

The Avenue Children's Centre
Student / volunteer placement policy

Statement of intent

This setting recognises that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education provided by early year's settings. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early year's qualifications and training. We also support students wishing to undertake work experience in the setting where they have a specific interest in pursuing a child focused career.

Aim

We aim to provide for students on placement with us experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies and that provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Methods

- We require students to meet the 'suitable person' requirements of Ofsted.
- We require schools placing students under the age of 17 years with the setting to vouch for their good character.
- We supervise students under the age of 17 years at all times and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students who are placed in our setting on a short term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- Trainee staff employed by the setting may be included in the ratios if they are deemed competent.
- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both trainees and voluntary helpers.
- We require students to keep to our confidentiality policy.
- We co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- We provide students' at the first session of their placement, with a risk assessment, an induction on how our setting is managed, how our sessions are organised and our policies and procedures.
- We communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers that hinder the essential work of the setting.
- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training, which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities.
- We will interview students prior to their placement to ensure suitability.
- We remind all students that the use of mobile phones on the premises is prohibited. Permission may be sought in an emergency. Mobile phones are not to be kept on your person at any time.

All staff are made aware on their staff induction that friendships on social media with any family attending the setting are strictly prohibited during the time they attend the setting.

Reviewed **May 2022**
Next Review **May 2023**