Faenol Playgroup CIC

Policy Reference Number: 15

Children's participation policy and procedure:

- **the UNCRC –** article 12 states: '*Children who are capable of forming their own views have the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.'*
- **The National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation which states:** *"Participation means that it is my right to be involved in making decisions, planning and reviewing any action that might affect me. Having a voice, having a choice."* https://www.childreninwales.org.uk/our-work/participation/participation-standards/
- http://www.playwales.org.uk/eng/playworkprinciples for guidance and training about the play work principles
- https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/uncrc-childrens-rights/ is the Children's Commissioner for Wales website

Faenol Playgroup CIC recognises that involving children in decisions about their care increases their self-esteem and it is our policy to include the voice of the children in our care in all aspects of our work.

We will do this by:

- *Ensuring staff (students and volunteers) implement positive attitudes about children's participation in their work which foster warm relationships, a child's sense of security, self–esteem, independence and confidence in a responsive, nurturing atmosphere.*

- *Providing training for staff as appropriate.*

- *Incorporating child-led activities as routine.*

- *Taking account of Having a Voice, Having a Choice info: https://www.childreninwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Having-a-voice-having-a-choiceweb.jpg (National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation) in our management and staff team meetings.*

- *Engaging with the children in our care in ways that are appropriate to their age and stage of development to enable their involvement in review and feedback activities. This includes verbal and non-verbal ways of engaging such as using a thumbs up or down for children to engage with feedback.*

- *Respecting children's decisions to not engage in review and feedback activities as they may choose.*

- *Using a separate complaints procedure for children.*

- *Listening to what children say to us and acting as needed.*

- *Feeding back to children who have contributed and informing them of any actions that have been taken as a result.*

- *Operating an effective 'working in partnership with parents' policy.*

- *Involving children in the annual review of the quality of care provided in line with regulatory requirements.*

This children's participation policy and procedure was passed for use in (name of provision)	
On: original passed for use on 5/11/2019, updated version April 2023	
By: Catherine Lloyd	Position: Manager/Director
Date of planned review: April 24	