

Equality of Opportunity

English as an Additional Language

Policy Statement

At Rudgwick Pre-school we undertake to include all children in our setting and welcome those who are not able to speak or understand English. We will ensure we do everything we can to support these children and their families so they can access our pre-school at all levels and strategies will be developed to ensure that effective communication can take place.

We will ensure sufficient pre-entry visits take place so that both parents and child are familiar with routines and the learning environment the child will be experiencing.

We will celebrate the child's first language and see it as a positive thing and not a disadvantage to the child. We understand it is our responsibility to be creative and flexible to ensure effective communication can take place.

We will ensure we include resources and images to reflect the diversity of all the children in our setting.

Procedures

We will create a positive environment where all children can identify with themselves by

- providing positive images of people, landscapes, houses and families
- adding familiar resources into different areas of play to make the child feel included in the environment
- including dual language captions and labels and providing bilingual books where possible.
- offering a language rich environment; speaking, listening and understanding will be considered
- we will use simple, literal language
- we will learn some words in the child's first language
- we will use visual aids to help where necessary
- we will remember at all times that 80% of communication in everyday life is non-verbal and use this knowledge to facilitate communication

Working with parents

- we recognise parents from other countries may have no personal experience of Pre-schools or Early Years Education as we know it. We will ensure sufficient time is given during the induction period to explain key principles of our system and daily routines
- we will ensure the induction procedure is completed by an experienced member of staff to ensure nothing is overlooked
- if required a visual pack will be produced
- any letters will be explained verbally
- parents will be encouraged to contribute to the learning of all children in the setting by sharing festivals, cooking etc.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Held on

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the management
committee

Name of signatory

Role of signatory

Rudgwick Pre-school

22nd September 2026

22nd September 2028

Laura Thornber

Laura Thornber

Chairperson
