environment that supports children's exploration, creativity, and curiosity. Providing resources and materials that cater to different learning styles and abilities.
5. Observation and Assessment:
   1. Observation: Regularly observe children's activities, interactions, and behaviours to gain insights into their interests and developmental progress.
   2. Assessment: Use a combination of informal and formal assessment methods to track children's development and identify any areas that need additional support.
6. Parent and Caregiver Involvement:
   1. Sharing observations, progress, and milestones.
   2. Providing information on how parents can support their child's learning at home.
   3. Encouraging regular communication and feedback between educators and parents.
7. Professional Development:
   1. We provide ongoing training and professional development opportunities for teachers and practitioners to ensure they are knowledgeable about the EYFS framework, child development, and effective teaching strategies.
8. Continuous Improvement:
   1. We regularly review and evaluate the effectiveness of the learning and development process. Using feedback from practitioners, parents, and children to identify areas for improvement and make necessary adjustments.
9. Documentation and Reporting:
   1. We maintain accurate records of each child's learning journey, progress, assessments, and achievements. We provide regular reports for parents and caregivers, highlighting their child's development.
10. Transitions:
    1. Staff support smooth transitions for children as they move between different stages of early years education, ensuring that records, assessments, and learning plans are appropriately transferred.
11. Safeguarding and Child Wellbeing:
    1. We prioritise the safety, health, and wellbeing of each child. Ensuring that safeguarding policies and procedures are in place to create a secure and nurturing environment.

By following this Learning and Development Procedure in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), children will receive a well-rounded education that fosters their holistic development and prepares them for future learning and success.

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**Policy adopted/implemented by SACRED HEART PRE-SCHOOL in:**

August 2023

**Date to be reviewed:**

August 2024

**Signed on behalf of management team:**

Chelsea Porter (Deputy) – 24/8/23