

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Suitable People

Providers must ensure that people looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their roles.



2.2 Student placements

Policy statement

Our setting recognises that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education provided by early years settings. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early years qualifications and training. We also offer placements for school pupils on work experience.

We aim to provide for students on placement with us, experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies and that provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Procedures

- We require students on qualification courses to meet the 'suitable people' requirements of Ofsted and have DBS checks carried out.
- We require students in our setting to have a sufficient understanding and use of English to contribute to the well-being of children in our care.
- We require schools placing students under the age of 17 years with the setting to vouch for their good character.
- We supervise students under the age of 17 years at all times and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students undertaking qualification courses who are placed in our setting on a short-term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- Students and apprentices over the age of 17 undertaking a level 3 qualification are counted in ratios if the manager deems them to be suitably qualified and experienced.
- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both trainees and voluntary helpers.
- We require students to keep to our Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy.
- We co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- At the first session of their placement, we give students a short induction on how our setting is managed, how our sessions are organised, and our policies and procedures.
- We reinforce the value of qualifications and training when talking to students.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers that hinder the essential work of the setting.

We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training, which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities.

Policy approved and adopted by LWPS Board of Trustees on 17 October 2016

Signed on behalf of the provider	
Name of signatory	Jenny Caw
Role of signatory	Co-Chair
Reviewed February	Signed:  Dated: 20 Feb 2017
Reviewed June	Signed: Dated: