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| **Little Learning Ladder**  **Volunteers** |

Little Learning Ladderrecognises the immense benefits that volunteers bring to the nursery. In return, we hope to give volunteers an opportunity to exercise their skills in a different environment and to undertake new experiences.

**Status of volunteers**

A volunteer is not an employee and will not have a contract of employment with the nursery. We will however insist that the volunteer follows all nursery procedures in the same manner as a paid employee to ensure consistency and quality of care and early learning for the children.

**Enhanced CRB check**

All volunteers will have suitability checks conducted in the same way as paid employees. This will include enhanced CRB check. These checks will be conducted before any volunteer starts their time within the nursery and this will also include two written references.

**Training**

Volunteers will be offered training and/or support as appropriate. We will provide any training and support required for the role, including child protection and health and safety training. The purpose of this is to enable the volunteer to get the most out of their decision to volunteer and enhance their performance in their voluntary role within our team.

**Policies and procedures**

Volunteers are expected to comply with all the nursery’s policies and procedures. The volunteer’s induction process will include an explanation of this.

**Confidentiality**

Volunteers are likely to become aware of confidential information within the nursery either about the children, its staff and parents. Volunteers should not disclose this information and should follow the nursery confidentiality procedure at all times.

**Volunteer's induction pack**

On commencing their volunteer work, the volunteer will be given a pack containing:

* General information about the nursery
* A copy of this volunteering policy
* A confidentiality statement which will require reading, signing and returning to the nursery manager
* Details of access to all nursery relevant policies and procedures

**Volunteer support**

The nursery has a Volunteer’s Support Advisor who will take the volunteers through their induction and then provide support throughout their time in the nursery. Our Volunteer’s Support Advisor is **Charlotte Smith**

Internal use only

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date disseminated to staff** | **Date for review** |
| April 2013 |  | June 2013 | April 2014 |