

# Parent's Complaints Procedure



We aim to achieve the highest standards of care and education for children attending Little Foxes Forest School, and to foster a positive partnership with families. At regular intervals the management and staff meet to discuss and review the daily running of the setting, as well as possible improvements to the care and education offered by Little Foxes Forest School. However, from time to time a complaint may arise about some aspect of the setting, or an individual member of staff. Usually it should be possible to resolve any problems informally, as soon as they occur.

## Stage One

Misunderstandings often arise through a simple breakdown in communication, and if we do not know of concerns we can do nothing to resolve them. A straightforward informal discussion between those involved may be all that is needed to set things right. We hope that any issues of concern can be resolved at this stage.

If it is not possible to resolve the issue informally, there is a formal complaints procedure that must be followed. This is laid out below.

## Stage Two

Arrange a time to meet with a member of the management team (Janie Ankers, Elizabeth Staite, Grace Broad or Amy Ackland).

They may deal with the complaint directly or call a meeting with other members of management and yourself, to discuss the complaint in detail. If a meeting is called the management will investigate the complaint within 10 working days. If the complaint involves another parent/child/staff member they may be asked to attend as well, to answer appropriate questions. Any witness to the complaint/incident may also be called to attend the meeting. A written record of the meeting will be made.

## **Stage Three**

If informal discussions of a complaint or problem have not produced a satisfactory resolution to the situation, you should put your complaint in detail and in writing to the registered person (Janie Ankers/Elizabeth Staite). Relevant names, dates, evidence and any other important information on the nature of the complaint should be included.

We will acknowledge receipt of the complaint as soon as possible – within three working days at least – and fully investigate the matter within 15 working days. If there is any delay, we will advise you of this and offer an explanation. The registered person will be responsible for sending you a full and formal response to the complaint.

The formal response to the complaint will be sent to you and copied to all relevant members of staff if appropriate. The response will include recommendations for dealing with the complaint and for any amendments to our policies or procedures emerging from the investigation.

The registered person will arrange a time to meet with you and any other relevant individuals, such as members of staff, to discuss the complaint and our response to it. The registered person will judge if it is best for all parties to meet together or if individual meetings are more appropriate.

### **If you are still unhappy?**

If you are unhappy with the result, and your complaint relates to one or more of the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements, you may raise your complaint with Ofsted:

Ofsted  
Applications, Regulatory and Contact (ARC) Team  
Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

Tel: 0300 1231231  
Website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)