



3.5 LHN Community Engagement Policy

PURPOSE(S):

The Little Haven Nursery Community Engagement policy sets out why engaging with the community is important and the principles that underpin good engagement with individuals, communities and local businesses.

To ensure that key stakeholders have a voice to influence the development of policies and strategies through the Parent Involvement Committee at LHN.

DESCRIPTION(S):

What is Community Engagement?

For the purposes of this framework community engagement is the conversations we have with parents and stakeholders about decisions that may affect in children. It is about providing opportunities for people to have a say in reviewing, designing, approving, influencing or commenting on the decisions, activities and services for their child. It is also being clear that the PIC cannot involve all parents all of the time and will in many circumstances need to give clear information to individuals and communities.

The Importance of Community Engagement

Engaging and Communicating parents is the heart of LHN and what brings Nursery and Parents together.

POLICY STATEMENT(S):

LHN will Listen and Understand

To fulfil this policy LHN needs to have key methods to understand and listen to individuals, and the surrounded community, as a basis to engagement activity whatever form that takes. Our ability to listen and understand will rely upon a variety of different channels some that are traditional methods but increasingly through digital platforms and social media.

LHN engagement activity will help to shape and inform Nursery decisions that we make, meaning that our policies reflect the children and families we serve. This will support LHN to achieve our priorities, resolve issues/challenges and generate new ideas to raise standard in Nursery.

The Nursery will keep Parents informed and support Parents to get involved but there is also a responsibility on Parents and communities to be active and engaged in creating a thriving future for LHN





LHN will be Inclusive and act with Purpose

Our engagement activity must be inclusive and recognise that all voice and an opinion of worth. Recognising the diversity in the nursery is important for an equality of opportunity for all people to be involved. This means LHN engagement must be accessible, use clear language that Parents understand and use the most appropriate information available.

Engagement needs to be clear about the purpose, scope and limitations of any activity, this clarity is fundamental to quality engagement.

We will make the most of what already exists in communities and where possible increase Community Capacity

LHN Community engagement is happening through a variety of channels, through existing, though PIC elected members, through LHN staff and PIC Parent

The Community Engagement Framework

LHN will achieve this policy by have having PIC and community engagement framework that sets out clearly what is important, how we will do this and how we will provide adequate training and guidance for staff across the Council.

LHN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK		
1. Community Engagement Policy <u>What</u> is important and <u>why</u> it is important to us. <u>Key Principles</u> that are important to us	2. Community Engagement Strategy <u>How</u> will we make it work – what will we do	3. Community Engagement Toolkit Specific tools, techniques and training our staff will use to reach parents

The LHN community engagement strategy² will set out the specific actions and changes we will make to deliver the ambitions contained within this policy.

