

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

This document is produced as a working document for staff at Pixies and is a point of reference for families and others visiting the setting. Within this document 'staff' refers to all persons directly involved in the care of children at this setting, irrespective of their employment status, and includes students, trainees, and volunteers.

Pixies acknowledge that the welfare and needs of 'the child' are paramount. It is our intention to create a child safe environment where children are valued in every respect. Our primary concern is to nurture and provide for the children in our care, to enable them to learn and fulfil their potential for progress in the crucial early years. We believe that children learn more effectively when they are happy, comfortable, and confident in their surroundings. Pixies is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all users, children, staff, and visitors.

Values

We believe that...

- every child is unique, is to be valued and has a right to a caring, safe, and stimulating environment.
- early learning experiences have a significant effect on later life and those diverse experiences develop well-rounded individuals.
- staff have a right to a respectful, safe, and healthy work environment.
- quality of care is positively influenced by staff who are appropriately and well educated, and who are supported in their life-long learning

Aims and Objectives

Pixies aims to:

- provide a safe, stimulating and enabling environment where children can play, learn, and develop their potential. That there is a happy, relaxed atmosphere where children can enjoy socialising with their peers.
- provide a wide variety of play and learning opportunities and experiences, which will include plenty of creative, challenging, and educational projects for the children to participate in as a group as well as equipment and activities for individual exploration.
- prepare children for the 'next steps' in their life, and to ensure the quality of our provision for the care and education of all the children attending Pixies
- care for the children in a loving environment, meeting the needs of all children, by recognising their individual requirements.
- treat all children equally, to accommodate any additional needs and to provide extra support and staffing where and when appropriate.
- ensure that Pixies operates fair and easily understandable procedures for admission to the setting.
- make the setting a welcoming and happy environment where children can feel secure and comfortable with the staff.
- provide an environment in which all children and their families, visitors, childcare staff, and other employees are treated with respect and dignity and that is free of harassment and bullying.
- provide a safe, secure environment that complies with the Health and Safety regulations.
- show a commitment to fostering, developing and applying an Equal Opportunities policy and see it working in everyday practice.
- develop and maintain strong links with parents that ensure the well-being of each child.

- work in partnership with parents to identify and support children with special needs and follow the guidelines set out in the DfE SEND Code of Practice – Sept 2014.
- support children’s development around the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- actively promote fundamental British Values* through our everyday practice. This will be in the context of learning right from wrong, taking turns and sharing and by our practitioners challenging negative attitudes and stereotypes. Also, through partnership with parents and carers, exploring and understanding their values and expectations.

*According to Ofsted, 'fundamental British values' are:

- democracy.
- the rule of law.
- individual liberty and mutual respect.
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Our objectives are:

- to allow children to make choices, to help build self-esteem and confidence early in life.
- to maintain a familiar routine for the youngest children, allowing them to sleep or eat at their own times. The individual needs of the child will be considered when organising activities, and it is hoped that as they get older, they can adapt to the routine of the setting.
- to have a system of a ‘key person’ for each child to build positive relationships between the setting’s staff, children, and their families.
- that parents/carers and their families feel confident in leaving their child/ren in our care. We intend to achieve this through effective information sharing and working practices.
- that Policy is formulated having regard to the welfare and of the children being provided for, current legislation and requirements, in addition to personal beliefs and understanding. Policy is also formulated through discussion and consideration of the views of staff, parents, and other interested parties. Written policies are distributed to staff, students or trainees and are provided for parents and others to access. Statements concerning our aims and objectives are included in our introductory literature and discussed with parents when they first come to visit the setting. Regular communication with parents either verbally or through newsletters can act as reminders. Staff meetings provide a forum for staff to review the aims and objectives and contribute their own ideas and suggestions.

Implementation

The Registered Provider and any Manager has overall responsibility for ensuring that this policy is implemented. All other staff should co-operate with their employer and senior staff in carrying out the policies and procedures of the setting.