

**PARTICIPATION POLICY**

At Cargilfield we believe in actively promoting the participation of children in the decision-making process allowing a sense of partnership; benefitting children, staff and parents/carers.

We therefore aim to involve the children whenever decisions are made that affect

them.

We follow the principles set out in Articles 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention on

the Rights of the Child which state that:

• A child’s opinion should be considered in anything that affects them.

• Children should have information disseminated in a way that enables them to make

choices and decisions.

Involving and consulting children helps them to develop new skills such as negotiation,

sharing, and understanding the perspectives of others. It helps them to understand how

decisions are made, and shows them that their opinions are important. At Cargilfield we actively

consult the children and encourage them to participate in making decisions about the running

of our nursery through:

• Asking questions and paying full attention to the child’s response

• Listening to what they are saying verbally (or through use of visual aids) and also

observing their body language

• A weekly newspaper

• Conferencing and group discussions

• Questionnaires and gathering other feedback on activities

• Eco Committee (whole school)

• Noticeboards

• Our ‘It’s Good to be Me’ display

The age and maturity of each child, together with the type of decision being made,

determine the extent and nature of their involvement however, the basic assumption is

always that children will be involved. We make sure that we act on any consultation with the

children so that they can see that their input has had visible outcomes.

At Cargilfield, the children have the opportunity to participate and make decisions on a day to

today basis, including, but not limited to:

• Choosing freely what type of play to engage in inside and outside

• Suggestions of games

• Choosing how much food they would like and suggesting snack menus

• Laying the tables

• Helping tidy up

• Selecting new equipment

• Drawing up rules/ expectations

• Activity planning

• Conducting risk assessments at the beach

• Conducting play/risk benefits

January 20

V.Aitchison

Head of Nursery