

Play and participation Policy.

It is Noah's Ark policy to encourage all children to be actively involved in their own play, learning and development, making choices about their play, who they play with and how they play, properly risk assessed and supported by qualified and experienced staff.

Children are given lots of opportunities to feedback on the service they are accessing through circle times, discussion times, wish lists, choices of activities and play, photos taken and feedback sheets completed. This informs, planning for activities and purchasing of equipment and resources for the children.

All staff are aware that play has stages of development and children may be at varying levels of development, staff know and support the individual child at their level of play.

As children learn through exploration and investigation within their environment, they acquire skills and concepts that impact on their future learning and understanding.

The different stages of play development are:

solitary: children play alone; little interaction with other children, often absorbed in their own activities spectator children observe their peers; usually they just watch and don't join in

parallel: the child plays alongside other children; initially it will appear that children are playing together but on closer observation it is evident that they are playing separately

partnership/ associative: children play together, interaction between children is developing and they enjoy playing with the same activities and equipment

cooperative/ group: children play in group situations and share outcomes from their play; often the play will be intricate and detailed.

Play can also come in many different types and these are understood and encouraged by staff in the setting to ensure children have access to a wide variety of experiences and opportunities for learning and development.

Types of Play :

- communication play
- creative play
- deep play
- dramatic play
- exploratory play
- fantasy play
- imaginative play

- loco-motor play
- mastery play
- object play
- recapitulative play
- role play
- rough and tumble play
- social play
- socio-dramatic play
- symbolic play

(for more information and definitions please go to:

https://issuu.com/playwales/docs/play_types?e=5305098/53885121)