



Well Being

Listening to Children Policy

I believe that for children, involvement and consultation helps them to develop new skills such as negotiating, sharing and understanding the perspective of others. It helps them to understand how decisions are made and recognise that their opinions are important and valued. A child's opinion should be taken into account in anything that affects them.

Age, maturity and the type of decision being made will determine the extent and nature of children's involvement , for example not wanting to choose a healthy food, not wanting to wear a coat on a cold day etc. In this instance, I would explain clearly and in age appropriate language why the coat is needed, why the healthy food is better for them etc.

I consult children, listen to them – to what they say in speech and other forms of communication and observe their body language and behaviour. I also use questionnaires with the older children, to collect their views and actively encourage them to feedback to me.

I do my best to show the children that their input has led to visible outcomes, for example a new resource being purchased, a food being added to the weekly snacks and meal menu etc