



Safeguarding children: Children's rights and entitlements

Policy Statement:

In 1989, governments across the world adopted the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), recognising that all children have the right to be treated with dignity and fairness, to be protected, to develop to their full potential and to participate. It is important for children to understand their rights, as well as know who is responsible for making rights a reality. The Convention confirms that children are active participants in the lives of their families, communities and society, so governments and adults must create opportunities for children to play a role in the realisation of their rights.

Procedure or Protocol:

- Help children to learn to be *strong, resilient and listened to* through our carefully planned creative environment that encourages children to develop a positive self image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.
- Promote a sense of autonomy and independence through activities set-up in the environment for free choice opportunities.
- Encourage children to make their own choices.
- Encourage and help children to establish positive relationships with their families, with peers, and with other adults.
- Work in partnership with parents by sharing with them the principles of safeguarding practice for all our children.

To be **strong** means to be:

- **secure** in their foremost attachment relationships with adults in the environment where they are loved and cared for, by at least one person (key person) who is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on;
- **safe and valued** as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family, such as early years settings;
- **self assured** and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage;
- **being included in equality and belonging** in early years settings and in community life;
- **confident in abilities** and **proud** of their achievements;
- **progressing optimally** in all aspects of their development and learning;
- **to be part of a peer group** in which to learn to negotiate, develop social skills and identity as global citizens, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world; and

- to **be anticipate** participate and be able to represent themselves in aspects of care that affects them as well as other aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be **resilient** means to:

- **be sure** of their self worth and dignity;
- be able to be **assertive** and state their needs effectively;
- be able to **overcome** difficulties and problems;
- **be positive** in their outlook on life;
- be able to **cope** with challenge and change;
- have a **sense of justice** towards self and others;
- to develop a **sense of responsibility** towards self and others; and
- to be able to **represent** themselves and others in key decision making processes.

To be **listened to** means:

- adults who are close to children recognise their need and **giving the right to express and communicate** their thoughts, feelings and ideas;
- adults who are close to children are able to **tune in** to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated;
- adults who are close to children are able to **respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding** of what children express and communicate ; and
- adults **respect children's rights** and **facilitate children's participation and representation** in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.

This policy was adopted and practiced at	Village Montessori Nursery School Ltd
Effective date	July 2021
Review date	July 2022
Name of the manager who prepared	Mrs Kwai Fong Purchase
Read and acknowledge by member of staff	Cristina (Deputy), Vicky, Svitlana (Room Leader), Magdalena