**Parents as Partners Policy - Exploring Nature**

**1. Introduction**
At Exploring Nature, we believe that parents and guardians are key partners in the learning journey of their children. We recognize the vital role that families play in supporting their children’s development and well-being, particularly in the context of outdoor learning and nature-based education. We are committed to fostering strong, open, and positive relationships with parents and carers to ensure the best outcomes for every child.

This policy outlines our commitment to working together with parents and guardians as active partners in their child’s learning experience.

**2. Our Commitment to Parents as Partners**
We are committed to creating a collaborative environment where parents and guardians are involved in their child’s outdoor learning experiences. We value your input and believe that by working together, we can create a rich and supportive learning environment for your child. We aim to:

* Build strong, respectful relationships with parents and guardians.
* Foster open communication and provide regular updates on your child’s progress.
* Encourage parental involvement in activities when appropriate.
* Support families by providing resources, advice, and guidance as needed.

**3. Communication**
We recognize that regular and clear communication is essential to building a positive partnership with parents and guardians. We will:

* Keep parents informed about their child’s experiences, progress, and any important changes to the program.
* Send out updates about upcoming sessions, changes to schedules, or any important announcements via email or other communication methods.
* Provide an open line of communication for parents to ask questions, raise concerns, or share feedback.
* Make ourselves available for one-on-one discussions or meetings to address any specific concerns about your child’s participation or progress.

We encourage parents to communicate with us regularly, whether it’s to discuss their child’s needs, ask questions about sessions, or share information that will help us support their child’s development.

**4. Parental Involvement**
We believe that parents and guardians can make a positive impact on their child’s learning by being actively involved. We encourage parents to:

* Participate in outdoor learning sessions or events when invited.
* Share information about their child’s interests, needs, and any particular support they may require.
* Attend parent meetings, if offered, to discuss their child’s progress and development.
* Engage with the activities or projects that their child is involved in and provide encouragement or feedback.
* Share any relevant information about changes in the child’s life that might affect their behavior or participation in sessions (e.g., family changes, medical conditions, etc.).

**5. Supporting Individual Needs**
Each child is unique, and we are committed to supporting every child’s individual needs. We will work closely with parents to understand their child’s requirements and provide tailored support where necessary. This includes:

* Discussing any Special Educational Needs (SEN), medical conditions, or additional requirements before your child begins attending sessions.
* Making reasonable adjustments to activities to ensure that all children, regardless of ability, can participate fully.
* Offering advice and support on how parents can further enhance their child’s experience at home and in nature-based learning.

**6. Sharing Learning and Progress**
We believe that it is important for parents to be aware of their child’s development and experiences during outdoor learning sessions. We will:

* Provide regular updates on your child’s learning journey, including achievements, challenges, and goals.
* Encourage parents to ask questions about what their child is learning and how they can further support their development at home.
* Offer opportunities for parents to observe or participate in sessions, allowing them to see firsthand how their child is engaging with the program.

**7. Respect for Family Values**
We respect and value the diverse backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs of the families we serve. We aim to create an inclusive environment where every family feels valued and respected. We will:

* Acknowledge and celebrate diversity within our programs and activities.
* Be sensitive to family preferences, traditions, and values, and ensure that these are respected in our approach to learning and interaction.
* Work with families to accommodate specific needs or requests that align with their values and beliefs.

**8. Feedback and Continuous Improvement**
We believe that parent feedback is invaluable in helping us improve our services and provide the best experience for all children. We encourage parents to:

* Share their thoughts, suggestions, or concerns about our programs.
* Complete feedback surveys or questionnaires if requested, to help us assess and improve our services.
* Speak with us directly if they have any questions or concerns about their child’s experience.

We are committed to using feedback to make continuous improvements and ensure that we are meeting the needs of all children and families.

**9. Confidentiality and Respect for Privacy**
We are committed to respecting the confidentiality and privacy of all parents and children. We will:

* Keep any personal information shared by parents or guardians in strict confidence.
* Use personal information solely for the purpose of providing services and communicating with parents.
* Not share sensitive information with third parties without the express consent of the parent or guardian, unless required by law or to ensure the safety and well-being of the child.

**10. Conclusion**
At Exploring Nature, we are passionate about building strong partnerships with parents and guardians to support the growth and development of each child. By working together, we can create a positive and enriching outdoor learning experience that promotes the child’s physical, emotional, and social well-being.

We look forward to continuing to work with parents and guardians to ensure that every child enjoys a safe, supportive, and rewarding experience at Exploring Nature.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how we can work together to support your child’s experience, please don’t hesitate to get in touch:

**Evelyn Bibbon**
Email: **Evelyn@exploringnature.uk**
Phone: **07942145586**

Thank you for being a valued partner in your child’s learning journey at Exploring Nature!