



Lavenham Pre-School
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Parental Responsibility Policy

Parental responsibility is defined by the Children Act 1989. The Children Act (1989) defines *parental responsibility* as 'all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his/her property'. (For a full explanation of who has parental responsibility, refer to the Pre-school Learning Alliance publication *Safeguarding Children*.)

Not all parents have Parental Responsibility.

These people have parental responsibility:

1. The natural Mother of the child
2. The natural Father of the child if named on the birth certificate
3. Anyone who has a Residence Order that is currently in force in respect of the child.

These people **do not** have automatically have parental responsibility:

1. Grandparents or other relatives
2. Step Mothers or Fathers
3. Guardians of the child appointed by Will.

What does this mean for your child in Pre-school?

- This means that a consent form can only be signed by parents with parental responsibility
- That children can be collected by parents who do not have parental responsibility but we must have written consent from the parents who has parental responsibility.

How do you get parental responsibility?

Parental responsibility can be acquired by formal written Agreement with the Mother or by Order of Court.

Parental Responsibility & Parents as Partners Policy

At Lavenham Pre-school we believe that children benefit most from early year's education and care when parents and settings work together in partnership.

'Parental Responsibility' is defined as the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which, by law, a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his / her property.

We aim to support parents by involving them in their child's education and their life within the setting.

We will ensure that carrying out the following procedures includes all our parents:

- We consult with all parents to find out what works best for them and their children
- We ensure on-going dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families
- We inform all parents about how our setting is run and its policies through access to written information
- We inform all parents regularly about their child's progress
- We involve parents in the shared record keeping about their children and ensure parents have access to their child's written developmental records
- We allow parents input, where possible, into planned activities for the children
- We welcome contribution from parents
- All parents have access to our written complaint's procedure
- We provide opportunities for parents to learn about the curriculum offered in the setting about and young children's learning in the setting and at home.

▪ This policy was adopted by Lavenham Preschool *(name of provider)*

On November 2023 *(date)*

Date to be reviewed November 2024 *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider



Name of signatory Roy Mawford

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) Chair of Trustees