**Parents As Partners Policy**

At Kinnegad Community Childcare Clg., we believe that parental involvement is very important. We believe that children benefit from education and care when parents and educators work together to have a positive impact on each child’s learning and development.

In Cairdeas we believe that educator/parent involvement is paramount to children’s learning and development. We believe this should be a collaborative approach. We recognise that parents are a child’s first and natural educator, any and all information shared with us helps us plan for each child’s individual curriculum. We welcome all ideas and thoughts on the child’s interests and strengths as well as the culture, customs and traditions of the family.

We operate an open door policy, encouraging parents to visit during the year and share with us your passions and hobbies. We aim to achieve a home from home environment where children can learn through play. We believe in building strong and happy relationships with children and their families.

**Informal Communication**: During the year, parents have the opportunity to speak to the supervisor on duty and the lead educator daily. These valuable conversations allow us to understand and aid us in planning and furthering your child’s interests and experiences, helping them reach their potential and lay good foundations for further learning in the future.

**Formal Communication**: parents are invited to a meeting, twice yearly, with their child’s lead educator to discuss their child’s progress.

**Other forms of communication**:

* Parents notice board – information is displayed which may be of benefit to families e.g. healthy meal ideas, local talks on child/family topics, National Childcare Scheme.
* White board outside each classroom – here we display activies taking place, visitors to the room, notice of illnesses eg. chicken pox etc.
* Text messages – to inform parents of illness in childs room; fundraising days; centre closing days etc.
* Monthly Newsletter -this is another way to keep parents informed of activies taking place in the centre, significant dates; useful information relating to child development etc.
* Yearly Parents questionnaire – allowing parents to give feedback on their experience in the centre. This helps us improve our service to families in the future.
* Open Evening – introducing parents to our centre in advance of their child’s ECCE preschool attendance.

**Aistear Book**: each child has their own individual Aistear book which they will use throughout their time in Cairdeas and at home with their family. The purpose of this book is to capture their learning and development through documenting activities, art work, transcripts of children’s words and ideas. These entries may be made by Educators and children in Cairdeas or parents and children at home.

Novenber 2022.