



## Zebras Policy for Inclusion

As an inclusive play setting, we will strive to find ways to include all children that wish to attend and remove barriers that prevent children from actively participating in a range of play opportunities. We respect that each child is unique, with a range of abilities and variety of needs. At Zebras, we will work toward enabling every child to access a range of play types and social experiences, using a supportive approach aimed at building confidence through participation.

### Admissions

All children are welcome and bring value to our play setting. We welcome children of all abilities and support the inclusion of children requiring additional support due to a physical, cognitive, social or emotional need. We will make all reasonable efforts to enrol children with additional support needs. The registration procedure will identify children with additional support needs and allow time to meet with the child's parent/carer and identify any barriers to play that can be addressed.

### Benefits for the child

Inclusion develops empathy and an acceptance of individual differences. It improves awareness of diversity. A child with additional support needs will have the opportunity to play and form friendships with others from their local community.

### Play Environment

The principles of inclusion are access, participation and support. These principles will guide decisions and actions within the play environment. The indoor (and outdoor when possible) areas will be arranged so all children can move freely and make choices based on their abilities, interests and needs. A selection of loose parts will be made available daily for children to access at their level of ability and interest.

We will plan and arrange freeplay opportunities to enable every child to access a wide range of resources independently. Play experiences will aim to be developmentally appropriate, offering support where necessary.

Adaptations will be made to equipment where needed/possible to reduce barriers for children.

Opportunities for group experiences will be available daily, to develop social skills and encourage children to develop relationships with others. Respect for dignity and equality will be encouraged amongst children, staff and directors.

### Parents/Carers

We respect and value input from parents and carers and encourage them to be part of the decision-making process for their child.

We will work with parents/carers and professionals (where appropriate), to share knowledge and expertise to enable each child to play to his/her full potential.

Individual Play Plans will be developed as and when needed, with parents and child.

Outcomes for children improve when the relationships between parents and staff are based on trust and respect, with any necessary support being co-ordinated and complementary.

### Staffing

Staff will aim to be flexible and adaptable in their approach (offering support where needed), to include all children, whilst taking into account the Playwork Principles. Staff may need training and resources to be effective at including all children, while meeting individual needs. This may include:

- Inclusion training
- Specialised training for specific procedures required by the child (e.g. lifting techniques, administering medication).

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January 2016